

Peru and tolu; of the latter, benzoin, dragon's blood, and storax.

Encyc. Nicholson. Urc.

Balsam apple, an annual Indian plant, included under the genus *Momordica*. A water and a subtil oil are obtained from it, which are commended as deobstruents.

Balsam tree. This name is given to a genus of plants called *Clusia*; to another, called *Copaifera*, which produces the balsam of *Copaiba*; and to a third, called *Pistacia*, turpentine tree or mastich tree.

Balsam of Sulphur is a solution of sulphur in oil.

Balsam of Tolu is the produce of the *Toluifera*, or *Tolu tree*, of South America. It is of a reddish yellow color, transparent, thick and tenacious, but growing hard and brittle by age. It is very fragrant, and like the Balsam of Peru, is a stimulant, and used as a pectoral. *Encyc. Linn.*

Balsam of Peru, the produce of a tree in Peru, possessing strong stimulant qualities.

BALSAMATION, *n.* The act of rendering balsamic.

BALSAMIC, *a.* Having the qualities of balsam; stimulating; mild.

Arbuthnot.

BALSAMIC, *n.* A warm, stimulating, demulcent medicine, of a smooth and oily consistence.

Coxe.

BALSAMINE, *n.* Touch-me-not, or Impatiens, a genus of plants. *Encyc.*

BALSAM-SWEATING, *a.* Yielding balsam.

Crashean.

BALTIC, *n.* [From *balte*, belt, from certain straits or channels, surrounding its isles, called *bells*. See *Belt*.]

The sea which separates Norway and Sweden from Jutland, Holstein and Germany.

BALTIC, *a.* Pertaining to the sea of that name; situated on the Baltic sea.

Each Baltic state to join the righteous cause.

Barlow.

BALUSTER, *n.* [It. *balauastro*; Sp. *balaustrer*; Fr. *balustre*; from *L. palus*; Eng. *pole*, *gale*. This is corrupted into *bannister*, which I have rejected.]

A small column or pilaster, of various forms and dimensions, often adorned with moldings, used for balustrades.

BALUSTERED, *a.* Having balusters.

Soames.

BALUSTRADE, *n.* [Sp. *balustrado*; It. *balustrada*; Fr. *balustrade*; from *baluster*.]

A row of balusters, joined by a rail, serving as a fence or inclosure, for altars, balconies, stair-cases, terraces, tops of buildings, &c. *Encyc. Johnson.*

BAM or **BEAM**, as an initial syllable in names of places, signifies *wood*: implying that the place took its name from a grove, or forest. *Ger. baum*, a tree.

BAMBOO, *n.* A plant of the reed kind, or genus *Arundo*, growing in the East Indies, and in some other warm climates, and sometimes attaining to the height of 60 feet. From the main root, which is long, thick and jointed, spring several round, jointed stalks, which at 10 or 12 feet from the ground, send out from their joints several stalks which are united at their base. These are armed, at their joints, with one or two sharp rigid spines, and furnished

with oblong, oval leaves, eight or nine inches long, on short footstalks. The flowers grow in large panicles, from the joints of the stalk, placed three in a parcel, close to their receptacles. Old stalks grow to five or six inches in diameter, and are so hard and durable, as to be used for building and for all sorts of furniture, for water-pipes, and for poles to support palanquins. The smaller stalks are used for walking sticks, flutes, &c. *Encyc.*

BAMBOOZLE, *v. t.* To confound; to deceive; to play low tricks. [*A low word.*]

Arbuthnot.

BAMBOOZLER, *n.* A cheat; one who plays low tricks.

Arbuthnot.

BAN, *n.* [Sax. *bannan*, *abannan*, to proclaim; It. *bando*, a proclamation; Sp. and Port. *bando*; Fr. *ban*; Arm. *ban*, to revile; Dan. *band*, ban, outlawry; *forbander*, to curse. Hence *banish*. The radical sense is to send, thrust or drive. Class Bn. No. 3.]

1. A public proclamation or edict; a public order or notice, mandatory or prohibitory. In a more particular sense,

2. Notice of a marriage proposed, or of a matrimonial contract, proclaimed in a church, that any person may object, if he knows of any kindred between the parties, of any precontract or other just cause, why the marriage should not take place.

3. An edict of interdiction or proscription. Hence to put a prince under the *ban* of the empire, is to divest him of his dignities, and to interdict all intercourse and all offices of humanity with the offender. Sometimes whole cities have been put under the *ban*, that is, deprived of their rights and privileges. *Encyc.*

4. Interdiction; prohibition. *Milton.*

5. Curse; excommunication; anathema.

Raleigh.

6. A pecuniary mulct or penalty laid upon a delinquent for offending against a ban.

7. A mulct paid to the bishop by one guilty of sacrilege and other crimes.

8. In military affairs, a proclamation by beat of drum, requiring a strict observance of discipline, either for declaring a new officer, or for punishing an offender.

9. In commerce, a smooth fine muslin, imported from the E. Indies. *Encyc.*

BAN, *v. t.* To curse; to execrate.

Shak.

BAN, *v. i.* To curse.

Spenser.

BAN'ANA, *n.* A species of the genus *Musa*, or plantain tree, and its fruit. It rises 15 or 20 feet high, with a soft stalk, marked with dark purple stripes and spots, with leaves six feet long, and a foot broad. The flowers grow in bunches, covered with a sheath of a fine purple color. The fruit is four or five inches long, and an inch or more in diameter; the pulp soft and of a luscious taste. When ripe, it is eaten raw, or fried in slices. Bananas grow in large bunches weighing a dozen pounds or more. This tree is the native of tropical countries, and on many isles, constitutes an important article of food. *Encyc.*

BAN'DLE, *n.* [Sax. *banda*; Sw. *band*; Dan. *baund*; D. *band*; G. *band*, *binde*; Sp. *banda*;

veada; Port. It. *banda*; Ir. *banna*; Pers.

band; Sans. *bande*, *bunda*; Fr. *bande*.

See *Bind* and *Band*.]

1. A fillet; a cord; a tie; a chain; any narrow ligament with which a thing is bound, tied or fastened, or by which a number of things are confined together.

2. In architecture, any flat low member or molding, broad but not deep, called also *fascia*, face or plinth. *Johnson. Encyc.*

3. Figuratively, any chain; any means of restraint; that which draws or confines. *Dryden.*

4. Means of union or connection between persons; as, *Hymen's bands*.

5. Any thing bound round or encircling another. *Bacon.*

6. Something worn about the neck; as the *bands* of clergymen. *Addison.*

7. A company of soldiers; the body of men united under one flag or ensign. Also, indefinitely, a troop, a body of armed men. *2 Kings vi.*

8. A company of persons united in any common design; as a *band* of brothers.

9. A slip of canvas, sewed across a sail to strengthen it. *Mar. Dict.*

The *band* of pensioners in England, is a company of 120 gentlemen, who receive a yearly allowance of £100 st., for attending the king on solemn occasions. *Encyc.*

The *bands* of a saddle are two pieces of iron nailed upon the bows, to hold them in their proper situation. *Johnson.*

BAND, *v. t.* To bind together; to bind over with a band. *Dryden.*

2. To unite in a troop, company or confederacy. *Milton.*

BAND, *r. i.* To unite; to associate; to confederate for some common purpose. *Acts xxiii.*

BAND'AGE, *n.* [Fr.] A fillet, roller, or swath, used in dressing and binding up wounds, restraining hemorrhages, and joining fractured and dislocated bones. Sometimes, the act or practice of applying bandages.

2. Something resembling a bandage; that which is bound over another. *Addison.*

BANDAN'A, *n.* A species of silk handkerchief.

BAND'BOX, *n.* A slight paper box for bands, caps, bonnets, muffs, or other light articles. *Addison.*

BAND'ED, *pp.* Bound with a band; united in a band.

BAND'ER, *n.* One that bands or associates with others.

BAND'ERET, *n.* [from *band*.] In *Switzerland*, a general in chief of military forces.

BAND'IED, *pp.* Beat or tossed to and fro; agitated; controverted without ceremony.

BAND'ING, *pp.* Binding with a band; uniting in a band or company.

BAND'IT, *n. plu.* **BAND'ITS** or **BANDIT'TI**, [It. *bandito*, from *bandire*, to proclaim, to banish or proscribe by proclamation. *Bandito*, is the participle. Sp. *bandido*. See *Band*.]

An outlaw; also in a general sense, a robber; a highwayman; a lawless or desperate fellow.

BAN'DLE, *n.* An Irish measure of two feet in length. *Bailey.*