

Pertaining to cows; originating with or derived from cows; as the *vaccine* disease or cow-pox.

VACUA'TION, *n.* [L. *vacuo*.] The act of emptying. [*Little used.*] [See *Evacuation*.]

VAC'UIST, *n.* [from *vacuum*.] One who holds to the doctrine of a vacuum in nature; opposed to a *plenist*. Boyle.

VACU'ITY, *n.* [L. *vacuitas*, from *vacuus*.]

1. Emptiness; a state of being unfilled. Hunger is such a state of *vacuity* as to require a fresh supply. Arbuthnot.

2. Space unfilled or unoccupied, or occupied with an invisible fluid only. A *vacuity* is interspersed among the particles of matter. Bentley.

3. Emptiness; void. God only can fill every *vacuity* of the soul. Rogers.

4. Inanity; emptiness; want of reality. Granville.

5. Vacuum, which see. Milton.

VAC'UOUSNESS, *n.* The state of being empty. Mountague.

VAC'UUM, *n.* [L.] Space empty or devoid of all matter or body. Whether there is such a thing as an absolute *vacuum* in nature, is a question which has been much controverted. The Peripatetics assert that nature abhors a *vacuum*.

Torricellian vacuum, the vacuum produced by filling a tube with mercury, and allowing it to descend till it is counterbalanced by the weight of the atmosphere, as in the barometer invented by Torricelli.

VADE, *v. i.* [L. *vado*.] To vanish; to pass away. [Not in use.] Wolton.

VADE-ME'CUM, *n.* [L. *go with me*.] A book or other thing that a person carries with him as a constant companion; a manual.

VAG'ABOND, *a.* [L. *vagabundus*, from *vago*, to wander; from the root of *vag*.]

1. Wandering; moving from place to place without any settled habitation; as a *vagabond* exile. Shak.

2. Wandering; floating about without any certain direction; driven to and fro. Like to a *vagabond* flag upon the stream. Shak.

VAG'ABOND, *n.* [supra.] A vagrant; one who wanders from town to town or place to place, having no certain dwelling, or not abiding in it. By the laws of England and of the United States, *vagabonds* are liable to be taken up and punished.

VAG'ABONDRY, *n.* A state of wandering in idleness.

VAG'ARY, *n.* [L. *vagus*, wandering.] A wandering of the thoughts; a wild freak; a whim; a whimsical purpose. They chang'd their minds, Flew off, and into strange *vagaries* fell. Milton.

VAG'IENT, *a.* [L. *vagiens*.] Crying like a child. [Not in use.] More.

VAG'INAL, *a.* [L. *vagina*, a sheath. See *Vain*.]

Pertaining to a sheath, or resembling a sheath; as a *vaginal* membrane.

VAG'INANT, *a.* [L. *vagina*.] In botany, sheathing; as a *vaginant* leaf, one investing the stem or branch by its base, which has the form of a tube. Martyn.

VAG'INATED, *a.* In botany, sheathed; invested by the tubular base of the leaf; as a stem. Martyn.

VAGINOPEN'NOUS, *a.* [L. *vagina* and *penna*.]

Having the wings covered with a hard case or sheath, as insects.

VA'GOUS, *a.* [L. *vagus*; Fr. *vague*.] Wandering; unsettled. [Little used.] Ayliffe.

VA'GRANCY, *n.* [from *vagrant*.] A state of wandering without a settled home. *Vagrancy* in idle strollers or vagabonds, is punishable by law.

VA'GRANT, *a.* [L. *vagor*.] Wandering from place to place without any settled habitation; as a *vagrant* beggar.

2. Wandering; unsettled; moving without any certain direction. That beauteous Emma *vagrant* courses took. Prior.

VA'GRANT, *n.* [Norm. *vagorant*.] An idle wanderer; a vagabond; one who strolls from place to place; a sturdy beggar; one who has no settled habitation, or who does not abide in it. *Vagrants* and outlaws shall offend thy view. Prior.

VAGUE, *a.* *våg*. [Fr. from L. *vagus*, wandering.]

1. Wandering; vagrant; vagabond; as *vague* villains. [In this literal sense, not used.] Haywood.

2. Unsettled; unfixed; undetermined; indefinite. He appears to have very *vague* ideas of this subject.

3. Proceeding from no known authority; flying; uncertain; as a *vague* report.

VAIL, *n.* [Fr. *voile*; It. *velo*; L. *velum*, from *velo*, to cover, to spread over; Gaelic, *falach*, a veil. It is correctly written *vail*, for *e*, in Latin, is our *a*.]

1. Any kind of cloth which is used for intercepting the view and hiding something; as the *vail* of the temple among the Israelites.

2. A piece of thin cloth or silk stuff, used by females to hide their faces. In some eastern countries, certain classes of females never appear abroad without *vails*.

3. A cover; that which conceals; as the *vail* of oblivion.

4. In botany, the membranous covering of the germen in the *Musci* and *Hepaticæ*; the calypter. Cyc.

5. *Vails*, money given to servants. [Not used in America.] Dryden.

VAIL, *v. t.* [L. *velo*.] To cover; to hide from the sight; as, to *vail* the face.

VAIL, *v. t.* [Fr. *avaler*.] To let fall. They stiffly refused to *vail* their bonnets. [I believe wholly obsolete.] Carew.

2. To let fall; to lower; as, to *vail* the top-sail. Obs.

3. To let fall; to sink. Obs. Shak.

VAIL, *v. i.* To yield or reeade; to give place; to show respect by yielding. Thy convenience must *vail* to thy neighbor's necessity. Obs. South.

VA'ILED, *pp.* Covered; concealed.

VA'ILER, *n.* One who yields from respect. Obs. Overbury.

VA'ILING, *ppr.* Covering; hiding from the sight.

VA'IN, *a.* [Fr. *vain*; It. *vano*; L. *vanus*; Gaelic, *fann*, weak aon, void; W. *gwan*;

Sans. *vana*; probably allied to Eng. *wane*, *wane*, *want*.]

1. Empty; worthless; having no substance, value or importance. 1 Pet. i.

To your *vain* answer will you have recourse. Blackmore.

Every man walketh in a *vain* show. Ps. xxxix.

Why do the people imagine a *vain* thing? Ps. ii.

2. Fruitless; ineffectual. All attempts, all efforts were *vain*.

Vain is the force of man. Dryden.

3. Proud of petty things, or of trifling attainments; elated with a high opinion of one's own accomplishments, or with things more showy than valuable; conceited.

The minstrels play'd on every side, *Vain* of their art— Dryden

4. Empty; unreal; as a *vain* chimera.

5. Showy; ostentatious. Load some *vain* church with old theatrie state. Pope.

6. Light; inconstant; worthless. Prov. xii.

7. Empty; unsatisfying. The pleasures of life are *vain*.

8. False; deceitful; not genuine; spurious. James i.

9. Not effectual; having no efficacy. Bring no more *vain* oblations. Is. i.

In *vain*, to no purpose; without effect; ineffectual.

In *vain* they do worship me. Matt. xv. To take the name of God in *vain*, to use the name of God with levity or profaneness.

VAINGLO'RIOUS, *a.* [vain and glorious.]

1. Vain to excess of one's own achievements; elated beyond due measure; boastful. Vainglorious man. Spenser.

2. Boastful; proceeding from vanity. Arrogant and vainglorious expression. Hale

VAINGLO'RIOUSLY, *adv.* With empty pride. Milton.

VAINGLO'RY, *n.* [vain and glory.] Exclusive vanity excited by one's own performances; empty pride; undue elation of mind.

He hath nothing of vainglory. Bacon. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory. Phil. ii.

VA'INLY, *adv.* Without effect; to no purpose; ineffectually; in vain.

In weak complaints you *vainly* waste your breath. Dryden.

2. Boastingly; with vaunting; proudly; arrogantly. Humility teaches us not to think *vainly* nor vauntingly of ourselves. Delany.

3. Idly; foolishly. Nor *vainly* hope to be invulnerable. Milton.

VA'INNESS, *n.* The state of being vain; inefficacy; ineffectualness; as the *vainness* of efforts.

2. Empty pride; vanity.

VA'IR, *n.* In heraldry, a kind of fur or doubling, consisting of divers little pieces, argent and azure, resembling a bell-glass. Cyc. Chambers.

VA'IR, } In heraldry, charged with

VA'IRY, } *a.* vair; variegated with argent and azure colors, when the term is *vairy* proper; and with other colors, when it is *vair* or *vairy* composed. Todd. Cyc.