

**DEFALCATE**, *v. t.* [Fr. *defalquer*; It. *defalcare*; Sp. *defalcar*; Port. *defalcar*; from L. *defalcō*; *de* and *falco*, from *fals*, a sickle.]

To cut off; to take away or deduct a part; used chiefly of money, accounts, rents, income, &c.

**DEFALCATION**, *n.* The act of cutting off or deducting a part; deduction; diminution; abatement; as, let him have the amount of his rent without *defalcation*.

2. That which is cut off; as, this loss is a *defalcation* from the revenue.

**DEFALK**, *v. t.* To defalcate. [Not in use.]

*Ep. Hall.*

**DEFAMATION**, *n.* [See *Defame*.] The uttering of slanderous words with a view to injure another's reputation; the malicious uttering of falsehood respecting another which tends to destroy or impair his good name, character or occupation; slander; calumny. To constitute defamation in law, the words must be false and spoken maliciously. Defamatory words written and published are called a *libel*.

*Blackstone.*

**DEFAMATORY**, *a.* Calumnious; slanderous; containing defecation; false and injurious to reputation; as *defamatory* words; *defamatory* reports or writings.

**DEFAME**, *v. t.* [Fr. *diffamer*; It. *diffamare*; Sp. *difamar*; from L. *diffamo*; *de* or *dis* and *fama*, fame.]

1. To slander; falsely and maliciously to utter words respecting another which tend to injure his reputation or occupation; as to say, a judge is corrupt; a man is perjured; a trader is a knave.

2. To speak evil of; to dishonor by false reports; to calumniate; to libel; to impair reputation by acts or words.

Being *defamed*, we entreat. 1 Cor. iv.

**DEFAMED**, *pp.* Slandered; dishonored or injured by evil reports.

**DEFAMER**, *n.* A slanderer; a detractor; a calumniator.

**DEFAMING**, *pp.* Slandering; injuring the character by false reports.

**DEFAMING**, *n.* Defamation; slander.

**DEFATIGABLE**, *a.* Liable to be wearied. [Not much used.] *Glennville.*

**DEFATIGATE**, *v. t.* [L. *defatigo*; *de* and *fatigo*, to tire. See *Fatigue*.] To weary or tire. [Little used.] *Herbst.*

**DEFATIGATION**, *n.* Weariness. [Little used.] *Bacon.*

**DEFULT**, *n.* [Fr. *defaut*, for *default*, from *defaillir*, to fail; *de* and *faillir*, to fail. See *Fail* and *Fault*.]

1. A failing, or failure; an omission of that which ought to be done; neglect to do what duty or law requires; as, this evil has happened through the governor's *default*. A *default* or *fault*, may be a crime, a vice, or a mere defect, according to the nature of the duty omitted.

2. Defect; want; failure.

Cooks could make artificial birds, in *default* of real ones. *Arbuthnot.*

3. In law, a failure of appearance by a day assigned, particularly of the defendant in a suit when called to make answer. It may be applied to jurors, witnesses, &c.; but a plaintiff's failing to appear by him-

self or attorney, is usually called a *non-appearance*.

To suffer a *default*, is to permit an action to be called without appearing or answering; applied to a defendant.

**DEFAULT**, *v. i.* To fail in performing a contract or agreement. *Johnson.*

**DEFAULT**, *v. t.* In law, to call out a defendant, [according to the common expression.] To call a defendant officially to appear and answer in court, and on his failing to answer, to declare him in default, and enter judgment against him; as, let the defendant be *defaulted*.

No costs are to be awarded for such town, if *defaulted*. *Mass. Laws.*

2. To call out a cause, in which the defendant does not appear, and enter judgment on the default; as, the cause was *defaulted*.

3. To fail in performance. *Milton.*

**DEFAULT**, *v. t.* To offend. *Obs.*

**DEFAULTED**, *pp.* Called out of court, as a defendant or his cause.

2. *a.* Having defect.

**DEFAULTER**, *n.* One who makes default; one who fails to appear in court when called.

2. One who fails to perform a public duty; particularly, one who fails to account for public money entrusted to his care; a delinquent.

**DEFAULTING**, *pp.* Failing to fulfil a contract; delinquent.

2. Failing to perform a duty or legal requirement; as a *defaulting* creditor. *Walsh.*

3. Calling out of court, and entering judgment against for non-appearance, as a defendant.

**DEFECASANCE**, *n. s* as *z*. [Norm. *defescance*; Fr. *defessant*, from *defaire*, to undo; *de* and *faire*, L. *facio*.]

1. Literally, a defecating; a rendering null; the preventing of the operation of an instrument.

2. In law, a condition, relating to a deed, which being performed, the deed is defeated or rendered void; or a collateral deed, made at the same time with a feoffment or other conveyance, containing conditions, on the performance of which the estate then created may be *defeated*. A *defescance*, on a bond, or a recognition, or a judgment recovered, is a condition which, when performed, *defects* it. A *defescance* differs from the common condition of a bond, in being a separate deed, whereas a common condition is inserted in the bond itself. *Blackstone.*

3. The writing containing a defescance.

1. Defeat. *Obs.* *Spenser.*

**DEFESABLE**, *a. s* as *z*. That may be defeated, or annulled; as a *defescable* title; a *defescable* estate.

**DEFESABLENESS**, *n.* The quality of being defescable.

**DEFEAT**, *n.* [Fr. *defaite*, from *defaire*, to undo; *de* and *faire*.]

1. Overthrow; loss of battle; the check, rout, or destruction of an army by the victory of an enemy.

2. Successful resistance; as the *defeat* of an attack.

3. Frustration; a rendering null and void; as the *defeat* of a title.

4. Frustration; prevention of success; as the *defeat* of a plan or design.

**DEFEAT**, *v. t.* To overcome or vanquish, as an army; to check, disperse or ruin by victory; to overthrow; applied to an army, or a division of troops; to a fleet, or to a commander.

The English army *defeated* the French on the plains of Abraham. Gen. Wolf *defeated* Montcalm. The French *defeated* the Austrians at Marengo.

2. To frustrate; to prevent the success of; to disappoint.

Then mayest thou for me *defeat* the counsel of Athiope. 2 Sam. xv. and xvi.

We say, our dearest hopes are often *defeated*.

3. To render null and void; as, to *defeat* a title or an estate.

4. To resist with success; as, to *defeat* an attempt or assault.

**DEFEATED**, *pp.* Vanquished; effectually resisted; overthrown; frustrated; disappointed; rendered null or inoperative.

**DEFEATING**, *pp.* Vanquishing; subduing; opposing successfully; overthrowing; frustrating; disappointing; rendering null and void.

**DEFEATURE**, *n.* Change of feature.

2. Overthrow; defeat. *Obs.* *Shak.*

**DEFECATE**, *v. t.* [L. *defeco*; *de* and *fec*, degrec.] *Beaum.*

1. To purify; to refine; to clear from dregs or impurities; to clarify; as, to *defecate* liquor.

2. To purify from admixture; to clear; to purge of extraneous matter.

**DEFECATED**, *pp.* Purified; clarified; refined.

**DEFECATING**, *pp.* Purifying; purging of lees or impurities.

**DEFECATION**, *n.* The act of separating from lees or dregs; purification from impurities or foreign matter.

**DEFECT**, *n.* [L. *defectus*; It. *difetto*; Sp. *defecto*; from L. *deficio*, to fail; *de* and *facio*, to make or do.]

1. Want or absence of something necessary or useful towards perfection; fault; imperfection.

Errors have been corrected, and *defects* supplied. *Burges.*

We say, there are numerous *defects* in the plan, or in the work, or in the execution.

2. Failing; fault; mistake; imperfection in moral conduct, or in judgment.

A deep conviction of the *defects* of our lives tends to make us humble.

Trust not yourself; but, your *defects* to know. Make use of every friend and every foe.

*Pope.*

3. Any want, or imperfection, in natural objects; the absence of any thing necessary to perfection; anything unnatural or misplaced; blemish; deformity. We speak of a *defect* in the organs of seeing or hearing, or in a limb; a *defect* in timber; a *defect* in an instrument, &c.

**DEFECT**, *v. i.* To be deficient. [Not in use.] *Brown.*

**DEFECTIBILITY**, *n.* Deficiency; imperfection. [Little used.] *Digby.*

**DEFECTIBLE**, *a.* Imperfect; deficient; wanting. [Little used.] *Hale.*

**DEFECTION**, *n.* [L. *defectio*. See *Defect*.]

1. Want or failure of duty; particularly, a falling away; apostasy; the act of aban-