

SLACK'LY, *adv.* Not tightly; loosely.

2. Negligently; remissly.

SLACK'NESS, *n.* Looseness; the state opposite to tension; not tightness or rigidity; as the *slackness* of a cord or rope.

2. Remissness; negligence; inattention; as the *slackness* of men in business or duty; *slackness* in the performance of engagements. *Hooker.*

3. Slowness; tardiness; want of tendency; as the *slackness* of flesh to heal. *Sharp.*

4. Weakness; not intenseness. *Brerewood.*

SLADE, *n.* [Sax. *slæd*.] A little dell or valley; also, a flat piece of low moist ground. [*Local.*] *Drayton.*

SLAG, *n.* [Dan. *slagg*.] The dross or recrement of a metal; or vitrified cinders. *Boyle. Kirwan.*

SLAIE, *n.* *sla*. [Sax. *slæ*.] A weaver's reed.

SLAIN, *pp.* of *slay*; so written for *slayen*. Killed.

SLAKE, *v. t.* [Sw. *släcka*, Ice. *slacka*, to quench. It seems to be allied to *lay*.] To quench; to extinguish; as, to *slake* thirst. And *slake* the heavenly fire. *Spenser.*

SLAKE, *v. i.* To go out; to become extinct. *Brown.*

2. To grow less tense. [a mistake for *slack*.]

SLAM, *v. t.* [Ice. *lennu*, to strike, Old Eng. *lam*; Sax. *hlenman*, to sound.]

1. To strike with force and noise; to shut with violence; as, to *slam* a door.

2. To beat; to cuff. [*Local.*] *Grose.*

3. To strike down; to slaughter. [*Local.*]

4. To win all the tricks in a hand; as we say, to take all at a stroke or dash.

SLAM, *n.* A violent driving and dashing against; a violent shutting of a door.

2. Defeat at cards, or the winning of all the tricks.

3. The refuse of alum-works; used in Yorkshire as a manure, with sea weed and lime. [*Local.*]

SLAM'KIN, } *n.* [G. *schlampe*.] A

SLAM'MERKIN, } *n.* slut; a slatternly woman. [*Not used or local.*]

SLANDER, *n.* [Norm. *esclaunder*; Fr. *esclandre*; Russ. *klenu*, *klianu*, to slander; Sw. *klandra*, to accuse or blame.]

1. A false tale or report maliciously uttered, and tending to injure the reputation of another by lessening him in the esteem of his fellow citizens, by exposing him to impeachment and punishment, or by impairing his means of living; defamation. *Blackstone.*

Slander, that worst of poisons, ever finds

An easy entrance to ignoble minds. *Hervey.*

2. Disgrace; reproach; disreputation; ill name. *Shak.*

SLANDER, *v. t.* To defame; to injure by maliciously uttering a false report respecting one; to tarnish or impair the reputation of one by false tales, maliciously told or propagated.

SLANDERED, *pp.* Defamed; injured in good name by false and malicious reports.

SLANDERER, *n.* A defamer; one who injures another by maliciously reporting something to his prejudice.

SLANDERING, *ppr.* Defaming.

SLANDEROUS, *a.* That utters defamatory words or tales; as a *slandrous* tongue.

2. Containing slander or defamation; calumnious; as *slandrous* words, speeches or reports, false and maliciously uttered.

3. Scandalous; reproachful.

SLANDEROUSLY, *adv.* With slander; calumniously; with false and malicious reproach.

SLANDEROUSNESS, *n.* The state or quality of being slanderous or defamatory.

SLANG, *old pret.* of *sling*. We now use *sling*.

SLANG, *n.* Low vulgar unmeaning language. [*Low.*]

SLANK, *n.* A plant. [*algæ marina*.] *Ainsworth.*

SLANT, } *a.* [Sw. *slinta*, *slant*, to slip;

SLANTING, } perhaps allied to W. *ysglent*, a slide; and if *Ln* are the radical letters, this coincides with *lean*, *incline*.]

Sloping, oblique; inclined from a direct line, whether horizontal or perpendicular; as a *slanting* ray of light; a *slanting* floor.

SLANT, *v. t.* To turn from a direct line; to give an oblique or sloping direction to. *Fuller.*

SLANT, *n.* An oblique reflection or gibe; a sarcastic remark. [*In vulgar use.*]

2. A copper coin of Sweden, of which 196 pass for one rix-dollar.

SLANTINGLY, *adv.* With a slope or inclination; also, with an oblique hint or remark.

SLANTLY, } *adv.* Obliquely; in an in-

SLANTWISE, } clined direction. *Tusser.*

SLAP, *n.* [G. *schlappe*, a slap; *schlappen*, to lap; W. *yslapiaw*, to slap, from *yslab*, that is lengthened, from *llab*, a stroke or slap; *llabiaw*, to slap, to strap. The D. has *slap* and *klap*; It. *schiaffo*, for *schlaffo*; L. *alapa* and *schloppus*; Ch. Syr. ܫܠܦ. Class Lb. No. 36.]

A blow given with the open hand, or with something broad.

SLAP, *v. t.* To strike with the open hand, or with something broad.

SLAP, *adv.* With a sudden and violent blow. *Arbutnot.*

SLAP'DASH, *adv.* [*slap* and *dash*.] All at once. [*Low.*]

SLAPE, *a.* Slippery; smooth. [*Local.*] *Grasc.*

SLAP'PER, } *a.* Very large. [*Vulgar.*]

SLAP'PING, }

SLASH, *v. t.* [Ice. *slasa*, to strike, to lash; W. *llath*. Qu.]

1. To cut by striking violently and at random; to cut in long cuts.

2. To lash.

SLASH, *v. i.* To strike violently and at random with a sword, hanger or other edged instrument; to lay about one with blows.

Hewing and slashing at their idle shades. *Spenser.*

SLASH, *n.* A long cut; a cut made at random. *Clarendon.*

SLASH'ED, *pp.* Cut at random.

SLASH'ING, *ppr.* Striking violently and cutting at random.

SLAT, *n.* [This is doubtless the *sloat* of the English dictionaries. See *Sloat*.]

A narrow piece of board or timber used to fasten together larger pieces; as the *slats* of a cart or a chair.

SLATCH, *n.* In seamen's language, the period of a transitory breeze. *Mar. Dict.*

2. An interval of fair weather. *Bailey.*

3. Slack. [See *Slack*.]

SLATE, *n.* [Fr. *éclater*, to split, Sw. *slita*; Ir. *sglata*, a tile. Class Ld.]

1. An argillaceous stone which readily splits into plates; argillite; argillaceous silt.

2. A piece of smooth argillaceous stone, used for covering buildings.

3. A piece of smooth stone of the above species, used for writing on.

SLATE, *v. t.* To cover with slate or plates of stone; as, to *slate* a roof. [It does not signify to *tile*.]

SLATE, } *v. t.* To set a dog loose at any

SLATE-AX, *n.* A mattock with an ax-end; used in slating. *Encyc.*

SLATED, *pp.* Covered with slate.

SLATER, *n.* One that lays slates, or whose occupation is to slate buildings.

SLATING, *ppr.* Covering with slates.

SLATTER, *v. i.* [G. *schlottern*, to hang loosely; *schlotterig*, negligent. See *Slut*.]

1. To be careless of dress and dirty. *Ray.*

2. To be careless, negligent or awkward; to spill carelessly.

SLAT'TERN, *n.* A woman who is negligent of her dress, or who suffers her clothes and furniture to be in disorder; one who is not neat and nice.

SLAT'TERN, *v. t.* To *slattern* away, to consume carelessly or wastefully; to waste. [*Unusual.*] *Chesterfield.*

SLAT'TERNLY, *adv.* Negligently; awkwardly. *Chesterfield.*

SLAT'TY, *a.* [from *slate*.] Resembling slate; having the nature or properties of slate; as a *slaty* color or texture; a *slaty* feel.

SLAUGHTER, *n.* *slaw'ter*. [Sax. *slæge*; D. *slagting*; G. *schlachten*, to kill; Ir. *slatighe*; *slaighim*, to slay. See *Slay*.]

1. In a general sense, a killing. *Applied* to men, slaughter usually denotes great destruction of life by violent means; as the *slaughter* of men in battle.

2. *Applied* to beasts, butchery; a killing of oxen or other beasts for market.

SLAUGHTER, *v. t.* *slaw'ter*. To kill; to slay; to make great destruction of life; as, to *slaughter* men in battle.

2. To butcher; to kill for the market; as beasts.

SLAUGHTERED, *pp.* *slaw'tered*. Slain; butchered.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSE, *n.* *slaw'ter-house*. A house where beasts are butchered for the market.

SLAUGHTERING, *ppr.* *slaw'tering*. Killing; destroying human life; butchering.

SLAUGHTER-MAN, *n.* *slaw'ter-man*. One employed in killing. *Shak.*

SLAUGHTEROUS, *a.* *slaw'terous*. Destructive; murderous. *Shak.*

SLAVE, *n.* [D. *slaf*; G. *slave*; Dan. *slave*, *slave*; Sw. *slaf*; Fr. *esclave*; Arin. *scloff*; It. *schiafa*; Sp. *esclavo*; Port. *escravo*; Ir. *slabhadh*. This word is commonly deduced from *Sclavi*, *Sclavonians*, the name of a people who were made slaves by the Venetians. But this is not certain.]

1. A person who is wholly subject to the will of another; one who has no will of his own, but whose person and services are wholly under the control of another.

In the early state of the world, and to this day among some barbarous nations, pris-