

FLATTERINGLY, *adv.* In a flattering manner; in a manner to flatter.

2. In a manner to favor; with partiality.

FLATTERY, *n.* [Fr. *flatterie*.] False praise; commendation bestowed for the purpose of gaining favor and influence, or to accomplish some purpose. Direct *flattery* consists in praising a person himself; indirect *flattery* consists in praising a person through his works or his connections.

Simple pride for *flattery* makes demands.

Pope.

Just praise is only a debt, but *flattery* is a present.

Rambler.

2. Adulation; obsequiousness; wheedling.

Rover.

3. Just commendation which gratifies self-love.

FLATTISH, *a.* [from *flat*.] Somewhat flat; approaching to flatness.

Woodward.

FLATULENCE, } *n.* [See *Flatulent*.]

FLATULENCY, } Windiness in the stomach; air generated in a weak stomach and intestines by imperfect digestion, occasioning distension, uneasiness, pain, and often belchings.

Encyc.

2. Airiness; emptiness; vanity.

Glanville.

FLATULENT, *a.* [L. *flatulentus*, *flatus*, from *flō*, to blow.]

1. Windy; affected with air generated in the stomach and intestines.

2. Turgid with air; windy; as a *flatulent* tumor.

Quincy.

3. Generating or apt to generate wind in the stomach. Pease are a *flatulent* vegetable.

Arbuthnot.

4. Empty; vain; big without substance or reality; puffy; as a *flatulent* writer; *flatulent* vanity.

Dryden. Glanville.

FLATUOSITY, *n.* Windiness; fullness of air; flatulence. [Not used.]

Bacon.

FLATUOUS, *a.* [L. *flatuosus*.] Windy; generating wind. [Not used.]

Bacon.

FLATUS, *n.* [L. from *flō*, to blow.] A breath; a puff of wind.

Clarke.

2. Wind generated in the stomach or other cavities of the body; flatulence.

Quincy.

FLATWISE, *a.* or *adv.* [from *flat*.] With the flat side downward or next to another object; not edgewise.

Woodward.

FLAUNT, *v. i.* [I know not whence we have this. It is doubtless of Celtic origin, from the root *Lu*, bearing the sense of throwing out, or spreading. Qu. Scot. *flanter*, to waver. See *Flounce*.]

To throw or spread out; to flutter; to display ostentatiously; as a *flaunting* show.

You *flaunt* about the streets in your new gilt chariot.

Arbuthnot.

One *flaunts* in rags, one flutters in brocade.

Pope.

[This correctly expresses the author's meaning, which is, that the proud often attempt to make a show and parade of their importance, even in poverty. Johnson's remark on the use of the word seems therefore to be unfounded.]

2. To carry a pert or saucy appearance.

Boyle.

FLAUNT, *n.* Any thing displayed for show.

Shak.

FLAUNTING, *ppr.* Making an ostentatious display.

Boyle.

FLAVOR, *n.* [Qu. Fr. *flairer*, to smell; W. *flavrian*.]

The quality of a substance which affects the taste or smell, in any manner. We say, the wine has a fine *flavor*, or a disagreeable *flavor*; the fruit has a bad *flavor*; a rose has a sweet *flavor*. The word then signifies the quality which is tasted or smelt; taste, odor, fragrance, smell.

FLAVOR, *v. t.* To communicate some quality to a thing, that may affect the taste or smell.

FLAVORED, *a.* Having a quality that affects the sense of tasting or smelling; as high-flavored wine, having the quality in a high degree.

FLAVORLESS, *a.* Without flavor; tasteless; having no smell or taste.

Encyc.

FLAVOROUS, *a.* Pleasant to the taste or smell.

Dryden.

FLAVOUS, *a.* [L. *flavus*.] Yellow. [Not used.]

Smith.

FLAW, *n.* [W. *flaw*, a piece rent, a splinter, a ray, a dart, a *flaw*; *flaw*, a spreading out, radiation; *fla*, a parting from; also *flagen*, a splinter; *floc*, a flying about; *floc*, to dart suddenly; *flycane*, to break out abruptly. The Gr. *φάω* seems to be contracted from *φάωω* or *φάωω*.]

2. A breach; a crack; a defect made by breaking or splitting; a gap or fissure; as a *flaw* in a sythe, knife or razor; a *flaw* in a china dish, or in a glass; a *flaw* in a wall.

2. A defect; a fault; any defect made by violence, or occasioned by neglect; as a *flaw* in reputation; a *flaw* in a will, or in a deed, or in a statute.

3. A sudden burst of wind; a sudden gust or blast of short duration; a word of common use among seamen. [This protects the primary sense to be, to burst or rush.]

4. A sudden burst of noise and disorder; a tumult; uproar.

And deluges of armies from the town
Came pouring in; I heard the mighty *flaw*.

Dryden.

[In this sense, the word is not used in the United States.]

5. A sudden commotion of mind. [Not used.]

Shak.

FLAW, *v. t.* To break; to crack.

The brazen cauldrons with the frosts are *flawed*.

Dryden.

2. To break; to violate; as, to *flaw* a league. [Little used.]

Shak.

FLAWED, *ppr.* Broken; cracked

FLAWING, *ppr.* Breaking; cracking.

FLAWLESS, *a.* Without cracks; without defect.

Boyle.

FLAWN, *n.* [Sax. *flena*; Fr. *flan*.] A sort of custard or pie. [Obs.]

Tusser.

FLAWTER, *v. t.* To scrape or pare a skin. [Not used.]

Ainsworth.

FLAWY, *a.* Full of flaws or cracks; broken; defective; faulty.

2. Subject to sudden gusts of wind.

FLAX, *n.* [Sax. *flax*, *flex*; G. *flachs*; D. *vlas*.] The elements are the same as in *flaccid*.]

1. A plant of the genus *Linum*, consisting of a single slender stalk, the skin or herb of which is used for making thread and cloth, called linen, cambric, lawn, lace, &c. The skin consists of fine fibers,

which may be so separated as to be spun into threads as fine as silk.

2. The skin or fibrous part of the plant when broken and cleaned by hatching or combing.

FLAX-COMB, *n.* An instrument with teeth through which flax is drawn for separating from it the tow or coarser part and the shives. In America, we call it a *hatchel*.

FLAX-DRESSER, *n.* One who breaks and swingles flax.

FLAX-PLANT, *n.* The *Phormium*, a plant in New Zealand that serves the inhabitants for flax.

FLAX-RAISER, *n.* One who raises flax.

FLAX-SEED, *n.* The seed of flax.

FLAX-EN, *a.* Made of flax; as *flaxen* thread.

2. Resembling flax; of the color of flax; fair, long, and flowing; as *flaxen* hair.

FLAX-Y, *a.* Like flax; being of a light color; fair.

Sandys.

FLAY, *v. t.* [Sax. *flēan*; Dan. *flæar*; Sw. *flå*; G. *flöhen*; Gr. *φλάω*, *φλοίζω*, whence *φλοιός*, bark, rind; probably a contracted word.]

1. To skin; to strip off the skin of an animal; as, to *flay* an ox.

2. To take off the skin or surface of any thing. [Not used.]

Swift.

FLAYED, *pp.* Skinned; stripped of the skin.

FLAY-ING, *n.* One who strips off the skin.

FLAY-ING, *ppr.* Stripping off the skin.

FLEA, *n.* [Sax. *flēa*; G. *flöh*; D. *vlo*; Scot. *flēch*; Ice. *floc*; from Sax. *flēogan*, to fly. See *Flee* and *Fly*.]

An insect of the genus *Pulex*. It has two eyes, and six feet; the feelers are like threads; the rostrum is inflected, setaceous, and armed with a sting. The flea is remarkable for its agility, leaping to a surprising distance, and its bite is very troublesome.

FLE/ABANE, *n.* A plant of the genus *Conyza*.

FLE/ABITE, } *n.* The bite of a flea, or

FLE/ABITING, } the red spot caused by the bite.

2. A trifling wound or pain, like that of the bite of a flea.

Harvey.

FLE/ABITTEN, *a.* Bitten or stung by a flea.

2. Mean; worthless; of low birth or station.

Cleveland.

FLE/AWORT, *n.* A plant.

FLEAK, a lock. [See *Flake*.]

FLEAM, *n.* [D. *flym*; W. *flaim*; Arm. *flenn* or *flēm*, the sting of a bee, a sharp point. In Welsh, *flēm* and *flym* signify sharp, penetrating.]

In surgery and farriery, a sharp instrument used for opening veins for letting blood.

FLECK, } *v. t.* [G. *flecken*, a spot; *flecken*,

FLECKER, } to spot; D. *tlek*, *vlak*, *vlacken*; Sw. *fläck*, *fläcka*; Dan. *flek*, *flek-ker*.]

To spot; to streak or stripe; to variegate; to dapple.

Both *flecked* with white, the true Arcadian strain.

Dryden.

[These words are obsolete or used only in poetry.]

FLECTION, *n.* [L. *flectio*.] The act of bending, or state of being bent.