

The Lord God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul.

To the Jew, I became a Jew.

2. To become of, usually with *what* preceding ; to be the fate of; to be the end of; to be the final or subsequent condition ; as, *what will become of our commerce? what will become of us?*

In the present tense, it applies to place as well as condition. What has become of my friend? that is, where is he? as well as, what is his condition? *Where is he become?* used by Shakspeare and Spenser, is obsolete ; but this is the sense in Saxon, where he has fallen?

BECOME, *v. t.* In general, to suit or be suitable; to be congruous; to befit; to accord with, in character or circumstances; to be worthy of, decent or proper. It is used in the same sense applied to persons or things.

It *become* not a cart as well as another man.

Shak.

This use of the word however is less frequent, the verb usually expressing the suitability of things, to persons or to other things; as, a robe *becomes* a prince.

It *becomes* me so to speak of an excellent poet.

BECOMING, *ppr.* but used rarely or never except as an adjective. Fit; suitable; congruous; proper; graceful; belonging to the character, or adapted to circumstances; as, he speaks with becoming boldness; a dress is very becoming.

Some writers formerly used *of*, after this word.

Such discourses as are becoming of them.

Dryden.

But this use is inelegant or improper.

BECOMING, *a.* Ornament. *Obs.* Shak.
BECOMINGLY, *adv.* After a becoming or proper manner.

BECOMINGNESS, *n.* Fitness; congruity; propriety; decency; gracefulness arising from fitness.

Grec.

BECRIPPLE, *v. t.* [See *Cripple*.] To make lame; to cripple.

[Little used.]

BE CURL, *v. t.* To curl. [Not used.]

BED, *n.* [Sax. *bed*; D. *bed*; G. *bett* or *bett*; Goth. *badi*. The sense is a lay or spread, from laying or setting.]

1. A place or an article of furniture to sleep and take rest on; in modern times, and among civilized men, a sack or tick filled with feathers or wool; but a bed may be made of straw or any other materials. The word *bed* includes often the bedstead.

2. Lodging; a convenient place for sleep.

3. Marriage; matrimonial connection.

George, the eldest son of his second bed.

Clarendon.

4. A plat or level piece of ground in a garden, usually a little raised above the adjoining ground.

Bacon.

5. The channel of a river, or that part in which the water usually flows.

Milton.

6. Any hollow place, especially in the arts; as the bed of a mortar; any thing rests; as the bed of a mortar.

7. A layer; a stratum; an extended mass of any thing, whether upon the earth or within it; as a bed of sulphur; a bed of sand or clay.

8. Pain, torment. Rev. ii. The grave. Heb. xiii.

The bed of the carriage of a gun is a thick plank which lies under the piece, being, as it were, the body of the carriage.

The bed of a mortar is a solid piece of oak, hollow in the middle, to receive the brich and half the trunnions.

In masonry, *bed* is a range of stones, and the joint of the bed is the mortar between two stones placed over each other. *Encyc.*

Bed of justice, in France, was a throne on which the king was seated when he went to parliament. Hence the phrase, to hold a bed of justice.

To make a bed, is to put it in order after it has been used.

To bring to bed, to deliver of a child, is rarely used. But in the passive form, to be brought to bed, that is, to be delivered of a child, is common. It is often followed by *of*; as, to be brought to bed of a son.

To put to bed, in midwifery, is to deliver of a child.

Dining bed, or discubitory bed, among the ancients, a bed on which persons lay at meals. It was four or five feet high, and would hold three or four persons. Three of these beds were ranged by a square table, one side of the table being left open, and accessible to the waiters. Hence the Latin name for the table and the room, *triclinium*, or three beds. *Encyc.*

From bed and board. In law, a separation of man and wife, without dissolving the bands of matrimony, is called a separation from bed and board, *a mensa et thoro*. In this case the wife has a suitable maintenance allotted to her out of the husband's estate, called alimony. *Blackstone*.

BED, *v. t.* To place in a bed. *Bacon*.

2. To go to bed with. [Unusual.] *Shak.*

3. To make partaker of the bed. *Bacon*.

4. To plant and inclose or cover; to set or lay in and inclose; as, to bed the roots of a plant in soft mold.

5. To lay in any hollow place, surrounded or inclosed; as, to bed a stone.

6. To lay in a place of rest or security, covered, surrounded or inclosed; as a fish bedded in sand, or under a bank.

7. To lay in a stratum; to stratify; to lay in order, or flat; as bedded clay, bedded hairs. *Shak.*

BED, *v. i.* To cohabit; to use the same bed. If he be married and bed with his wife.

Wiseman.

BEDABLE, *v. t.* [be and dabble.] To wet to sprinkle.

Beddabled with the dew. *Shak.*

BEDABLED, *pp.* Wet; sprinkled.

BEDABLING, *ppr.* Wetting; sprinkling.
BEDAFF, *v. t.* To make a fool of. [Not in use.] *Chaucer*.

BEDAGGLE, *v. t.* [be and dabble.] To soil, as clothes, by drawing the ends in the mud, or spattering them with dirty water.

BEDAGGLED, *pp.* Soiled by reaching the mud in walking; bespattering.

BEDARE, *v. t.* [be and dare.] To dare; to defy. [Not used.] *Peele*.

BEDARK, *v. t.* [be and dark.] To darken; to obscure.

[Not used.] *Gower*.

BEDASH, *v. t.* [be and dash.] To wet, by throwing water, or other liquid upon; to bespatter, with water or mud.

BEDASHED, *pp.* Bespattered with water or other liquid.

BEDASHING, *ppr.* Bespattering; dashing water upon, or other liquid.

BEDAUB, *v. t.* [be and daub.] To daub over; to besmear with viscous, slimy matter; to soil with any thing thick and dirty. *Shak.*

BEDAUBED, *pp.* Daubed over; besmeared.

BEDAUBING, *ppr.* Daubing over; besmearing.

BEDAZZLE, *v. t.* [be and dazzle.] To confound the sight by too strong a light; to make dim by luster. *Shak.*

BEDAZZLED, *pp.* Having the sight confounded by too strong a light.

BEDAZZLING, *ppr.* Confounding or making dim by a too brilliant luster.

BEDCHAMBER, *n.* [bed and chamber.] An apartment or chamber intended or appropriated for a bed, or for sleep and repose.

BEDCLOTHES, *n. plur.* [bed and clothes.] Blankets, or coverlets, &c., for beds. *Shak.*

BEDDED, *pp.* Laid in a bed; inclosed as in a bed.

BEDDER, } [from bed.] The nether
BEDETTTER, } stone of an oil mill. *Todd*.

BEDDING, *ppr.* Laying in a bed; including as in a bed.

BEDDING, *n.* A bed and its furniture; a bed; the materials of a bed, whether for man or beast. *Spenser*.

BEDECK, *v. t.* [be and deck.] To deck; to adorn; to grace. *Shak.*

BEDECKED, *pp.* Adorned; ornamented.

BEDECKING, *ppr.* Adorning; decking.

BEDEHOUSE, *n.* [Sax. *bead*, a prayer, and house.]

Formerly, a hospital or alms house, where the poor prayed for their founders and benefactors.

BEDDEL, *n.* An officer in the universities of England. [A peculiar orthography of *bedle*.]

BEDDELRY, *n.* The extent of a bedel's office.

BEDEW, *v. t.* [be and dew.] To moisten, as with dew; to moisten in a gentle manner with any liquid; as, tears bedew her face. *Shak.*

BEDEWED, *pp.* Moistened, as if with dew; gently moistened.

BEDEWER, *n.* That which bedews.

Sherewood.

BEDEWING, *ppr.* Moistening gently, as with dew; wetting.

BEDEWY, *a.* Moist with dew. [Little used.]

BED FELLOW, *n.* [bed and fellow.] One who lies in the same bed. *Shak.*

BED-HANGINGS, *n.* Curtains. *Shak.*

BEDIGHT, *v. t.* *bedi'te*. [be and dight.] To adorn; to dress; to set off with ornaments. [Little used.] *More*.

BEDIGHTED, *pp.* Adorned; set off with ornaments.

BEDIGHTING, *ppr.* Adorning.

BEDIM, *v. t.* [be and dim.] To make dim; to obscure or darken. *Sidney*.

BEDIMMED, *pp.* Made dim; obscured.

BEDIMMING, *ppr.* Making dim; obscuring; darkening.

BEDIZEN, *v. t.* *bediz'n*. [be and dizen.] To adorn; to deck; a low word.

BEDIZENED, *pp.* Bedecked; adorned