

BRIAR, [See *Brier*.]

BRIBE, *n.* [*Ir. breab*. In Pers. *پارو* *parah*, is a bribe, a half, piece, bit, segment, a morsel. *Fr. bribe*, a piece of bread.]

1. A price, reward, gift or favor bestowed or promised with a view to pervert the judgment, or corrupt the conduct of a judge, witness or other person. A bribe is a consideration given or promised to a person, to induce him to decide a cause, give testimony, or perform some act contrary to what he knows to be truth, justice or rectitude. It is not used in a good sense, unless in familiar language.
2. That which seduces.

Not the *bribes* of sordid wealth can seduce to leave these over blooming sweets. *Alcenside*.

BRIBE, *v. t.* To give or promise a reward or consideration, with a view to pervert the judgment, or corrupt the conduct. To hire for bad purposes; to purchase the decision of a judge, the testimony of a witness, or the performance of some act contrary to known truth, justice or rectitude.

2. To gain by a bribe.
In familiar language, it is sometimes used in a good sense; as, to bribe a child to take a medicine. Dryden has used the word in a good sense, in solemn language; but such use is rare, and hardly legitimate.

BRIBE-DEVOURING, *a.* Greedy of bribes or presents; as *bribe-devouring kings*.

BRIBER, *n.* One who bribes, or buys for corrupt practices. *South*.

BRIBERY, *n.* The act or practice of giving or taking rewards for corrupt practices; the act of paying or receiving a reward for a false judgment, or testimony, or for the performance of that which is known to be illegal, or unjust. It is applied both to him who gives, and to him who receives the compensation, but appropriately to the giver.

BRIBE-WORTHY, *a.* [*bribe* and *worthy*.] Worth bribing to obtain. *Mason*.

BRICK, *n.* [*Fr. brique*, a brick, and a little loaf; *Ir. brice*, or *bricke*; *Arm. brigen*; supposed to be a contraction of *L. imbrer*, a gutter-tile, from *imber*, a shower, which is probably a compound, of which the last syllable is from *βραχω*, whence *Ir. imbricari*, to get drunk. See *Enryc.*]

A mass of earth, chiefly clay, first moistened and made fine by grinding or treading, then formed into a long square in a mold, dried and baked or burnt in a kiln; used in buildings and walls.

2. A loaf shaped like a brick.

BRICK, *v. t.* To lay or pave with bricks. *Swift*.

2. To imitate or counterfeit a brick wall on plaster, by smearing it with red ochre and making the joints with an edge-tool, filling them with fine plaster. *Enryc.*

BRICK BAT, *n.* [*brick* and *bat*.] A piece or fragment of a brick. *Bacon*.

BRICK-BUILT, *a.* Built with bricks. *Dryden*.

BRICK-CLAY, *n.* [*brick* and *clay*.] Clay used or suitable for making bricks. *Woodward*.

BRICK DUST, *n.* [*brick* and *dust*.] Dust of pounded bricks. *Spectator*.

BRICK EARTH, *n.* [*brick* and *earth*.] Clay or earth used, or suitable for bricks.

BRICK KILN, *n.* [*brick* and *kiln*.] A kiln, or furnace, in which bricks are baked or burnt, or a pile of bricks, laid loose, with arches underneath to receive the wood or fuel.

BRICK LAYER, *n.* [*brick* and *lay*.] One whose occupation is to build with bricks; a mason.

BRICKLE, *a.* [*from break*.] Brittle; easily broken. [*Not used*.] *Spenser*.

BRICK MAKER, *n.* [*brick* and *make*.] One who makes bricks, or whose occupation is to make bricks.

BRICK WORK, *n.* The laying of bricks, or a wall of bricks.

BRICK Y, *a.* Full of bricks, or formed of bricks. *Spenser*.

BRI DAL, *a.* [See *Bride*.] Belonging to a bride, to a wedding; nuptial; connubial; as *bridal ornaments*. *Milton*.

BRI DAL, *n.* The nuptial festival. *Dryden*.

BRIDALITY, *n.* Celebration of the nuptial feast. [*Not used*.] *Johnson*.

BRIDE, *n.* [*Sax. bryd*; *Sw. brud*; *D. bruid*; *Ger. braut*; *Dan. brud*; *Arm. pyrd*, *pyrd*; *Ir. W. priod-verch*, *priodas-verch*, a bride; *Ir. W. priod*; *W. priodi* o verch, to be married; *Ar. prietaat*, to marry; *Corn. benen-priod*, a bride; *W. priod-vab*, a bride-maid, bridegroom; *Arm. pridolidh*, wedlock. It seems, by the Celtic dialects, that *bride* is primarily an adjective used with the name of maid or woman, as *bridegroom* is the same word with the name of a man. In *W. priawd*, the root of *priodas*, signifies appropriate, proper, fit; *priodi*, to render appropriate, to espouse, to marry.]

1. A woman new married. *Johnson*.

But the name is applied to a woman at the marriage festival, before she is married, as well as after the ceremony.

2. A woman espoused, or contracted to be married. The case of Lewellyn, prince of Wales, *Henry's Hist. of Britain*, B. iv. ch. i. sect. 2. [*This is the true original sense of the word*.]

BRIDEBED, *n.* [*bride* and *bed*.] The marriage bed. *Prior*.

BRIDECAKE, *n.* [*bride* and *cake*.] The cake which is made for the guests at a wedding; called, in the U. States, *wedding cake*.

BRIDECAMBER, *n.* The nuptial apartment. *Matt. ix.*

BRIDEGROOM, *n.* [*Sax. brydguma*; *Sw. brudgumme*; *D. bruidegom*; *Ger. brautigam*; *Dan. brudgom*; a compound of *bride*, and *gun*, *guma*, a man, which, by our ancestors, was pronounced *goom*. This word, by a mispronouncing of the last syllable, has been corrupted into *bridegroom*, which signifies a *bride's hostler*; groom being a Persian word, signifying a man who has the care of horses. Such a gross corruption or blunder ought not to remain a reproach to philology.]

A man newly married; or a man about to be married. The passage of Shakspeare cited by Johnson proves that the last definition is just.

As are those dulcet sounds in break of day,
That creep into the dreaming bridegroom's ear,
And summon him to marriage.

BRI DEGROOM, *n.* [See *Bridegroom*.]

BRI DEMAID, *n.* [*bride* and *maid*.] A woman who attends on a bride at her wedding.

BRI DEMAN, *n.* [*bride* and *man*.] A man who attends upon a bridegroom and bride at their marriage. I have generally heard these words pronounced *bride's man* and *bride's maid*.

BRI DESTAKE, *n.* A stake or post set in the ground to dance round. *B. Jonson*.

BRI DEWELL, *n.* A house of correction, for the confinement of disorderly persons; so called from the palace built near *St. Bride's* or *Bridget's* well, in London, which was turned into a workhouse. *Johnson*.

BRIDGE, *n.* [*Sax. bric, brigge, brigg*, or *bryc*; *brigg*; *Dan. broe*; *Sw. bryggia, bro*; *D. brug*; *Ger. brucke*; *Prus. brigg*.]

1. Any structure of wood, stone, brick, or iron, raised over a river, pond, or lake, for the passage of men and other animals. Among rude nations, bridges are sometimes formed of other materials; and sometimes they are formed of boats, or logs of wood lying on the water, fastened together, covered with planks, and called floating bridges. A bridge over a marsh is made of logs or other materials laid upon the surface of the earth.

Pendent or hanging bridges are not supported by posts, but by the peculiar structure of the frame, resting only on the abutments.

A draw bridge is one which is made with hinges, and may be raised or opened. Such bridges are constructed in fortifications, to hinder the passage of a ditch or moat; and over rivers, that the passage of vessels need not be interrupted.

A flying bridge is made of pontoons, light boats, hollow beams, empty casks or the like. They are made, as occasion requires, for the passage of armies.

A flying bridge is also constructed in such a manner as to move from one side of a river to the other, being made fast in the middle of the river by a cable and an anchor. *Enryc.*

2. The upper part of the nose. *Johnson*.

3. The part of a stringed instrument of music, over which the strings are stretched, and by which they are raised.

4. In gunnery, the two pieces of timber which go between the two transoms of a gun-carriage. *Enryc.*

BRIDGE, *v. t.* To build a bridge or bridges over; as, to bridge a river.

2. To erect bridges on; to make a passage by bridges or covered. *Milton*.

BRIDGE-ED, *pp.* Covered or furnished with a bridge.

BRIDGE-ING, *ppr.* Erecting a bridge; building a bridge over.

BRIDGE Y, *a.* Full of bridges. [*Not used*.] *Shewood*.

BRIDLE, *n.* [*Sax. bridl*, or *bridel*; *Fr. bride*; *Arm. brid*; *D. beidel*, a bridle; *Sp. brida*, the reins of a bridle; *Port. brida*.]

1. The instrument with which a horse is governed and restrained by a rider; consisting of a head-stall, a bit, and reins, with other appendages, according to its particular form and uses.

2. A restraint; a curb; a check. *Watts*.

3. A short piece of cable well served, attached to a swivel on a chain, laid in a