

ner. "The rebels carried great trusses of hay before them, to blanch the defendants' fight." *Corcoran*. That is, to render the combat blank; to render it ineffectual; to break the force of the attack; to deaden the shot. *Obs*.

BLENCH, *n.* A start. *Shak*.
BLENCHER, *n.* That which frustrates.
BLEND-HOLDING, *n.* A tenure of lands upon the payment of a small sum in silver, *blunch*, that is, white money.

Blackstone.
BLEND, *n.* [Ger. *blenden*, to blind; *blende*, a blind or screen.]

An ore of zinc, called also mock-lead, false galena and black jack. Its color is mostly yellow, brown and black. There are several varieties, but in general, this ore contains more than half its weight of zinc, about one fourth sulphur, and usually a small portion of iron. In chemical language, it is a sulphuret of zinc.

Fourcroy. *Cleveland*. *Thomson*.
BLEND, *v. t.* [Sax. *blendan*, to blend and to blind; *goblendan*, to mix, to stain or dye; *blindan*, to blind; *D. blinden*; Ger. *blenden*, to blind; Dan. *blander*, to blend or mix; *blinder*, to blind.]

1. To mix or mingle together; hence to confound, so that the separate things mixed cannot be distinguished.

2. To pollute by mixture; to spoil or corrupt. *Obs*. *Spenser*.

3. To blind. *Obs*.

BLEND, *v. i.* To be mixed; to be united. There is a tone of solemn and sacred feeling that blends with our conviviality. *Iving*.

BLENDED, *pp.* Mixed; confounded by mixture.

BLENDER, *n.* One that mingles or confounds.

BLENDING, *ppr.* Mingling together; confounding by mixture.

BLENDOUS, *a.* Pertaining to blend.

BLEND-WATER, *n.* A distemper incident to cattle, called also more-hough. *Encyc.*
BLENNY, *n.* [Sax. *blinnan*, to cease.] A genus of fishes, of the order of *Jugulars*, in Ichthyology called *Bleenni*. There are several species; the size from five inches to a foot in length.

Ergay. *Diet. of Nat. Hist.*
BLENT, the obsolete participle of *blend*.

Spenser.
BLESS, *v. t.* pret. and *pp.* *bleessed* or *blest*. [Sax. *blescian*, *betsian*, *betsian* and *blesian*; whence, *betsung*, *blesung*, a blessing or benediction. *W. llad*, a gift, a favor, a blessing.]

1. To pronounce a wish of happiness to one; to express a wish or desire of happiness.

And Isaac called Jacob and blessed him. Gen. xxviii.

2. To make happy; to make successful; to prosper in temporal concerns; as, we are *blest* with peace and plenty.

The Lord thy God shall *bless* thee in all thou doest. Deut. xv.

3. To make happy in a future life.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Rev. xiv.

4. To set apart or consecrate to holy purposes; to make and pronounce holy.

And God *blessed* the seventh day and sanctified it. Gen. 2.

5. To consecrate by prayer; to invoke a blessing upon.

And Jesus took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven he *blessed* them. Luke ix.

6. To praise; to glorify, for benefits received.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me. Ps. ciii.

7. To praise; to magnify; to extol, for excellencies. Ps. civ.

8. To esteem or account happy; with the reciprocal pronoun.

The nations shall *bless themselves* in him. Jer. iv.

9. To pronounce a solemn prophetic benediction upon. Gen. xxvii. Deut. xxxiii.

10. In this line of Spenser, it may signify to *thrive*, for this is nearly the primary sense.

His sparkling blade about his head he *blest*.
 Johnson supposes the word to signify to *reave* or *brandish*, and to have received this sense from the old rite of blessing a field, by directing the hands to all parts of it.

Bless in Spenser for *bliss*, may be so written, not for rhyme merely, but because *bless* and *bliss* are from the same root.

BLESSED, *pp.* Made happy or prosperous; extolled; pronounced happy.

BLESSED, *a.* Happy; prosperous in worldly affairs; enjoying spiritual happiness and the favor of God; enjoying heavenly felicity.

BLESSED-THISTLE. A plant of the genus *Cnicus*, sometimes used in decoctions, for a bitter.

BLESS EDLY, *adv.* Happily; in a fortunate manner.

BLESS EDNESS, *n.* Happiness; felicity; heavenly joys; the favor of God.

2. Sanctity. *Shak*.

BLESSER, *n.* One that blesses or prospers; one who bestows a blessing.

BLESSING, *ppr.* Making happy; wishing happiness to; praising or extolling; consecrating by prayer.

BLESSING, *n.* Benediction; a wish of happiness pronounced; a prayer imploring happiness upon another.

2. A solemn prophetic benediction, in which happiness is desired, invoked or foretold.

This is the blessing wherewith Moses—*blessed* the children of Israel. Deut. xxxii.

3. Any means of happiness; a gift, benefit or advantage; that which promotes temporal prosperity and welfare, or secures immortal felicity. A just and pious magistrate is a public *blessing*. The divine favor is the greatest *blessing*.

4. Among the *Jews*, a present; a gift; either because it was attended with kind wishes for the welfare of the giver, or because it was the means of increasing happiness.

Take, I pray thee, my *blessing* that is brought to thee. Gen. xxxiii.

BLEST, *pp.* of *bless*.

BLEST, *a.* Made happy.

2. Making happy; cheering.

While these *blest* sounds my ravish'd ear assail. *Tranbull*.

BLETONISM, *n.* The faculty of perceiving and indicating subterraneous springs and currents by sensation; so called from one Bleton of France who possessed this faculty. *Encyc.*

BLETONIST, *n.* One who possesses the faculty of perceiving subterraneous springs by sensation. *Encyc.*

BLEW, *pret.* of *blow*.

BLEYME, *n.* An inflammation in the foot of a horse, between the sole and the bone.

Farrier's Dict.

BLICEA, *n.* A small fish caught in the German seas, somewhat resembling the English snail. *Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

BLIGHT, *n.* [Qu. Sax. *blachta*, scurf, leprosy.]

1. A disease incident to plants, affecting them variously. Sometimes the whole plant perishes; sometimes only the leaves and blossoms, which will shrivel, as if scorched.

2. Any thing nipping or blasting.

In *America*, I have often heard a cutaneous eruption on the human skin called by the name of *blights*.

BLIGHT, *v. t.* To affect with blight; to blast; to prevent growth, and fertility; to frustrate.

BLIN, *v. t.* [Sax. *blinnan*.] To stop or cease. *Spenser*.

BLIND, *a.* [Sax. *blind*; Ger. *D. Sw.* and Dan. *blind*; Sax. *blendan*, to blind and to blind. This is the same word as *blend*, and was so written by Spenser. See *Blend*. Obscurity is from mixture.]

1. Destitute of the sense of seeing, either by natural defect, or by deprivation; not having sight.

2. Not having the faculty of discernment; destitute of intellectual light; unable to understand or judge; ignorant; as, authors are *blind* to their own defects.

Blind should be followed by *to*; but it is followed by *of*, in the phrase, *blind of an eye*.

3. Unseen; out of public view; private; dark; sometimes implying contempt or censure; as a *blind corner*. *Hooker*.

4. Dark; obscure; not easy to be found; not easily discernible; as a *blind path*.

5. Helpless; inconsiderate; undeliberating.

This plan is recommended neither to blind approbation nor blind reprobation.

Federalist, *Jay*.

6. In scripture, *blind* implies not only want of discernment, but moral depravity.

BLIND, *v. t.* To make blind; to deprive of sight.

2. To darken; to obscure to the eye.

Such darkness *blinds* the sky. *Dryden*.

3. To darken the understanding; as, to *blind* the mind.

4. To darken or obscure to the understanding.

He endeavored to *blind* and confound the controversy. *Stillingfleet*.

5. To eclipse. *Fletcher*.

BLIND, or **BLANDE**. See *Blend*, an ore.

BLIND, *n.* Something to hinder the sight.

Civility casts a *blind* over the duty. *L'Estrange*.

2. Something to mislead the eye or the understanding; as, one thing serves as a *blind* for another.

3. A screen; a cover; as a *blind* for a window, or for a horse.

BLINDED, *pp.* Deprived of sight; deprived of intellectual discernment; made dark or obscure.

BLINDFOLD, *a.* [blind and *fold*.] Having the eyes covered; having the mental eye darkened.

BLINDFOLD, *v. t.* To cover the eyes; to hinder from seeing.