

ving of the flower or prime beauties; particularly, the act of taking away a woman's virginity.

2. A selection of the flower, or of that which is most valuable.

The laws of Normandy are, in a great measure, the *defflower* of the English laws. *Hale*.

DEFLOUR, *v. t.* [*L. defloro; de and flos, or floe, a flower; Fr. deflorer; It. deflorare; defflower; Sp. deflorar. See Flower.*]

1. To deprive a woman of her virginity, either by force or with consent. When by force, it may be equivalent to *ravish* or *viole*.

2. To take away the prime beauty and grace of any thing.

The sweetness of his soul was *defflowered*. *Taylor*.

3. To deprive of flowers. *Montagu*.

DEFLOURED, *pp.* Deprived of maidenhood; ravished; robbed of prime beauty.

DEFLOURER, *n.* One who deprives a woman of her virginity.

DEFLOURING, *pp.* Depriving of virginity or maidenhood; robbing of prime beauties.

DEFLOW, *v. i.* [*L. defluo.*] To flow down. [*Not in use.*] *Brown*.

DEFLOUS, *a.* [*L. defluus; de and fluo, to flow.*] Flowing down; falling off. [*Little used.*]

DEFLUX, *n.* [*L. defluxus; de and fluo, fluxus. See Flow.*]

A flowing down; a running downward; as a *deflux* of humors. [*See Defluxion.*]

DEFUXION, *n.* [*L. defluxio, from defluo, to flow down; de and fluo, to flow. See Flow.*]

1. A flowing, running or falling of humors or fluid matter, from a superior to an inferior part of the body; properly, an inflammation of a part, attended with increased secretion.

2. A discharge or flowing off of humors; as a *defluxion* from the nose or head in catarrh.

DEFLY, *adv.* Dextrously; skillfully. *Obs.* [*See Deflt.*] *Spenser*.

DEFOLIATION, *n.* [*L. de and foliatio, foliage, from folium, a leaf, or folior. See Folio.*]

Literally, the fall of the leaf or shedding of leaves; but technically, the time or season of shedding leaves in autumn; applied to trees and shrubs. *Luene*.

DEFORCE, *v. t.* [*de and force.*] To dis seize and keep out of lawful possession of an estate; to withhold the possession of an estate from the rightful owner; applied to any possessor whose entry was originally lawful, but whose detainer is become unlawful. *Blackstone*.

DEFORCED, *pp.* Kept out of lawful possession.

DEFORCEMENT, *n.* The holding of lands or tenements to which another person has a right; a general term including abatement, intrusion, disseisin, discontinuance, or any other species of wrong, by which he that hath a right to the freehold is kept out of possession. *Blackstone*.

2. In *Scotland*, a resisting of an officer in the execution of law.

DEFORCIANT, *n.* He that keeps out of

possession the rightful owner of an estate; he against whom a fictitious action is brought in fine and recovery. *Blackstone*.

DEFORMING, *pp.* Keeping out of lawful possession.

DEFORM, *v. t.* [*L. deformat; de and forma, form; Sp. deformar; It. deformare.*]

1. To mar or injure the form; to alter that form or disposition of parts which is natural and esteemed beautiful, and thus to render it displeasing to the eye; to disfigure; as, a hump on the back *deforms* the body.

2. To render ugly or displeasing, by exterior applications or appendages; as, to *deform* the face by paint, or the person by unbecoming dress.

3. To render displeasing.

Winty blasts *deform* the year. *Thomson*.

4. To injure and render displeasing or disgusting; to disgrace; to disfigure moral beauty; as, all vices *deform* the character of rational beings.

5. To dishonor; to make ungraceful. *Dryden*.

DEFORM, *a.* [*L. deformis.*] Disfigured; being of an unnatural, distorted, or disproportioned form; displeasing to the eye. *Spenser*.

Sight so *deform* what heart of rock could long Dry-eyed behold? *Milton*.

DEFORMED, *n.* A disfiguring or deforming.

DEFORMATION, *pp.* Injured in the form; disfigured; distorted; ugly; wanting natural beauty, or symmetry.

2. Base; disgraceful. *B. Jonson*.

DEFORMEDLY, *adv.* In an ugly manner.

DEFORMEDNESS, *n.* Ugliness; a disagreeable or unnatural form.

DEFORMER, *n.* One who deforms.

DEFORMING, *pp.* Marring the natural form or figure; rendering ugly or displeasing; destroying beauty.

DEFORMITY, *n.* [*L. deformitas.*] Any unnatural state of the shape or form; want of that uniformity or symmetry which constitutes beauty; distortion; irregularity of shape or features; disproportion of limbs; defect; crookedness, &c. Hence, ugliness; as bodily *deformity*.

2. Any thing that destroys beauty, grace or propriety; irregularity; absurdity; gross deviation from order, or the established laws of propriety. Thus we speak of *deformity* in an edifice, or *deformity* of character.

DEFORSER, *n.* [from *force.*] One that casts out by force. [*Ill formed and not in use.*] *Blount*.

DEFRAUD, *v. t.* [*L. defraudo; de and fraudo, to cheat, fraus, fraud; It. defraudare; Sp. defraudar.*]

1. To deprive of right, either by obtaining something by deception or artifice, or by taking something wrongfully without the knowledge or consent of the owner; to cheat; to cozen; followed by *of* before the thing taken; as, to *defraud* a man of his right.

We have corrupted no man, we have *defrauded* no man. 2 Cor. vii.

The agent who embezzles public property, *defrauds* the state.

The man who by deception obtains a price for a commodity above its value, *defrauds* the purchaser.

2. To withhold wrongfully from another what is due to him. *Defraud* not the hiring of his wages.

3. To prevent one wrongfully from obtaining what he may justly claim.

A man of fortune who permits his son to consume the season of education in hunting, shooting, or in frequenting horse-races, assemblies, &c., *defrauds* the community of a benefactor, and bequeaths them a nuisance. *Paley*.

4. To defeat or frustrate wrongfully.

By the duties deserted—by the claims *defrauded*. *Paley*.

DEFAUDED, *pp.* Deprived of property or right by trick, artifice or deception; injured by the withholding of what is due.

DEFAUDER, *n.* One who defrauds; one who takes from another his right by deception, or withholds what is his due; a cheat; a cozen; an embezzler; a peculator.

DEFAUDING, *pp.* Depriving another of his property or right by deception or artifice; injuring by withholding wrongfully what is due.

DEFAUDMENT, *n.* The act of defrauding. *Milton*.

DEFRAV, *v. t.* [*Fr. defraier; de and frais, frais, expense; Arm. defray.*]

1. To pay; to discharge, as cost or expense; to bear, as charge, cost or expense. It is followed chiefly by *expense, charge* or *cost*. The acquisitions of war seldom *defray* the expenses. The profits of a voyage will not always *defray* the charges, or even the cost of the first outfits.

2. To satisfy; as, to *defray* again. *Obs.* *Spenser*.

3. To fill; as, to *defray* a bottle. *Obs.* *Spenser*.

DEFRAVED, *pp.* Paid; discharged; as expense, or cost.

DEFRAYER, *n.* One who pays or discharges expenses.

DEFRAYING, *pp.* Paying; discharging.

DEFRAYMENT, *n.* Payment. *Shelton*.

DEFT, *a.* [*Sax. deflt.*] Neat; handsome; spruce; ready; dextrous; fit; convenient. *Obs.* *Dryden*.

DEFTLY, *adv.* Neatly; dextrously; in a skilful manner. *Obs.* *Shak.* *Gray*.

DEFTNESS, *n.* Neatness; beauty. *Obs.* *Dryden*.

DEFUNCT, *a.* [*L. defunctus, from defungor, to perform and discharge; de and fungor, id.*] Having finished the course of life; dead; deceased. *Shak.*

DEFUNCT, *n.* A dead person; one deceased. *Shak.*

DEFUNCTION, *n.* Death. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

DEFY, *v. t.* [*Fr. defier; de, des, from, and fier, to fight; It. sfidare; Sp. desafiar; des and iar; Port. id.; Arm. difyal; Low L. diffidare, and diffiducare, from fido, to trust. See Faith.*] The word *diffidare* seems originally to have signified, to dissolve the bond of allegiance, as between the lord and his vassal; opposed to *affidare*. *Spelman, ad voc.* Hence it came to be used for the denunciation of enmity and of war. Hence, to challenge. If we understand *defier* to signify to *distrust*, then to *defy* is to call in question the courage of another.