

BEDIZ'ENING, *ppr.* Adorning.

BED LAM, *n.* [Corrupted from *Bethlehem*, the name of a religious house in London, afterward converted into a hospital for lunatics.]

1. A mad house; a place appropriated for lunatics. *Spelman.*

2. A madman; a lunatic; one who lives in *Bedlam*. *Shak.*

3. A place of uproar.

BED LAM, *a.* Belonging to a mad house or fit for a mad house. *Shak.*

BED LAMITE, *n.* An inhabitant of a mad-house; a madman. *B. Jonson.*

BED MAKER, *n.* [*bed* and *maker*.] One whose occupation is to make beds, as in a college or university. *Spectator.*

BED MATE, *n.* [*bed* and *mate*.] A bed-fellow. *Shak.*

BED-MOLDING, *n.* [*bed* and *molding*.]

In architecture, the members of a cornice, which are placed below the cornet, consisting of an ogee, a list, a large bouline, and another list under the cornet. *Encyc.*

BEDO'TE, *v. t.* [*be* and *dotc*.] To make to do. [*Not in use*.] *Chaucer.*

BED POST, *n.* [*bed* and *post*.] The post of a bedstead. *Shak.*

BED PRESSER, *n.* [*bed* and *press*.] A lazy fellow; one who loves his bed. *Shak.*

BEDRAG GLE, *v. t.* [*be* and *dragg*.] To soil, as garments which are suffered, in walking, to reach the dirt; to soil by drawing along on mud. *Swift.*

BEDRAG GLED, *pp.* Soiled by reaching the dirt, in walking.

BEDRAG GLING, *pp.* Soiling by drawing along in dirt or mud.

BEDRENCH, *v. t.* [*be* and *drench*.] To drench; to soak; to saturate with moisture. [*applied to things which imbibe moisture*.] *Shak.*

BEDRENCHED, *pp.* Drenched; soaked.

BEDRENCH'ING, *ppr.* Soaking; drenching.

BED RID, } (*bed* and *ride*; *Sax. bed-*

BED RIDDEN, } (*rida*.)

Confined to the bed, by age or infirmity. *Shak.*

BED RITE, *n.* [*bed* and *rite*.] The privilege of the marriage bed.

BED ROOM, *n.* [*bed* and *room*.] A room or apartment intended or used for a bed; a lodging room.

2. Room in a bed. [*Not in use*.] *Shak.*

BEDROP, *v. t.* [*be* and *drop*.] To sprinkle, as with drops. *Chaucer.*

BEDROPPED, *pp.* Sprinkled as with drops; speckled; variegated with spots.

BEDSIDE, *n.* The side of the bed.

BEDSTAFF, *n.* [*bed* and *staff*.] A wooden pin anciently inserted on the sides of bedsteads, to keep the clothes from slipping on either side. *Johnson.*

BEDSTEAD, *n.* *bedsted*. [*bed* and *stead*.] A frame for supporting a bed.

BEDSTRAW, *n.* [*bed* and *straw*.] Straw laid under a bed to make it soft; also the name of a plant, a species of *galium*.

BEDSWERVER, *n.* [*bed* and *swerve*.] One that swerves from his bed; that is, one who is false and unfaithful to the marriage vow. *Shak.*

BED'TIME, *n.* [*bed* and *time*.] The time to go to rest; the usual hour of going to bed. *Shak.*

BEDUCK, *v. t.* [*be* and *duck*.] To duck; to put the head under water; to immerse. *Spenser.*

BEDUST, *v. t.* [*be* and *dust*.] To sprinkle, soil or cover with dust. *Shakespeare.*

BEDWARD, *adv.* [*bed* and *ward*.] Toward bed. *Shak.*

BEDWARF, *v. t.* [*be* and *dwarf*.] To make little; to stunt or hinder growth. *Donne.*

BEDWORK, *n.* [*bed* and *work*.] Work done in bed, without toil of the hands or with ease. *Shak.*

BEDYE, *v. t.* [*be* and *dye*.] To dye; to stain. *Spenser.*

BEDYED, *pp.* Dyed; stained.

BEE, *n.* [*Sax. bee*; *D. bje*; *Ger. biene*; *Sw. bij*; *Dan. bie*; *Ir. beach*; *It. peccchia*; *Sp. abeja*. Class Bg.]

An insect of the genus *Apis*. [*See Apis*.]

The species are numerous, of which the honey-bee is the most interesting to man.

It has been cultivated from the earliest periods, for its wax and honey. It lives in swarms or societies, of from 10,000 to 50,000 individuals.

These swarms contain three classes of bees, the females or queen bees, the males or drones, and the neuters or working bees.

Of the former, there is only one in each hive or swarm, whose sole office is to propagate the species.

It is much larger than the other bees. The drones serve merely for impregnating the queen, after which they are destroyed by the neuters.

These last are the laborers of the hive. They collect the honey, form the cells, and feed the other bees and the young.

They are furnished with a proboscis by which they suck the honey from flowers, and a mouth by which they swallow it, and then convey it to the hive in their stomachs, where they disgorge it into the cells.

The pollen of flowers settles on the hairs with which their body is covered, whence it is collected into pellets, by a brush on their second pair of legs, and deposited in a hollow in the third pair.

It is called *bee bread*, and is the food of the larvae or young.

The adult bees feed on honey. The wax was supposed to be formed from pollen by a digestive process, but it is now ascertained that it is formed from the honey by a similar process.

The females and neuters have a barbed sting, attached to a bag of poison, which flows into the wound inflicted by the sting.

When a hive is overstocked, a new colony is sent out under the direction of a queen bee. This is called *swarming*.

*Cyc. Ed. Encyc.*

BEE-BREAD, *n.* [*bee* and *bread*.] The pollen of flowers collected by bees, as food for their young. [*See Bee*.]

BEE-EATER, *n.* [*bee* and *eat*.] A bird that feeds on bees. There are several species included in the genus *merops*, of which the *apiaster* of Europe is remarkable for the brilliancy of its plumage. *Encyc.*

BEE-FLORER, *n.* [*bee* and *flower*.] A plant; a species of *Ophrys* or *twyblade*, whose flowers represent singular figures of bees, flies and other insects. *Encyc.*

BEE-GARDEN, *n.* [*bee* and *garden*.] A garden, or inclosure to see bee-hives in. *Johnson.*

BEE-GLUE, *n.* [*bee* and *glue*.] A soft, unctuous matter with which bees cement the combs to the hives, and close up the cells; called also *propolis*. *Encyc.*

BEE-HIVE, *n.* [*bee* and *hive*.] A case, box, or other hollow vessel, which serves as a habitation for bees. Hives are made of various materials, as of boards, the hollow trunk of a tree, and withes of straw, or of glass.

BEE-MASTER, *n.* [*bee* and *master*.] One who keeps bees. *Mortimer.*

BEECH, *n.* [*Sax. bece*, *boc*; *D. beuke*, or *beukenboom*; *Ger. buche*, or *buchbaum*; *Slav. boku*; *Russ. buk*; *Gr. payos*; *L. fagus*; *It. faggio*; *Sp. haya*; *Port. faia*. In *Saxon* *bec* and *boc* is a book. It is probable that *beech* is properly the name of bark, and this being used, by our rude ancestors, as the material for writing, the word came to signify a book.]

A tree arranged by Linne under the genus *fagus*, with the chestnut. The beech grows to a large size, with branches forming a beautiful head, with thick foliage.

The bark is smooth and of a silvery cast. The mast or nuts are the food of swine, and of certain wild animals, and yield a good oil for lamps. When eaten by man, they are said to occasion giddiness and headach. *Encyc.*

BEECH-COAL, *n.* [*beech* and *coal*.] Charcoal from beech wood.

BEECHEN, *a.* *beechn*. Consisting of the wood or bark of the beech; belonging to the beech; as a *beechen vessel*. *Dryden.*

BEECHMAST, *n.* The fruit or nuts of the beech.

BEECH-OIL, *n.* [*beech* and *oil*.] Oil expressed from the mast or nuts of the beech-tree. It is used in Picardy, and in other parts of France, instead of butter; but is said to occasion heaviness and pains in the stomach. *Encyc.*

BEECH-TREE, *n.* [*beech* and *tree*.] The beech.

BEEF, *n.* [*Fr. beef*, *beuf*, an ox; *Arm. bevin*; *It. bue*; *Sp. buey*; *Port. bo*; *W. buw*; *Corn. bygh*, an ox; *Ir. bo*, a cow, *plu. buaih*; *L. bos*, *bovis*; *Gr. boas*.]

1. An animal of the bovine genus, whether ox, bull or cow; but used of those which are full grown or nearly so. In this, which is the original sense, the word has a plural, *beves*.

2. The flesh of an ox, bull, or cow, when killed. In popular language, the word is often applied to the live animal; as, an ox is good *beef*; that is, is well fattened. In this sense, the word has no plural.

3. A Consisting of the flesh of the ox, or bovine kind; as a *beef-steak*. *Swift.*

BEEF-EATER, *n.* [*beef* and *eat*.] One that eats beef.

2. A yeoman of the guards, in England.

3. The Buphaga, an African bird that feeds on the larvae which nestle under the hides of oxen.

4. In popular use, a stout fleshy man.

BEEF-STEAK, *n.* [*beef* and *steak*.] A steak or slice of beef for broiling.

BEEF-WITTED, *a.* [*beef* and *wit*.] Dull in intellects; stupid; heavy-headed. *Shak.*