

dinary manner among the common people.

Such an one we *vulgarly* call a desperate person. *Hammond.*

2. Meanly; rudely; clownishly.

VUL/GATE, *n.* A very ancient Latin version of the Scriptures, and the only one which the Romish church admits to be authentic. It is so called from its common use in the Latin church. *Cyc.*

VUL/GATE, *a.* Pertaining to the old Latin version of the Scriptures.

VUL/NERABLE, *a.* [Fr. from *L. vulnero*, to wound, from *vulnus*, a wound.]

1. That may be wounded; susceptible of wounds or external injuries; as a *vulnerable* body.

Achilles was *vulnerable* in his heel; and there will never be wanting a Paris to inflict the dart. *Dwight.*

2. Liable to injury; subject to be affected injuriously; as a *vulnerable* reputation.

VUL/NERARY, *a.* [Fr. *vulnératoire*; *L. vulnerarius*.]

Useful in healing wounds; adapted to the cure of external injuries; as *vulnerary* plants or potions. *Cyc.*

VUL/NERARY, *n.* Any plant, drug or composition, useful in the cure of wounds. Certain unguents, balsams and the like, are used as *vulneraries*.

VUL/NERATE, *v. t.* [*L. vulnero*.] To wound; to hurt. [*Not in use.*] *Glanville.*

VULNERA/TION, *n.* The act of wounding. [*Not in use.*] *Pearson.*

VUL/PINE, *a.* [*L. vulpinus*, from *vulpes*, a fox. *Vulpes* is our English *wolf*, the same word applied to a different animal.]

Pertaining to the fox; cunning; crafty; artful.

VUL/PINITE, *n.* [from *Vulpino*, in Italy.]

A mineral of a grayish white color, splendid and massive; its fracture foliated. It consists of the sulphate of lime and silica. *Ure.*

VUL/TUR, } *n.* [*L. vultur*.] A genus of **VUL/TURE**, } fowls, belonging to the order of Accipiters. The bill is straight, but hooked at the end, and covered at the base by a cere or skin. The head is naked. There are thirteen species, all carnivorous and rapacious. The vultur is one of the largest kinds of fowls, and the condor of South America, one of this family, is the largest species of flying animals that has been discovered. *Cyc.*

VUL/TURINE, *a.* [*L. vulturinus*.] Belonging to the vultur; having the qualities of the vultur; resembling the vultur; rapacious.

W.

W is the twenty third letter of the English Alphabet. It takes its written form and its name from the union of two V's, this being the form of the Roman capital letter which we call U. The name, *double u*, being given to it from its form or composition, and not from its sound, ought not to be retained. Every letter should be named from its sound, especially the vowels. W is properly a vowel, a simple sound, formed by opening the mouth with a close circular configuration of the lips. It is precisely the *ou* of the French, and the *u* of the Spaniards, Italians and Germans. With the other vowels it forms diphthongs, which are of easy pronunciation; as in *well*, *want*, *will*, *dwell*; pronounced *ooell*, *ooant*, *ooill*, *doell*. In English, it is always followed by another vowel, except when followed by *h*, as in *when*; but this case is an exception only in writing, and not in pronunciation, for *h* precedes *w* in utterance; *when* being pronounced *hooen*. In Welsh, *w*, which is sounded as in English, is used without another vowel, as in *fiol*, a fool; *dien*, dun; *dweb*, mortar; *gwn*, a gun, and a gown.

It is not improbable that the Romans pronounced *v* as we do *w*, for their *volvo* is our *wallow*; and *volo*, *velle*, is the English *will*, *G. wollen*. But this is uncertain. The German *v* has the sound of the English *f*, and *w* that of the English *v*.

W, at the end of words, is often silent after *a* and *o*, as in *law*, *saw*, *low*, *sow*. In many words of this kind, *w* represents the Saxon *g*; in other cases, it helps to form a diphthong, as in *now*, *vow*, *new*, *strew*.

WAB/BLE, *v. i.* [*W. gwaibw*, to wander, to move in a circular form.]

To move from one side to the other; to vacillate; as a turning or whirling body. So it is said a top *wabbles*, when it is in motion, and deviates from a perpendicular

direction; a spindle *wabbles*, when it moves one way and the other. [*This word is applied chiefly to bodies when turning with a circular motion, and its place cannot be supplied by any other word in the language. It is neither low nor barbarous.*]

WACK/E, } *n.* A rock nearly allied to **WACK/Y**, } salt, of which it may be regarded as a more soft and earthy variety. Its color is a greenish gray, brown or black. It is opaque, yields easily to the knife, and has a greasy feel. Its principal ingredient is silex. Gray wacky is a different species of rock, being a kind of sandstone. *Cyc.*

Wacky is a mineral substance intermediate between clay and basalt. *Ure.*

WAD, *n.* [*G. watte*; *Dan. vat*, a wad; that is, a mass or collection.]

1. A little mass of some soft or flexible material, such as hay, straw, tow, paper, or old rope-yarn, used for stopping the charge of powder in a gun and pressing it close to the shot, or for keeping the powder and shot close.

2. A little mass, tuft or bundle, as of hay or peas.

WAD, } *n.* In *mineralogy*, black wadd is a **WADD**, } species of the ore of manganese, of which there are four kinds; fibrous, ochery, pulverulent ochery, and dendritic. In some places, plumbago or black lead is called wad or wadd. *Cyc.*

WAD/DED, *a.* Formed into a wad or mass. **WAD/DING**, *n.* [*G. wattle*.] A wad, or the materials for wads; any pliable substance of which wads may be made.

2. A kind of soft stuff of loose texture, used for stuffing garments.

WAD/DLE, *v. i.* [This seems to be a diminutive formed on the root of *wade*, *L. vado*, to go; *G. waten*, to wade; *walscheln*, to waddle.]

1. To move one way and the other in walking; to deviate to one side and the other;

to vacillate; as, a child *waddles* when he begins to walk; very fat people walk with a kind of *waddling* pace. So we say, a duck or a goose *waddles*.

2. To walk with a waddling motion.

And hardly *waddles* forth to cool— *Swift.*

WAD/DLING, *ppr.* Moving from side to side in walking.

WAD/DLINGLY, *adv.* With a vacillating gait. *Entick.*

WADE, *v. i.* [*Sw. vada*; *D. waaden*; *G. waten*; *Dan. vader*; *Fr. gucer*, for *gueder*; *It. guadare*; *Sp. vadear*, *L. vado*, to go.]

1. To walk through any substance that yields to the feet; as, to *wade* through water; to *wade* through sand or snow. To *wade* over a river, is to walk through on the bottom. Fowls that *wade* have long legs.

2. To move or pass with difficulty or labor; as, judges *wade* through an intricate law case. It is not my purpose to *wade* through these controversies.

The king's admirable conduct has *waded* through all these difficulties. *Davenant.*

—And *wades* through fumes, and gropes his way. *Dryden.*

WADE, *v. t.* To pass by walking on the bottom; as, to *wade* a river. [This is a common expression, but elliptical for to *wade* through a river.]

WAD/DING, *ppr.* Walking through a substance that yields to the feet, as through water or sand.

WAD/SETT, *n.* An ancient tenure or lease of land in the Highlands of Scotland, which seems to have been upon a kind of mortgage. [*Sax. wad, wad, a pledge.*] *Cyc.*

WAD/SETTER, *n.* One who holds by wadsett. *Cyc.*

WAFER, *n.*, [*D. wafel*; *G. waffel*; *Dan. waffel*; *Sw. väffla*; *Russ. vaphel*; *Fr. gauffre*.]