

**ALBATROS**, *n.* An aquatic fowl, belonging to the order of ansers. The bill is straight; the upper mandible crooked at the point, and the lower one truncated; the nostrils are oval, open and little prominent, and placed on the sides; the wings are pennated, and there are three webbed toes on each foot. The upper part of the body is of a spotted brown, and the belly white. It is of the size of a pelican or larger, very voracious, preying on fish and small water fowls. These fowls are seen, in great numbers, about the capes of the two continents, and on the northern shores of Asia. They are sometimes called the great gull. *Encyc.*

**ALBEIT**, [This is supposed to be a compound of *al*, be and *it*, and is equivalent to *admit*, or *grant it all*.]

Be it so; admit all that; although; notwithstanding.

Whereas we say, The Lord said it, *albeit* I have not spoken. Ez. xiii.

[This word is now antiquated.]

**ALBELEN**, *n.* A fish of the truttaceous or trout kind, found in the German lakes, weighing five or six pounds.

*Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

**ALBESCENT**, *a.* [*albesco*, to grow white.] Becoming white, or rather, whitish; moderately white. *Encyc.*

**ALBICORE**, *n.* [Port. *albacor*; *al* and *bacoro*, a little pig.]

A marine fish, like a tunny, noted for following ships.

**ALBIGENSES**, *ALBIGEOIS*, *n.* A party of Reformers, who separated from the church of Rome, in the 12th century; so called from the Albigeois, a small territory in France, where they resided. They are sometimes confounded with the Waldenses; but they were prior to them in time, differed from them in some of their tenets, and resided in a different part of France. The catholics made war upon them, and they gradually dwindled, till the reformation, when the remains of them fell in with the followers of Zuinglius and the Geneva Protestants. *Encyc.*

**ALBIN**, *n.* [*Albus*, white.]

A mineral, of an opake white color, consisting of aggregated crystalline lamins, found in Bohemia.

This is regarded as a variety of apophyllite. *Werner. Cleveland.*

**ALBINO**, *n.* [*Albus*, white.]

A white descendant of black parents, or a white person belonging to a race of blacks. A person unnaturally white.

**ALBINOS**, *n.* A name signifying white men, given by the Portuguese to the white negroes of Africa. The color of this race appears like that of persons affected with leprosy; and the negroes look upon them as monsters. *Encyc.*

**ALBION**, *n.* An ancient name of England, still used in poetry. It is supposed this name was given to it on account of its white cliffs.

**ALBORA**, *n.* A sort of itch, or rather leprosy, terminating without ulceration, but with fetid evacuations in the mouth and nostrils. *Quincy.*

**ALBORO**, *n.* The erythrinus, a small red fish of the Mediterranean.

*Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

**ALBUGINEOUS**, *a.* [*Albugo*, the white spot in the eye, from *albus* white.] Pertaining to or resembling the white of the eye, or of an egg. *Encyc.*

**Albugineous humor**, the aqueous humor of the eye. *Encyc. Quincy.*

**ALBUGO**, *n.* The white speck in the eye, called the film, haw, dragon, pearl or cicatrice. Also a disease of the eye, occasioned by a white opake spot growing on the cornea and obstructing vision. It is called also leucoma, nebula, pannus oculi, onyx, unguis, &c. *Quincy. Encyc.*

**ALBULA**, *n.* A species of truttaceous fish, destitute of teeth. The *Albula Indica* is called by the Dutch wit-fish, and is of the size of a herring. The *Albula nobilis* is a fish caught in the lakes of Germany.

*Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

**ALBUM**, *n.* [*Albus*, white.]

1. Among the Romans, a white table, board or register, on which the names of public officers and public transactions were entered. *Lat. Dict.*

2. A book, originally blank, in which foreigners or strangers insert autographs of celebrated persons, or in which friends insert pieces as memorials for each other.

**ALBUMEN**, *n.* [*Al* from *albus*, white.] The white of an egg. A like substance is a chief constituent in all animal solids. *Ure.*

**ALBUMINOUS**, *a.* Pertaining to, or having the properties of albumen.

**ALBURN**, *n.* [*Alburnum*, from *albus*, white.]

The white and softer part of wood, between the inner bark and the wood. In America, it is popularly called the *sap*. This is annually acquiring hardness, and becoming wood. *Milne.*

**ALBURN**, *n.* [*Alburnus*, from *albus*, white.]

A fish called the *bleak*. It belongs to the order of abdominalis, and the genus *Cyprinus*. It is five or six inches in length, and esteemed delicious food. Artificial pearls are made of its scales. *Encyc.*

**ALCAHEST**, or **ALKAHEST**, *n.* [*Arabic*.] A pretended universal dissolvent, or menstruum. [See *Alkahest*.]

**ALCAIC**, *a.* Pertaining to Alcaeus, a Lyric poet of Mitylene, in Lesbos, who flourished about the forty-fourth Olympiad; or to other poets of the same name, of which three are mentioned; one an Athenian tragic poet, and another a Messenian.

**ALCAICS**, *n. plu.* Several kinds of verse, so called from Alcaeus, their inventor. One kind consists of five feet, a spondee or iambic, an iambic, a long syllable and two dactyls. *Encyc.*

**ALCAID**, *n.* [Sp. *alcayde*; Port. *alcade*; Ar. *كائد* *kaidon*, with the prefix *al*, from *كاد* *kad* to lead, rule, govern. Hence the *Cadi* of the Turks.]

Among the Moors, Spaniards and Portuguese, a governor. In Portugal, the chief civil magistrate of a town or city; also the jurisdiction of certain judges of appeal. In Spain, the governor of a castle or fort; also a jailer. *Span. and Port. Dict.*

**ALCANNA**, *n.* [*Arabic*.] A plant; and a powder, prepared from the leaves of the

Egyptian privet, used by the Turkish females to give a golden color to the nails and hair. Infused in water, it forms a yellow color; with vinegar, it forms a red. From the berries is extracted an oil, used in medicine. In Cairo, it forms an article of commerce. *Encyc. Theophrast.*

**ALCATRAZ**, *n.* The Spanish name of the Pelecanus Onocrotalus of Linne; a pelican; also a fish taken on the coast of India. *Span. Dict.*

**ALCAVALA**, *n.* In Spain, a tax on every transfer of property, real or personal. *Encyc.*

**ALCEDO**, *n.* [*L.*]

The king fisher; a genus of birds, of the order of Picie. The species are numerous. They usually live about rivers, feeding on fish, which they take by darting into the water with surprising velocity. [See *Hudcyon*.]

**ALCHIMIC**, *a.* Relating to alchemy, or produced by it.

**ALCHIMICALLY**, *adv.* In the manner of alchemy.

**ALCHIMIST**, *n.* One who practices alchemy.

**ALCHIMISTIC**, *a.* Practicing alchemy.

**ALCHIMICAL**, *a.* Relating to alchemy.

**ALCHIMY**, *n.* [It. *alchimia*; Ar. *al*, the, and *كيميا* *kimia*, secret, hidden, or

the occult art, from *كيمي* *kamai*, to hide. See *Chemistry*.]

1. The more sublime and difficult parts of chemistry, and chiefly such as relate to the transmutation of metals into gold, the finding a universal remedy for diseases, and an alkahest or universal solvent, and other things now treated as ridiculous. This pretended science was much cultivated in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, but is now held in contempt.

2. Formerly, a mixed metal used for utensils.

**ALCMA'NIAN**, *a.* Pertaining to Alcmæan, a lyric poet of the twenty-seventh Olympiad, celebrated for his amorous verses. The Alcmæan verse consisted of two dactyls and two trochees. *Encyc.*

**ALCO**, *a.* A quadruped of America, nearly resembling a dog, but mute and melancholy; and this circumstance seems to have given rise to the fable that dogs, transported to America, become mute. The animal was used for food by the native Americans, and the first Spanish settlers; but it is said to be now extinct. It is known also by the name of Techichi. *Clavigero.*

**ALCOHOL**, *n.* [Ar. *الكحل* *kahala*; Heb. Syr. and Eth. *כחול*, to paint with a preparation of powder of antimony. The oriental females still practice the painting of the eye brows with this material. The name was applied to this substance, and afterwards to other fine powders, and to highly rectified spirits.]

Pure or highly rectified spirit, obtained from fermented liquors by distillation. It con-