

harbor, and the upper end drawn into a ship and secured to the batts. The use is to enable a ship, when moored, to veer with the wind and tide.

Mar. Dict.

Bowline bridles are short legs or pieces of rope, running through iron thimbles, by which the bowline attaches to different places on the leech or edge of a large sail.

Mar. Dict.

BRIDLE, *v. t.* To put on a bridle; as, to *bridle* a horse.

2. To restrain, guide or govern; to check, curb or control; as, to *bridle* the passions; "to *bridle* a muse."

Pope.

Bridle the excursions of youth. *Dwight.*
BRIDLE, *v. i.* To hold up the head, and draw in the chin.

BRIDLED, *pp.* Having a bridle on; restrained.

BRIDLE-HAND, *n.* [*bridle* and *hand*.] The hand which holds the bridle in riding.

Sidney.

BRIDLER, *n.* One that bridles; one that restrains and governs.

Milton.

BRIDLING, *pp.* Putting on a bridle; restraining; curbing.

2. Holding up the head, and drawing in the chin.

The *bridling* frown of wrinkled brows.

Trumbull.

BRIEF, *a.* [*Fr. bref*; *It. Sp. Port. breve*; *L. brevis*, whence *brevis*, to shorten, abbreviate. *Brevis*, in Latin, is doubtless contracted from the *Gr. βραχυς*, whence to *abridge*. The Greek word coincides in elements with *break*.]

Short; concise; it is used chiefly of language, discourses, writings and time; as a *brief* space, a *brief* review of a book. Shakespeare applies it to *words*, to *nature*, &c. A little *brief* authority, is authority very limited.

BRIEF, *n.* [In this sense the word has been received into most of the languages of Europe.]

1. An epitome; a short or concise writing. This is the general sense of the word, as explained by Zonaras on the council of Carthage. It was thus used as early as the third century after Christ. *Speelman.*

In modern times, an *apostolical brief* is a letter which the pope dispatches to a prince or other magistrate, relating to public affairs. A *brief* is distinguished from a *bull*, in being more concise, written on paper, sealed with red wax, and impressed with the seal of the fisherman or Peter in a boat. A *bull* is more ample, written on parchment, and sealed with lead or green wax.

Encyc.

2. In *law*, an abridgment of a client's case, made out for the instruction of counsel on a trial at law.

Encyc. Johnson.

Also, a writ summoning a man to answer to any action; or any precept of the king in writing, issuing from any court, whereby he commands a thing to be done.

Cowell.

In *Scots law*, a writ issuing from the chancery, directed to any judge ordinary, commanding and authorizing that judge to call a jury to inquire into the case, and upon their verdict to pronounce sentence.

Encyc.

3. A letter patent, from proper authority, authorizing a public collection or charita-

ble contribution of money for any public or private purpose.

New-England.

4. A writing in general. *Shak.*
In music, the word, if I mistake not, is now written *breve*.

BRIEFLY, *adv.* Concisely; in few words. *Bacon.*

BRIEFNESS, *n.* Shortness; conciseness in discourse or writing. *C Camden.*

BRIER, *n.* [*Sax. brær*; *Ir. briar*, a prick; *Fr. bruyere*, heath; *Arm. brug*. The latter shows this word to be from the root of *rough*.]

1. In a general sense, a prickly plant or shrub. *Is. v. 6. Judges vii. 7.*

2. In a limited sense, the sweet-brier and the wild-brier, species of the rose.

BRIERY, *a.* Full of briers; rough; thorny. *Johnson.*

BRIG, the termination of names, signifies a *brigade*, or perhaps, in some cases, a town, or *burg*.

BRIG, *n.* [from *brigantine*.] A vessel with two masts, square rigged, or rigged nearly like a ship's mainmast and foremast. The term however is variously applied by the mariners of different nations.

Mar. Dict.

BRIGADE, *n.* [*Fr. brigade*; *It. brigata*; *Sp. and Port. brigada*; perhaps from *Ar.*

فريق *forikon*, agmen, turba hominum

major, that is, a division, from *فرق*

faraka, to *break*. This word comes to us from the south of Europe, and may have been introduced into Spain by the Moors. If this conjecture is not well founded, I know not the origin of the word. See *Cast. Hept. Col. 3084*.]

A party or division of troops, or soldiers, whether cavalry or infantry, regular or militia, commanded by a brigadier. It consists of an indeterminate number of regiments, squadrons, or battalions. A brigade of horse is a body of eight or ten squadrons; of infantry, four, five, or six battalions, or regiments.

BRIGADE, *v. t.* To form into a brigade, or into brigades.

BRIGADE-MAJOR, *n.* [See *Major*.] An officer appointed by the brigadier, to assist him in the management and ordering of his brigade.

BRIGADIER, *n.* [*Fr. from brigade*.] The general officer who commands a brigade, whether of horse or foot, and in rank next below a major-general.

BRIGAND, *n.* [*Fr. brigand*; *W. brigant*, a mountaineer, a plunderer, from *W. brig*, a top or summit.]

A robber; a free booter; a lawless fellow who lives by plunder, or who belongs to a band of robbers.

Warburton.

BRIGANDAGE, *n.* Theft; robbery; plunder.

Warburton.

BRIGANDINE, *n.* [*Qu. the origin of this word. In Pers. pranghe* is a helmet.]

Anciently, a coat of mail. The name has ceased to be used, with the disuse of the thing. It consisted of thin jointed scales of plate, plant and easy to the body.

Encyc.

BRIGANTINE, *n.* [*Fr. brigantine*; *Arm. brigantine*; *It. brigantino*; *Sp. bergantin*; *Port. bergantin*; *D. berkanlyn*. *Qu. from L. aphractum*, *Gr. ἀφρακτος*, a vessel without a deck, uncovered. It is usually derived from *brigand*.] [See *Brig*.]

BRIGHT, *a. brite*. [*Sax. beorht, briht, byrht, or bryht*, clear, shining, whence *beorhtnes*, brightness, *beorhtan*, Goth. *bairytan*, to shine or be clear, or to manifest; *Ar. Ch. Heb. Syr. Eth. ברק* *barak*, to shine, or more

probably, *Eth. ባርባ* *bareah*, to shine, as

the *Eth.* participle *ባርባት* *berht* or *bercht*, corresponds exactly with the *Saxon*. I have not found this word in any other Teutonic or Gothic language, and the original verb is lost in the *Saxon*. In *Saxon*, *beorhtwile*, or *brihtwile*, signifies a moment, the twinkling of an eye. This directs us to the primary sense of the verb to shine, which is, to shoot, to dart, to glance. That this is the primary sense, we have evidence from the *Sax. bryhtan*, which is a derivative from *bryht*, and which signifies a *moment*, that is, the time of a shoot, or darting, like *glance*.]

1. Shining; lucid; luminous; splendid; as a *bright* sun or star; a *bright* metal.

2. Clear; transparent; as *liquors*.

Thomson.

3. Evident; clear; manifest to the mind, as

light is to the eyes.

The evidence of this truth is *bright*. *Watts.*

4. Resplendent with charms; as a *bright*

beauty; the *brightest* fair. *Pope.*

5. Illuminated with science; sparkling with

wit; as the *brightest* of men. *Pope.*

6. Illustrious; glorious; as the *brightest*

period of a kingdom. *Colton.*

7. In popular language, ingenious; possess-

ing an active mind.

8. Promising good or success; as *bright*

prospects.

9. Sparkling; animated; as *bright* eyes.

BRIGHT-BURNING, *a.* Burning with a

bright flame.

BRIGHTEN, *v. t. brtn*. To make bright or

brighter; to make to shine; to increase

lustre.

2. To make luminous by light from with-

out, or by dispelling gloom; as, to *brighten*

sorrow or prospects. *Philips.*

3. To cheer; to make gay or cheerful.

Joy brightens his crest. Milton.

4. To make illustrious, or more distinguish-

ed; as, to *brighten* a character. *Swift.*

5. To make acute or witty. *Johnson.*

BRIGHTEN, *v. i. brtn*. To grow bright,

or more bright; to clear up; as, the sky

brightens.

2. To become less dark or gloomy; as, our

prospects *brighten*.

BRIGHT-EYED, *a.* Having bright eyes.

Gray.

BRIGHT-HAIRED, *a.* Having bright hair.

Milton.

BRIGHT-HARNESSED, *a.* Having glitter-

ing armor. *Milton.*

BRIGHTLY, *adv. brtly*. Splendidly; with

lustre.

BRIGHTNESS, *n. britness*. Splendor; lustre; glitter.

South.

2. Acuteness, applied to the faculties; sharp-

ness of wit; as the *brightness* of a man's

parts. *Prior.*