

- or whiteness; the darkest color, or rather a destitution of all color; as, a cloth has a good black.
2. A negro; a person whose skin is black.
3. A black dress, or mourning; as, to be clothed in black.
- BLACK, v. t.** To make black; to blacken; to soil. *Boyle.*
- BLACK-ACT, n.** [*black and act.*] The English statute 9. Geo. I. which makes it felony to appear armed in any park or warren, &c., or to hunt or steal deer, &c., with the face blacked or disguised.
- Blackstone.*
- BLACK-BALL, n.** [*black and ball.*] A composition for blacking shoes.
- BLACK-BALL, v. t.** To reject or negative in choosing, by putting black balls into a ballot-box.
- BLACK-BAR, n.** [*black and bar.*] A plea obliging the plaintiff to assign the place of trespass. *Ash.*
- BLACK-BERRY, n.** [*Sax. blacberian, black and berry.*]
- The berry of the bramble or rubus; a popular name applied, in different places, to different species, or varieties of this fruit.
- BLACK-BIRD, n.** [*black and bird.*] In England, the merula, a species of *turdus*, a singing bird with a fine note, but very loud. In America, this name is given to different birds, as to the gracula quiscalis, or crow black-bird, and to the *oriolus phoeniceus*, or red winged black-bird, [*Sturnus predarius*, Wilson.]
- BLACK-BOOK, n.** [*black and book.*] The Black Book of the Exchequer in England, is a book said to have been composed in 1175, by Gervais of Tilbury. It contains a description of the Court of Exchequer, its officers, their ranks and privileges, wages, perquisites and jurisdiction, with the revenues of the crown, in money, grain and cattle. *Encyc.*
2. Any book which treats of necromancy. *Encyc.*
3. A book compiled by order of the visitors of monasteries, under Henry VIII., containing a detailed account of the enormities practised in religious houses, to blacken them and to hasten their dissolution. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-BROWED, a.** [*black and browed.*]
- Having black eye-brows; gloomy; dismal; threatening; as a black-browed giant. *Dryden.*
- BLACK-BRY'ONY, n.** [*black and bryony.*]
- A plant, the Tamus. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-CAP, n.** [*black and cap.*] A bird, the *Motacilla atricapilla*, or mock-nightingale; so called from its black crown. It is common in Europe. *Encyc. Pennant.*
2. In cookery, an apple roasted till black, to be served up in a dish of boiled custard. *Mason.*
- BLACK-CATTLE, n.** [*black and cattle.*]
- Cattle of the bovine genus, as bulls, oxen and cows. [English.] *Johnson.*
- BLACK-CHALK, n.** A mineral of a bluish black color, of a slaty texture, and soiling the fingers when handled; a variety of argillaceous slate. *Ure.*
- BLACK-COCK, n.** [*black and cock.*]
- A fowl, called also black-grouse and black-game, the *Tetrao tetrix* of Linné.
- BLACK-EAGLE, n.** [*black and eagle.*] In

- Scotland, a name given to the *Falco fulvus*, the white tailed eagle of Edwards.
- BLACK-EARTH, n.** Mold; earth of a dark color. *Woodward.*
- BLACK-ED, pp.** Made black; soiled.
- BLACK'EN, v. t.** [*Sax. blacæan. See Black.*]
1. To make black.
- The importation of slaves that has blackened half America. *Franklin.*
2. To make dark; to darken; to cloud.
3. To soil.
4. To sully reputation; to make infamous; as, vice blackens the character.
- BLACK'EN, v. i.** To grow black, or dark.
- BLACK'ENER, n.** He that blackens.
- BLACK-EYED, n.** Having black eyes. *Dryden.*
- BLACK-FACED, a.** Having a black face. *Shak.*
- BLACK-FISH, n.** [*black and fish.*] A fish in the Orontes, about twenty inches long, in shape resembling the sheat-fish. Its eyes are placed near the corners of its mouth on the edge of the lower jaw. *Dict. of Nat. Hist.*
2. In the U. States, a fish caught on the rocky shores of New-England.
- BLACK-FOREST, n.** [*black and forest.*] A forest in Germany, in Swabia; a part of the ancient Hercynian forest.
- BLACK-FRIAR, n.** Black-friars is a name given to the Dominican Order, called also Predicants and preaching friars; in France, Jacobins. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-GUARD, n.** [*said to be of black and guard; but is it not a corruption of black-art, black-kind?*]
- A vulgar term applied to a mean fellow, who uses abusive, scurrilous language, or treats others with foul abuse.
- BLACKING, pp.** Making black.
- BLACKING, n.** A substance used for blacking shoes, variously made; any factitious matter for making things black. *Encyc.*
- BLACKISH, a.** Somewhat black; moderately black or dark.
- BLACK-JACK, n.** A name given by miners to blend, a mineral called also *falsé galena*, and *blend*. It is an ore of zinc, in combination with iron and sulphur, sulphuret of zinc. *Nicholson.*
2. A leathern cup of old times.
- BLACK-LEAD, n.** A mineral of a dark steel-gray color, and of a sealy texture, composed of carbon, with a small portion of iron. This name, *black-lead*, is improper, as it contains no lead. It is called plumbago, and technically graphite, as it is used for pencils. *Cleveland.*
- BLACK-LEGS, n.** In some parts of England, a disease among calves and sheep. It is a sort of jelly which settles in the legs and sometimes in the neck. *Encyc.*
- BLACKLY, adv.** Darkly; atrociously.
- BLACK-MAIL, n.** A certain rate of money, corn, cattle or other thing, anciently paid, in the north of England, to certain men, who were allied to robbers, to be by them protected from pillage. *Cowel. Encyc.*
2. Black rent, or rents paid in corn or flesh. *Bailey. Encyc.*
- BLACK-MONDAY, n.** Easter Monday, in 34. Ed. III., which was misty, obscure, and so cold that men died on horseback. *Stowe.*

- BLACK-MONKS, a** denomination given to the Benedictines. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-MOOR, n.** [*black and moor.*] A negro; a black man.
- BLACK-MOUTHED, a.** Using foul or scurrilous language. *Killingbeck.*
- BLACK-NESS, n.** The quality of being black; black color; darkness; atrociousness or enormity in wickedness.
- BLACK-PUDDING, n.** A kind of food made of blood and grain. *Johnson.*
- BLACK-ROD, n.** [*black and rod.*] In England, the usher belonging to the order of the garter; so called from the black rod which he carries. He is of the king's chamber and usher of Parliament. *Cowel.*
- Black row grains*, a species of iron stone or ore, found in the mines about Dudley in Staffordshire, England. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-SEA, n.** [*black and sea.*] The Euxine Sea, on the eastern border of Europe.
- BLACK-SHEEP, n.** [*black and sheep.*]
- In oriental history, the ensign or standard of a race of Turkmans in Armenia and Mesopotamia. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-SMITH, n.** [*black and smith.*] A smith who works in iron, and makes iron utensils; more properly, an iron-smith.
- Black-strakes*, in a ship, are a range of planks immediately above the wales in a ship's side, covered with tar and lamp-black. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-TAIL, n.** [*black and tail.*] A fish, a kind of perch, called also a ruff or pope. *Johnson.*
- BLACK-THORN, n.** [*black and thorn.*] A species of prunus, called also sloe. It grows ten or twelve feet high, very branched, and armed with sharp, strong spines, and bearing small, round, black cherries. It is much cultivated for hedges. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-TIN, n.** [*black and tin.*] Tin ore, when dressed, stamped and washed ready for melting. It is the ore comminuted by beating into a black powder, like fine sand. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-VISAGED, a.** Having a dark visage or appearance. *Marston.*
- BLACK-WADD, n.** [*black and wadd.*] An ore of manganese, found in Derbyshire, England, and used as a drying ingredient in paints. It is remarkable for taking fire, when mixed with linseed oil in a certain proportion. *Encyc.*
- BLACK-WORK, n.** [*black and work.*] Iron wrought by black-smiths; so called in distinction from that wrought by white-smiths. *Encyc.*
- BLAD-APPLE, n.** In botany, the cactus or a species of it. *Fern. of Plants.*
- BLADDER, n.** [*Sax. blad, bladder, bladder*, a bladder, and *blad*, a puff of wind, also a goblet, fruit, the branch of a tree; *W. ptedren*, a bladder; *Sw. and Dan. blad*, a page, a leaf; *Eng. a blade*; *D. blad*, a leaf, page, sheet, a board, a blade, a plate; *G. blatt*, a leaf; *blutter*, a blister, which is our bladder. The Germans express bladder by *blase*, *D. blans*, which is our blaze. Hence we observe that the sense is taken from swelling, extending, dilating, blowing; *Sax. blawen*, to blow; *W. blot* or *bluth*, a puff or blast; *W. pled*, extension, from *lled*, breadth; *L. latus*.]