

the sky. This word was formerly applied to the *lapis lazuli*, and the color prepared from it. But it is now applied to the blue extracted from cobalt, though somewhat a different color; the blue of the lapis is called ultramarine. Azure is applied also to the blue glass made of the oxyd of cobalt and vitrifiable substances, reduced to fine powder. In large masses it is called *small*. *Encyc.*

2. The sky, or azure vault of heaven.
3. In *heraldry*, a blue color in coats of all persons under the degree of baron. *Jones*.
AZURE, *v. t.* To color blue.
AZURED, *a. azh'ured*. Colored azure; being of an azure color. *Sidney*.
AZURE-STONE, *n.* Another name of the lazulite.
AZURITE, *n.*
AZURN, *a.* Of a blue color. [*Little used.*] *Milton*.

AZ YME, *n.* [See *Azymous*.] Unleavened bread. [*Not in use.*]
AZ YMITE, *n.* [See *Azymous*.] In church history, azymites are christians who administer the eucharist with unleavened bread. *Encyc.*
AZ YMOUS, *a.* [Gr. a priv. and ζῖμος, leaven.]
Unleavened; unfermented; as *sen-biscuit*. *Encyc. Ash.*

B.

B is the second letter, and the first articulation, or consonant, in the English, as in the Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and most other alphabets. In the Ethiopic, it is the ninth letter, and its shape is that of a hut. Perhaps from this or other like figure, it received its Hebrew name, *beth*, a house. It is a *mute* and a *labial*, being formed by pressing the whole length of the lips together, as in pronouncing *eb*. It is less perfectly mute than *p*, as may be perceived by pronouncing the syllables *ab* and *ap*. It is convertible, 1st, with *p*, as in the Celtic, *ben* or *pen*, a mountain; in the English, *beak* and *peck*, *beck* and *peck*; 2d, with *r*, as in the German, *silber* for *silver*; and in Spanish, *b* and *v* are used indifferently; 3d, with *f*, as in *bore* and *perfore*; Eng. *beet*, *L. fero*; in the Celtic *bun*, *banad*, *banad*, stock, origin, foundation; English, *found*; *L. fundamentum*; with the Gr. *φ*, as *Bilip*, for *poecetes*; 4th, with *v* and *w*, as, *Ir. fear*, *L. verus*; *fear*, *vir*; *Ir. buaic*, the *wick* of a candle.

The Greek **B** is always pronounced like the English *V*, and the Russian **B** corresponds with the Greek.

In composition, the letter **B** is changed into *p* before the letter *p*; as in *appropo*, from *ob* and *preno*; *oppo*, from *ob* and *pono*; into *f*, before *f*, as in *offer*, from *ob* and *fero*; into *c* before *c*, as in *occido*, from *ob* and *cado*, and *exco*.

As a numeral, **B** was used by the Hebrews and Greeks, as now by the Arabians, for 2; by the Romans for 300, and with a dash over it thus **B**, for 3000. **B** is used also as an abbreviation; thus **B. A.** stand for bachelor of arts; **B. L.** for bachelor of laws; **B. D.** for bachelor of divinity; **B. F.** before the decrees of the old Romans, for *bonum factum*. In music, **B** stands for the tone above **A**; **Bb**, for **B** flat, or the semitone major above **A**. **B** also stands for base, and **B. C.** for *basso continuo*, or thorough base.

BAA, *n.* The cry or appropriate bleating of sheep.

BAAL, *v. i.* To cry or bleat as sheep.

BA'AL, *n.* [Oriental, בַּאֵל, lord.]

An idol among the ancient Chaldeans and Syrians, representing the sun. The word signifies also lord, or commander; and the character of the idol was varied by different nations, at different times. Thus Baal

Berith is supposed to signify the Lord of the Covenant; Baal Peor, or rather Baal Phegor, the Lord of the dead. Ps. cvi. Baal Zebub, the god of flies, &c.

BABBLE, *v. i.* [*D. babbelen*; Fr. *babiller*; properly to throw out.]

1. To utter words imperfectly or indistinctly, as children. *Prior*.
2. To talk idly or irrationally; to talk thoughtlessly. *Arbuthol*.
3. To talk much; to prate; hence to tell secrets. *Shak*.
4. To utter sounds frequently, incessantly, or indistinctly, as, a *babbling* echo; a *babbling* stream.

BABBLE, *v. t.* To prate; to utter.

BABBLE, *n.* Idle talk; senseless prattle.

BABBLEMENT, *n.* Idle talk; senseless prate; unmeaning words. *Milton*.

BABBLER, *n.* An idle talker; an irrational prattler; a teller of secrets.

BABBLING, *ppr.* Talking idly; telling secrets.

2. Uttering a succession of murmuring sounds; as a *babbling* stream.

3. In hunting, *babbling* is when the hounds are too busy after they have found a good scent.

BABBLING, *n.* Foolish talk. 1 Tim. vi.

BABE, *n.* [Ger. *bube*, a boy; Ir. *baban*; *D. babyn*; Syr. *babia*; Phenician, *babion*; Ar. بابوس]

babah, a babe, an infant. *Ar. بابوس* *babos* or *baboson*, the young of man or beast; Syr. *babosa*, a little child. It is remarkable that this Syriac and Arabic word for an infant, is retained by the natives of America, who call an infant *pappos*. *L. pupus*, a word of endearment; *pupa*, little girl; whence *pupillus*, *pupilla*, *pupil*. *Ar. bobokoh*, the beginning of youth; Gr. *babos*, ε-ε-

and *παπαι*; Ar. بابا *baba*, to say *baba*, that is, father; *papa*, a word taken from the first attempts of children to pronounce the name of a parent.]

An infant; a young child of either sex.

BA'BEL, *n.* [Heb.] Confusion; disorder.

BA'BERY, *n.* Finery to please a child; any trifling toy for children. *Beaumont*.

BA'BISH, *a.* Like a babe; childish. *Sidney*.

BA'BISHLY, *adv.* Childishly. *Ascham*.

BA'BOON, *n.* [Fr. *babouin*, so called from]

its resemblance to a babe. This name seems to have originated in the oriental *babion*, *papio*. See *Babe*.]

A monkey of the largest species; a quadruped belonging to the genus *Simia*, in the class *Mammalia*, and order *Primates*, according to the system of Linne; but by Pennant arranged under the digitated quadrupeds. Baboons have short tails; a long face; a broad high muzzle; dog-like tusks, or canine teeth; and naked callosities on the buttocks. They are found only on the eastern continent. *Encyc.*

BABY, *a.* Like a young child; pertaining to an infant.

BABY, *n.* [See *Babe*.] An infant or young child of either sex; a babe; [used in familiar language.]

2. A small image in form of an infant, for girls to play with; a doll.

BABY, *v. t.* To treat like a young child. *Young*.

BA'BYHOOD, *n.* The state of being a baby. *Ash*.

BABY-HOUSE, *n.* A place for children's dolls and babies. *Swift*.

BABYLONIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Babylon. BABYLONIAN, *n.* *a.* lon, the capital of the ancient kingdom of *Babylonia*, or to the kingdom. The city stood on the river *Frat*, or *Euphrates*, and it is supposed, on the spot where the tower of *Babel* was founded.

2. Like the language of *Babel*; mixed; confused.

BABYLONIAN, *n.* An inhabitant of *Babylonia*. In ancient writers, an astrologer, as the Chaldeans were remarkable for the study of astrology.

BABYLONIC, *a.* Pertaining to Babylon. BABYLONICAL, *a.* *lon*, or made there; as *Babylonian* garments, carpets or hangings. *Encyc.*

2. Tumultuous; disorderly. *Harrington*.

BABYLONICS, *n. plu.* The title of a fragment of the history of the world, ending 267 years before Christ, composed by *Berosus*, a priest of *Babylon*. *Encyc.*

BABYRUS'SA, *n.* In *zoology*, the Indian hog, a native of *Celebes*, and of *Buero*, but not found on the continent of *Asia* or of *Africa*. This quadruped belongs to the genus *Sus*, in the class *Mammalia*, and order *Bellua*. From the outside of the upper jaw, spring two teeth twelve inches