

BLINDFOLDED, *pp.* Having the eyes covered; hindered from seeing.

BLINDFOLDING, *pp.* Covering the eyes; hindering from seeing.

BLINDING, *pp.* Depriving of sight, or of understanding; obscuring.

BLINDLY, *adv.* Without sight, or understanding.

2. Without discerning the reason; implicitly; without examination; as, to be *blindly* led by another. *Dryden.*

3. Without judgment or direction. *Dryden.*

BLINDMAN'S BALL, *n.* A species of fungus, *Lycoperdon*, or puff-ball.

Fam. of Plants.

BLINDMAN'S BUFF, *n.* A play in which one person is blindfolded, and hunts out the rest of the company. *Johnson.*

BLINDNESS, *n.* Want of bodily sight; want of intellectual discernment; ignorance. *Locke.*

BLINDNETTLE, *n.* A plant.

BLINDS, *n.* In the military art, a defense made of osiers or branches interwoven, and laid across two rows of stakes, four or five feet asunder, of the height of a man, to shelter the workmen, and prevent their being overlooked by the enemy. *Encyc.*

BLIND SERPENT, *n.* A reptile of the Cape of Good Hope, covered with black scales, but spotted with red, white and brown. *Diet. of Nat. Hist.*

BLINDSIDE, *n.* [*blind* and *side*.] The side which is most easily assailed; or the side on which the party is least able or disposed to see danger; weakness; foible; weak part. *Swift.*

BLIND VESSEL, with chimists, a vessel with an opening on one side only. *Johnson.*

BLINDWORM, *n.* [*blind* and *worm*.] A small reptile, called also slow worm, a species of *Anguis*, about eleven inches long, covered with scales, with a forked tongue, but harmless. *Diet. of Nat. Hist.*

BLINK, *v. i.* [*Sax. blican*, to shine, to twinkle; *blicendi*, clothed in white; *ablican*, to appear, to whiten; *D. bliken*, to glance, to twinkle, and *blinken*, to shine, to glitter; *blyken*, to appear or show; *Sw. blincha*, to wink, to connive; *blika*, to shine, to twinkle; *Ger. blicken*, to look, to glance; *blinken*, to glance, to shine, to twinkle, to wink; *Dan. blinker*, to blink, to glance, to wink, to shine, to glitter. This contains the same radical letters as *light*.]

1. To wink; to twinkle with the eye.

2. To see obscurely. *Johnson.* Is it not to see with the eyes half shut, or with frequent winking, as a person with weak eyes?

One eye was glancing and one leg was lame. *Pope.*

BLINK, *n.* A glimpse or glance.

BLINK, *n.* *Blink* of ice, is the dazzling whiteness about the horizon, occasioned by the reflection of light from fields of ice at sea. *Mur. Diet.*

BLINK'ARD, *n.* [*blink* and *ard*, kind.] A person who blinks or has bad eyes; that which twinkles, or glances, as a dim star, which appears and disappears. *Huicell.*

BLINKING, *pp.* Winking; twinkling.

BLISS, *n.* [*Sax. bliss*, joy, alacrity, exultation; *blissian*, to rejoice, to exult, to con-

gratulate, to applaud; also *blithsian*, to rejoice. See *Bliss* and *Blither*.]

The highest degree of happiness; blessedness; felicity; used of felicity in general, when of an exalted kind, but appropriately, of heavenly joys. *Hooker. Pope.*

BLISSFUL, *a.* Full of joy and felicity; happy in the highest degree. *Spenser.*

BLISSFULLY, *adv.* In a blissful manner. *Sherwood.*

BLISSFULNESS, *n.* Exalted happiness; felicity; fulness of joy. *Barrow.*

BLISSLESS, *a.* Destitute of bliss. *Hawkins.*

BLISSOM, *v. i.* [*W. blis, blystare*, to crave, that is, to reach forward.]

To be lustful; to caterwall. [*Little used*.]

BLISTER, *n.* [*Ger. blase*, and *blatter*. It is radically the same word as *bladder*, in a different dialect. See *Bladder*, *Blast*, and *Blaze*.]

1. A pustule; a thin bladder on the skin, containing watery matter or serum, whether occasioned by a burn, or other injury, or by a vesicatory. It is formed by raising the cuticle.

2. Any tumor made by the separation of the film or skin, as on plants; or by the swelling of the substance at the surface, as on steel.

3. A vesicatory; a plaster of flies, or other matter, applied to raise a vesicle.

BLISTER, *v. i.* To rise in blisters. *Dryden.*

BLISTER, *v. t.* To raise a blister, by any hurt, burn or violent action upon the skin; to raise a blister by a medical application, or vesicatory.

2. To raise tumors on iron bars in a furnace, in the process of converting iron into steel.

BLISTERED, *pp.* Having blisters or tumors.

BLISTERING, *pp.* Raising a blister; applying a blistering plaster, or vesicatory.

BLITE, *n.* [*L. blitum*; *Gr. βίτρον*.] A genus of plants, called strawberry spinach. *Encyc.*

2. A species of amaranth, or flower gentle. *Fam. of Plants.*

BLITHE, *a.* [*Sax. blithe* and *bleatha*, *bleathe*, gay, joyful. This is probably the same word as *bliss*; *L. letus*; *Eng. glad*. See *Bliss* and *Glad*. The *Ir. lith*, happiness, seems to be the original word without the prefix.]

Gay; merry; joyous; sprightly; mirthful.

For that fair female troop thou sawest, that seemed

Of goddesses, so *blithe*, so smooth, so gay. *Milton.*

BLITHEFUL, *a.* Gay; full of gaiety.

BLITHELY, *adv.* In a gay, joyful manner.

BLITHESS, *n.* Gaiety; sprightliness; the quality of being blithe.

BLITHESOME, *a.* Gay; merry; cheerful. *Philips.*

BLITHESOMENESS, *n.* The quality of being blithesome; gaiety.

BLOAT, *v. t.* [This word may be allied to *bladder*, from the sense of inflating, swelling; *W. blyeth*, a puff, a blast; *blythas*, a fat paunch, a bloated person.]

1. To swell or make turgid, as with air; to inflate; to puff up; hence, to make vain; followed by *up*, but without necessity. *To bloat up* with praise is less elegant than *to bloat* with praise. *Dryden.*

2. To swell or make turgid with water, or other means; as a *bloated* limb. It is used to denote a morbid enlargement, often accompanied with softness.

BLOAT, *v. i.* To grow turgid; to dilate. *Arbuthnot.*

BLOAT, *a.* Swelled; turgid. [*Not used*.]

BLOATED, *pp.* Swelled; grown turgid; inflated.

BLOATEDNESS, *n.* A turgid state; turgidness; dilatation from inflation, debility, or any morbid cause. *Arbuthnot.*

BLOATING, *pp.* Swelling; inflating.

BLOBBER, *n.* [*Ir. plub*, or *pluibin*, from swelling, pushing out, as in *bleb*, *blubber*; *W. llob*, a bulging out. *Qu. blub*, by transposition. See *Blubber*.]

A bubble; pronounced by the common people in America, *blubber*. It is a legitimate word, but not elegant. *Carew.*

BLOBERLIP, *n.* [*bllobber* and *lip*.] A thick lip. *Dryden.*

BLOBERLIPPED, *a.* Having thick lips. *L'Estrange.*

BLOCK, *n.* [*D. blok*; *Ger. block*; *Fr. bloc*; *W. ploc*, from *lloc*, a mound; *placine*, to block, to plug; *Russ. placha*, a block. The primary sense is, set, fixed, or a mass.]

1. A heavy piece of timber or wood, usually with one plain surface; or it is rectangular, and rather thick and long.

2. Any mass of matter with an extended surface; as a *block* of marble, a piece rough from the quarry.

3. A massy body, solid and heavy; a mass of wood, iron, or other metal, with at least one plain surface, such as artificers use.

4. The wood on which criminals are beheaded.

5. Any obstruction, or cause of obstruction; a stop; hindrance; obstacle.

6. A piece of wood in which a pulley runs; used also for the pulley, or the block itself and the sheaves, or wheels.

7. A blockhead; a stupid fellow.

8. Among *cutters* in wood, a form made of hard wood, on which they cut figures in relief with knives, chisels, &c. *Encyc.*

9. In *falconry*, the perch whereon a bird of prey is kept. *Encyc.*

BLOCK, *v. t.* [*Fr. bloquer*; *Port. and Sp. bloquear*; *It. bloccare*.]

To inclose or shut up, so as to hinder egress or passage; to stop up; to obstruct; by placing obstacles in the way: often followed by *up*; as, to *block up* a town, or a road.

BLOCKADE, *n.* [*It. bloccato*; *Port. bloqueado*, blocked up; *Sp. bloqueo*; *Fr. blocus*.]

The siege of a place, formed by surrounding it with hostile troops or ships, or by posting them at all the avenues, to prevent escape, and hinder supplies of provisions and ammunition from entering, with a view to compel a surrender, by hunger and want, without regular attacks.

To constitute a *blockade*, the investing power must be able to apply its force to every point of practicable access, so as to render it dangerous to attempt to enter; and there is no *blockade* of that port, where its force cannot be brought to bear. *Kant's Commentaries.*

BLOCKADE, *v. t.* To shut up a town, or fortress, by posting troops at all the avenues, to compel the garrison or inhabi-