

corrupted from *G. fleck*, *D. vlak* or *vlak*, *Sw. fläck*, *Dan. flæk*, a spot; which is not probable.]

1. A spot of a yellowish color in the skin, particularly on the face, neck and hands. Freckles may be natural or produced by the action of the sun on the skin, or from the jaundice.
2. Any small spot or discoloration.

FRECKLED, *a.* Spotted; having small yellowish spots on the skin or surface; as a *freckled* face or neck.

2. Spotted; as a freckled cowlsp. *Shak.*

FRECKLEDNESS, *n.* The state of being freckled. *Sherwood.*

FRECKLEFACED, *a.* Having a face full of freckles. *Beaumont.*

FRECK'LY, *a.* Full of freckles; sprinkled with spots.

FRED, *Sax. frith*, *Dan. fred*, *Sw. frid*, *G. friede*, *D. vrede*, peace; as in *Frederic*, dominion of peace, or rich in peace; *Winfred*, victorious peace. Our ancestors called a sanctuary, *fredestole*, a seat of peace.

FREE, *a.* [*Sax. frig*, *freoh*, free; *frigan*, *freogan*, to free; *G. frei*; *D. vry*; *Dan. fri*; *Sw. fri*; all contracted from *frig*, which corresponds with *Heb.* and *Ch. פרי*, *Syr.*

פרי, *Sam. פרי*, *Ar. فرى* *faraka*, to break, to separate, to divide, to free, to redeem, &c. See *Frank*.]

1. Being at liberty; not being under necessity or restraint, physical or moral; a word of general application to the body, the will or mind, and to corporations.
2. In government, not enslaved; not in a state of vassalage or dependence; subject only to fixed laws, made by consent, and to a regular administration of such laws; not subject to the arbitrary will of a sovereign or lord; as a *free* state, nation or people.
3. Instituted by a free people, or by consent or choice of those who are to be subjects, and securing private rights and privileges by fixed laws and principles; not arbitrary or despotic; as a *free* constitution or government.

There can have no *free* government without a democratical branch in the constitution.

J. Adams.

4. Not imprisoned, confined or under arrest; as, the prisoner is *set free*.
5. Unconstrained; unrestrained; not under compulsion or control. A man is *free* to pursue his own choice; he enjoys *free* will.
6. Permitted; allowed; open; not appropriated; as, places of honor and confidence are *free* to all; we seldom hear of a commerce perfectly *free*.
7. Not obstructed; as, the water has a *free* passage or channel; the house is open to a *free* current of air.
8. Licentious; unrestrained. The reviewer is *very free* in his censures.
9. Open; candid; frank; ingenious; unserved; as, we had a *free* conversation together.

Will you be *free* and candid to your friend?

Otway.

10. Liberal in expenses; not parsimonious; as a *free* purse; a man is *free* to give to all useful institutions.

11. Gratuities; not gained by importunity or purchase. He made him a *free* offer of his services. It is a *free* gift. The salvation of men is of *free* grace.

12. Clear of crime or offense; guiltless; innocent.

My hands are guilty, but my heart is *free*. *Dryden.*

13. Not having feeling or suffering; clear; exempt; with *from*; as *free* from pain or disease; *free* from remorse.

14. Not encumbered with; as *free* from a burden.

15. Open to all, without restriction or without expense; as a *free* school.

16. Invested with franchises; enjoying certain immunities; with *of*; as a man *free* of the city of London.

17. Possessing without vassalage or slavish conditions; as *free* of his farm. *Dryden.*

18. Liberated from the government or control of parents, or of a guardian or master. A son or an apprentice, when of age, is *free*.

19. Ready; eager; not dull; acting without spurring or whipping; as a *free* horse.

20. Genteel; charming. [*Not in use.*]

Chaucer.

FREE, *v. t.* To remove from a thing any encumbrance or obstruction; to disengage from; to rid; to strip; to clear; as, to *free* the body from clothes; to *free* the feet from fetters; to *free* a channel from sand.

2. To set at liberty; to rescue or release from slavery, captivity or confinement; to loose. The prisoner is *freed* from arrest.
3. To disentangle; to disengage.
4. To exempt.

He that is dead is *freed* from sin. *Rom. vi.*

5. To manumit; to release from bondage; as, to *free* a slave.

6. To clear from water, as a ship by pumping.

7. To release from obligation or duty.

To *free* from or *free* of, is to rid of, by removing, in any manner.

FREEBENCH, *n.* A widow's dower in a copyhold. *Blackstone.*

FREEBOOTER, *n.* [*D. vrybuitler*; *G. freibuter*. See *Booty*.]

One who wanders about for plunder; a robber; a pillager; a plunderer. *Bacon.*

FREEBOOTING, *n.* Robbery; plunder; a pillaging. *Spenser.*

FREEBORN, *a.* Born free; not in vassalage; inheriting liberty.

FREECHAPEL, *n.* In England, a chapel founded by the king and not subject to the jurisdiction of the ordinary. The king may also grant license to a subject to found such a chapel. *Cowel.*

Free city, in Germany, an imperial city, not subject to a prince, but governed by its own magistrates. *Encyc.*

FREECOST, *n.* Without expense; freedom from charges. *South.*

FREED, *pp.* Set at liberty; loosed; delivered from restraint; cleared of hindrance or obstruction.

FREEDENIZEN, *n.* A citizen. *Johnson.*

FREEDMAN, *n.* A man who has been a slave and is manumitted.

FREEDOM, *n.* A state of exemption from the power or control of another; liberty; exemption from slavery, servitude or con-

finement. *Freedom* is personal, civil, political, and religious. See *Liberty*.

2. Particular privileges; franchise; immunity; as the *freedom* of a city.

3. Power of enjoying franchises. *Swift.*

4. Exemption from fate, necessity, or any constraint in consequence of predetermination or otherwise; as the *freedom* of the will.

5. Any exemption from constraint or control.

6. Ease or facility of doing any thing. He speaks or acts with *freedom*.

7. Frankness; boldness. He addressed his audience with *freedom*.

8. License; improper familiarity; violation of the rules of decorum; with a plural. Beware of what are called innocent freedoms.

FREEFISHERY, *n.* A royal franchise or exclusive privilege of fishing in a public river. *Encyc.*

FREEFOOTED, *a.* Not restrained in marching. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

FREEHEARTED, *a.* [See *Heart*.] Open; frank; unserved.

2. Liberal; charitable; generous.

FREEHEARTEDNESS, *n.* Frankness; openness of heart; liberality. *Burnet.*

FREEHOLD, *n.* That land or tenement which is held in fee-simple, fee-tail, or for term of life. It is of two kinds; in *deed*, and in *law*. The first is the real possession of such land or tenement; the last is the right a man has to such land or tenement, before his entry or seizure.

Eng. Law.

Freehold is also extended to such offices as a man holds in fee or for life. It is also taken in opposition to *villanage*. *Encyc.*

In the *United States*, a *freehold* is an estate which a man holds in his own right, subject to no superior nor to conditions.

FREEHOLDER, *n.* One who owns an estate in fee-simple, fee-tail or for life; the possessor of a freehold. Every jurymen must be a *freeholder*.

FREE'ING, *ppr.* Delivering from restraint; releasing from confinement; removing incumbrances or hinderances from any thing; clearing.

FREE'LY, *adv.* At liberty; without vassalage, slavery or dependence.

2. Without restraint, constraint or compulsion; voluntarily. To render a moral agent accountable, he must act *freely*.

3. Plentifully; in abundance; as, to eat or drink *freely*.

4. Without scruple or reserve; as, to censure *freely*.

5. Without impediment or hindrance.

Of every tree of the garden thou mayest *freely* eat. *Gen. ii.*

6. Without necessity, or compulsion from divine predetermination.

Freely they stood who stood, and fell who fell.

Milton.

7. Without obstruction; largely; copiously. The patient bled *freely*.

8. Spontaneously; without constraint or persuasion.

9. Liberally; generously; as, to give *freely* to the poor.

10. Gratuiously; of free will or grace, without purchase or consideration.