

SPUNG'ING-HOUSE, *n.* A bailiff's house to put debtors in.

SPUNG'IOUS, *a.* Full of small cavities, like a sponge; as *spungious* bones.

Cheyne.

SPUNG'Y, *a.* Soft and full of cavities; of an open, loose, pliable texture; as a *spungy* excrecence; *spungy* earth; *spungy* cake; the *spungy* substance of the lungs.

2. Full of small cavities; as *spungy* bones.

3. Wet; drenched; soaked and soft, like sponge.

4. Having the quality of imbibing fluids.

SPUN'-HAY, *n.* Hay twisted into ropes for convenient carriage on a military expedition.

SPUNK, *n.* [probably from *punk*.] Touch-wood; wood that readily takes fire. Hence,

2. Vulgarly, an inflammable temper; spirit; as a man of *spunk*. Ill natured observations touched his *spunk*. [*Low*.]

SPUN'-YARN, *n.* Among *seamen*, a line or cord formed of two or three rope yarns twisted.

SPUR, *n.* [Sax. *spur*; D. *spoor*; G. *sporn*; Dan. *spore*; Ir. *spor*; W. *yspardin*; Fr. *eperon*; It. *sporne*; coinciding in elements with *spear*. Class Br.]

1. An instrument having a rowel or little wheel with sharp points, worn on horse-men's heels, to prick the horses for hastening their pace.

Girt with rusty sword and *spur*. *Hudibras*.

Hence, to *set spurs* to a horse, is to prick him and put him upon a run.

2. Incitement; instigation. The love of glory is the *spur* to heroic deeds.

3. The largest or principal root of a tree; hence perhaps, the short wooden buttress of a post; [that is, in both cases, a shoot.]

4. The hard pointed projection on a cork's leg, which serves as an instrument of defense and annoyance. *Ray*.

5. Something that projects; a snag. *Shak*.

6. In *America*, a mountain that shoots from any other mountain or range of mountains, and extends to some distance in a lateral direction, or at right angles.

7. That which excites. We say, upon the *spur* of the occasion; that is, the circumstances or emergency which calls for immediate action.

8. A sea swallow. *Ray*.

9. The hinder part of the nectary in certain flowers, shaped like a cock's spur.

Martyn.

10. A morbid shoot or excrecence in grain, particularly in rye. [Fr. *ergot*.]

11. In *old fortifications*, a wall that crosses a part of the rampart and joins to the town wall.

SPUR, *v. t.* [Ir. *sporam*.] To prick with spurs; to incite to a more hasty pace; as, to *spur* a horse.

2. To incite; to instigate; to urge or encourage to action, or to a more vigorous pursuit of an object. Some men are *spurred* to action by the love of glory, others by the love of power. Let affection *spur* us to social and domestic duties. *Locke*.

3. To impel; to drive.
Love will not be *spurred* to what it loathes.

Shak.

4. To put spurs on.
Spurs of the beams, in a ship, are curving

timbers, serving as half beams to support the deck, where whole beams cannot be used.

SPUR, *v. i.* To travel with great expedition.

The Parthians shall be there,
And *spurring* from the fight, confess their fear. [*Unusual*.] *Dryden*.

2. To press forward.

Some bold men—by *spurring* on, refine themselves. *Greene*.

SPUR'GALL, *v. t.* [*spur* and *gall*.] To gall or wound with a spur. *Shak*.

SPUR'GALL, *n.* A place galled or excoriated by much using of the spur.

SPUR'GALLED, *pp.* Galled or hurt by a spur; as a *spurgalled* hackney. *Pope*.

SPURGE, *n.* [Fr. *epurge*; It. *spurgo*, a purge; from L. *purgo*, *expurgo*.] A plant of the genus *Euphorbia*.

SPURGE-FLAX, *n.* A plant. [L. *thymelaea*.]

SPURGE-LAUREL, *n.* The *Daphne laureola*, a shrub, a native of Europe.

SPURGE-OLIVE, *n.* Mezereon, a shrub of the genus *Daphne*.

SPURGE-WÖRT, *n.* A plant. [L. *riphion*.]

SPUR'ING, *for purging*, not in use.

B. Jonson.

SPURIOUS, *a.* [L. *spurius*.] Not genuine; not proceeding from the true source, or from the source pretended; counterfeit; false; adulterate. *Spurious* writings are such as are not composed by the authors to whom they are ascribed. *Spurious* drugs are common. The reformed churches reject *spurious* ceremonies and traditions.

2. Not legitimate; bastard; as *spurious* issue. By the laws of England, one begotten and born out of lawful matrimony, is a *spurious* child.

Spurious disease, a disease not of the genuine type, but bearing a resemblance in its symptoms.

SPURIOUSLY, *adv.* Counterfeitly; falsely.

SPURIOUSNESS, *n.* The state or quality of being counterfeit, false or not genuine; as the *spuriousness* of drugs, of coin or of writings.

2. Illegitimacy; the state of being bastard, or not of legitimate birth; as the *spuriousness* of issue.

SPUR'LING, *n.* A small sea fish.

SPUR'LING-LINE, *n.* Among *seamen*, the line which forms the communication between the wheel and the tell-tale.

SPURN, *v. t.* [Sax. *spurnan*; Ir. *sporam*; L. *sperno*, *aspernor*; from the root of *spur*, or from kicking.]

1. To kick; to drive back or away, as with the foot. *Shak*.

2. To reject with disdain; to scorn to receive or accept. What multitudes of rational beings *spurn* the offers of eternal happiness!

3. To treat with contempt. *Locke*.

SPURN, *v. i.* To manifest disdain in rejecting any thing; as, to *spurn* at the gracious offers of pardon.

2. To make contemptuous opposition; to manifest disdain in resistance.

Nay more, to *spurn* at your most royal image. *Shak*.

3. To kick or toss up the heels.

The drunken chairman in the kennel *spurns*.

Gay.

SPURN, *n.* Disdainful rejection; contemptuous treatment.

The insolence of office, and the *spurns* That patient merit of the unworthy takes.

Shak.

SPURN'ED, *pp.* Rejected with disdain; treated with contempt.

SPURN'ER, *n.* One who spurns.

SPURN'EY, *n.* A plant. *Dict*.

SPURN'ING, *ppr.* Rejecting with contempt.

SPURN'-WATER, *n.* In *ships*, a channel at the end of a deck to restrain the water.

SPUR'LE, *n.* A name of the sea swallow.

SPUR'LED, *pp.* Furnished with spurs.

2. *a.* Wearing spurs, or having shoots like spurs.

SPUR'RER, *n.* One who uses spurs.

SPUR'RER, *n.* One whose occupation is to make spurs.

SPUR'-ROYAL, *n.* A gold coin, first made in the reign of Edward IV. In the reign of James I. its value was fifteen shillings. Sometimes written *spur-rial* or *ryal*.

Beaumont.

SPUR'RY, *n.* A plant of the genus *Spergula*.

SPURT, *v. t.* [Sw. *spruta*; Dan. *spruder* and *sproyter*, to spout, to squirt, to syringe. The English word has suffered a transposition of letters. It is from the root of *sprout*, which see.]

To throw out, as a liquid in a stream; to drive or force out with violence, as a liquid from a pipe or small orifice; as, to *spurt* water from the mouth, or other liquid from a tube.

SPURT, *v. i.* To gush or issue out in a stream, as liquor from a cask; to rush from a confined place in a small stream.

Then the small jet, which hasty hands unlock,

Spurts in the gard'ner's eyes who turns the cock. *Pope*.

SPURT, *n.* A sudden or violent ejection or gushing of a liquid substance from a tube, orifice or other confined place; a jet.

2. A sudden or short occasion or exigency; sudden effort. [*Vulgar*.]

SPURT'LE, *v. t.* [from *spurt*.] To shoot in a scattering manner. [*Little used*.]

Drayton.

SPUR'WAY, *n.* [*spur* and *way*.] A horse path; a narrow way; a bridle road; a way for a single beast. [*Not used in the U. States*.]

SPUTA'TION, *n.* [L. *sputo*, to spit.] The act of spitting. [*Not used*.] *Harvey*.

SPUT'ATIVE, *a.* [*supra*.] Spitting much; inclined to spit. [*Not used*.] *Wotton*.

SPUT'TER, *v. i.* [D. *sputten*, to spout; Sw. *spotta*; L. *sputo*, to spit. It belongs to the root of *spout* and *spit*; of the latter it seems to be a diminutive.]

1. To spit, or to emit saliva from the mouth in small or scattered portions, as in rapid speaking.

2. To throw out moisture in small detached parts; as green wood *sputtering* in the flame.

3. To fly off in small particles with some crackling or noise.

When sparkling lamps their *sputtering* lights advance. *Dryden*.

4. To utter words hastily and indistinctly; literally, to *spout* badly; to speak so rapidly as to emit saliva.