

AN AMERICAN DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

J A C

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J. This letter has been added to the English Alphabet in modern days; the letter **I** being written formerly in words where **J** is now used. It seems to have had the sound of *y*, in many words, as it still has in the German. The English sound of this letter may be expressed by *dzh*, or *edzh*, a compound sound coinciding exactly with that of *g*, in *genius*; the French *j*, with the articulation *d* preceeding it. It is the tenth letter of the English Alphabet.

JAB'BER, *v. i.* [D. *gabberen*, or Fr. *jaboter*. Class Gl.]

To talk rapidly or indistinctly; to chatter; to prate. *Swift.*

JAB'BER, *n.* Rapid talk with indistinct utterance of words. *Swift.*

JAB'BERER, *n.* One that talks rapidly, indistinctly or unintelligibly.

JAB'BERING, *ppr.* Prating; talking rapidly and confusedly.

JAB'BERMENT, *n.* Idle prate. *Obs.*

JAB'IRU, *n.* An aquatic fowl of the crane kind.

The Jabiru is the *Mycteria Americana*. It resembles the stork. *Cuvier.*

JAC'AMAR, *n.* A kind of fowls arranged by Linne under the genus *Alcedo*; but their toes are differently placed, and their food consists of insects. They are about the size of a lark. Numerous species are described. *Encyc.*

The Jacamars are arranged in a separate genus, *Galbula*, and along with the woodpeckers in the order of climbers. *Cuvier.*

JAC'ENT, *a.* [L. *jacens*, *jaceo*, to lie.] Lying at length. *Wotton.*

JAC'INTH, *n.* [a different orthography of *Hyacinth*.]

1. A genus of plants. [See *Hyacinth*.]
2. A species of pellucid gems. [See *Hyacinth*.] *Rev. xxi.*

JACK, *n.* [*zeku*, in Ethiopia, is the pronoun *he*, or *she*.]

1. A nickname or diminutive of John, used as a general term of contempt for any saucy or paltry fellow. *Johnson.*

2. The name of an instrument that supplies the place of a boy; an instrument to pull off boots. *Watts.*

3. An engine to turn a spit; as a kitchen jack; a smoke jack.

4. A young pike. *Mortimer.*

5. A coat of mail. [Sp. *raco*, *xaqueta*.] *Hayward.*

6. A pitcher of waxed leather. *Dryden.*

7. A small bowl thrown out for a mark to the bowlers.

8. Part of a musical instrument called a virginal. *Bacon.*

9. The male of certain animals, as of the ass. [Arm. *ozach*, a husband.] *Arbuthnot.*

10. A horse or wooden frame on which wood or timber is sawed. *Ainsworth.*

11. In sea-language, a flag, ensign or colors, displayed from a staff on the end of a bowsprit. *Mar. Dict.*

12. In Yorkshire, half a pint. *Grose.* A quarter of a pint. *Pegge.*

Jack at all trades, a person who can turn his hand to any kind of business.

Jack by the hedge, a plant of the genus *Erysimum*, that grows under hedges.

Jack in a box, a plant of the genus *Hernandias*.

2. A large wooden male screw, turning in a female one. *Mar. Dict.*

Jack with a lantern, an ignis fatuus, a meteor that appears in low moist lands.

Jack of the clock-house, a little man that strikes the quarters in a clock.

JACK'ALENT, *n.* [*Jack in lent*, a poor starved fellow.]

A simple sheepish fellow. *Shak.*

JACK ANAPES, *n.* [*jack* and *ape*.] A monkey; an ape.

2. A coxcomb; an impertinent fellow. A young upstart *jackanapes*. *Arbuthnot.*

JACK'ASS, *n.* The male of the ass.

JACK'-BLOCK, *n.* A block attached to the top-gallant-tie of a ship, to sway up or to strike the yard. *Mar. Dict.*

JACK'BOOTS, *n.* [See No. 5. *supra*.] Boots that serve as armor for the legs. *Spectator.*

JACK'DAW, *n.* [*jack* and *daw*.] A fowl of the genus *Corvus*, thievish and mischievous to the farmer. *Encyc.*

JACK'FLAG, *n.* A flag hoisted at the spritsail top-mast-head. *Encyc.*

JACK'PUDDING, *n.* [*jack* and *pudding*.] A merry Andrew; a buffoon; a zany. *Gay.*

JACK'SMITH, *n.* A smith who makes jacks for the chimney.

JACK'AL, *n.* [Sp. *chacal*; Turk. *chical*.] An animal of the genus *Canis*, resembling a dog and a fox; a native of Asia and Africa. It preys on poultry and other small animals. It is the *Canis aureus* of Linne. *Encyc. Cyc.*

JACK'ET, *n.* [Sp. *xaqueta*, a short loose coat; *raco*, a short jacket; *xaquetilla*, a jacket; Fr. *jaquette*; Basque, *jacaya*.] A short close garment worn by males, extending downwards to the hips; a short coat.

JACK ETED, *a.* Wearing a jacket.

JAC'OBIN, *n.* [So named from the place of meeting, which was the monastery of the monks called Jacobines.]

The Jacobins, in France, during the late revolution, were a society of violent revolutionists, who held secret meetings in which measures were concerted to direct the proceedings of the National Assembly. Hence, a Jacobin is the member of a club, or other person, who opposes gov-