

SPOUT, *v. t.* To throw out, as liquids through a narrow orifice or pipe; as, an elephant *spouts* water from his trunk.

Next on his belly floats the mighty whale—
He *spouts* the tide. *Creech.*

2. To throw out words with affected gravity; to mouth. *Beaum.*

SPOUT, *v. i.* To issue with violence, as a liquid through a narrow orifice or from a spout; as, water *spouts* from a cask or a spring; blood *spouts* from a vein.

All the glittering hill
Is bright with *spouting* rills. *Thomson.*

SPOUTED, *pp.* Thrown in a stream from a pipe or narrow orifice.

SPOUTING, *ppr.* Throwing in a stream from a pipe or narrow opening; pouring out words violently or affectedly.

SPOUTING, *n.* The act of throwing out, as a liquid from a narrow opening; a violent or affected speech; a harangue.

SPRAG, *a.* Vigorous; sprightly. [*Local.*]
[*Note.* In America, this word is, in popular language, pronounced *spry*, which is a contraction of *sprigh*, in *sprightly*.]

SPRAG, *n.* A young salmon. [*Local.*]

SPRAIN, *v. t.* [probably Sw. *språnga*, to break or loosen; Dan. *sprenger*, to spring, to burst or crack; or from the same root.]

To overstrain the ligaments of a joint; to stretch the ligaments so as to injure them, but without luxation or dislocation.

Gay. Encyc.
SPRAIN, *n.* An excessive strain of the ligaments of a joint without dislocation.

Temple.
SPRAINED, *pp.* Injured by excessive straining.

SPRAINING, *ppr.* Injuring by excessive extension.

SPRAINTS, *n.* The dung of an otter.

Dict.
SPRANG, *pret.* of *spring*; but *sprung* is more generally used.

SPRAT, *n.* [D. *sprot*; G. *sprotte*; Ir. *sproth*.]

A small fish of the species *Clupea*.

SPRAWL, *v. i.* [The origin and affinities of this word are uncertain. It may be a contracted word.]

1. To spread and stretch the body carelessly in a horizontal position; to lie with the limbs stretched out or struggling. We say, a person lies *sprawling*; or he *sprawls* on the bed or on the ground. *Hudibras.*

2. To move, when lying down, with awkward extension and motions of the limbs; to scamble or seramble in creeping.

The birds were not fledged; but in *sprawling* and struggling to get clear of the flame, down they tumbled. *L'Estrange.*

3. To widen or open irregularly, as a body of horse.

SPRAWLING, *ppr.* Lying with the limbs awkwardly stretched; creeping with awkward motions; struggling with contortion of the limbs.

2. Widening or opening irregularly, as cavalry.

SPRAY, *n.* [probably allied to *sprig*. The radical sense is a shoot. Class Rg.]

1. A small shoot or branch; or the extremity of a branch. Hence in England, spray-faggots are bundles of small branches, used as fuel. *Encyc.*

2. Among seamen, the water that is driven

from the top of a wave in a storm, which spreads and flies in small particles. It differs from *spoon-drift*; as *spray* is only occasional, whereas *spoon-drift* flies continually along the surface of the sea.

SPREAD, *v. t.* *pret.* and *pp.* *spread* or *SPRED*, *v. i.* *spread*. [Sax. *spradan*, *spradan*; Dan. *spreder*; Sw. *sprida*; D. *spreiden*; G. *spreiten*. This is probably formed on the root of broad, G. *breit*; *breiten*, to spread. The more correct orthography is *spread*.]

1. To extend in length and breadth, or in breadth only; to stretch or expand to a broader surface; as, to *spread* a carpet or a table cloth; to *spread* a sheet on the ground.

2. To extend; to form into a plate; as, to *spread* silver. *Jer. x.*

3. To set; to place; to pitch; as, to *spread* a tent. *Gen. xxxiii.*

4. To cover by extending something; to reach every part.

And an unusual paleness *spreads* her face.

Granville.
5. To extend; to shoot to a greater length in every direction, so as to fill or cover a wider space.

The stately trees fast *spread* their branches.

Milton.
6. To divulge; to propagate; to publish; as news or fame; to cause to be more extensively known; as, to *spread* a report.

In this use, the word is often accompanied with *abroad*.

They, when they had departed, *spread abroad* his fame in all that country. *Matt. ix.*

7. To propagate; to cause to affect greater numbers; as, to *spread* a disease.

8. To emit; to diffuse; as emanations or effluvia; as, odoriferous plants *spread* their fragrance.

9. To disperse; to scatter over a larger surface; as, to *spread* manure; to *spread* plaster or lime on the ground.

10. To prepare; to set and furnish with provisions; as, to *spread* a table. *God spread* a table for the Israelites in the wilderness.

11. To open; to unfold; to unfurl; to stretch; as, to *spread* the sails of a ship.

SPREAD, *v. i.* To extend itself in length and breadth, in all directions, or in breadth only; to be extended or stretched. The larger elms *spread* over a space of forty or fifty yards in diameter; or the shade of the larger elms *spreads* over that space. The larger lakes in America *spread* over more than fifteen hundred square miles.

Plants, if they *spread* much, are seldom tall.

Bacon.
2. To be extended by drawing or heating; as, a metal *spreads* with difficulty.

3. To be propagated or made known more extensively. Ill reports sometimes *spread* with wonderful rapidity.

1. To be propagated from one to another; as, a disease *spreads* into all parts of a city. The yellow fever of American cities has not been found to *spread* in the country.

SPREAD, *n.* Extent; compass.

I have a fine *spread* of improvable land.

Addison.

2. Expansion of parts.

No flower has that *spread* of the woodbind.

Bacon.

SPREADER, *n.* One that spreads, extends, expands or propagates; as a *spreader* of disease.

Hooker.

2. One that divulges; one that causes to be more generally known; a publisher; as a *spreader* of news or reports. *Swift.*

SPREADING, *v. ppr.* Extending; expanding; propagating; divulging; dispersing; diffusing.

2. *a.* Extending or extended over a large space; wide; as the *spreading* oak.

Gov. Winthrop and his associates at Charlestown had for a church a large *spreading* tree.

B. Trumbull.

SPREADING, *n.* The act of extending, dispersing or propagating.

SPRENT, *pp.* Sprinkled. *Obs.* [See *Sprinkle*.] *Spenser.*

SPRIG, *n.* [W. *ysbrig*; *ys*, a prefix, and *brig*, top, summit; that is, a shoot, or shooting to a point. Class Brg.]

1. A small shoot or twig of a tree or other plant; a spray; as a *sprig* of laurel or of parsley.

2. A brad, or nail without a head. [*Local.*]

3. The representation of a small branch in embroidery.

4. A small eye-bolt ragged at the point.

Encyc.

SPRIG, *v. t.* To mark or adorn with the representation of small branches; to work with sprigs; as, to *sprig* muslin.

SPRIG-CRYSTAL, *n.* Crystal found in the form of a hexangular column, adhering to the stone, and terminating at the other end in a point. *Woodward.*

SPRIGGED, *pp.* Wrought with representations of small twigs.

SPRIGGING, *ppr.* Working with sprigs.

SPRIGGY, *a.* Full of sprigs or small branches.

SPRIGIT, *n.* [G. *spriet*, spirit. It should be written *sprite*.]

1. A spirit; a shade; a soul; an incorporeal agent.

Forth he call'd, out of deep darkness dread,
Legions of *sprights*. *Spenser.*

And gaping graves receiv'd the guilty *spright*. *Dryden.*

2. A walking spirit; an apparition. *Locke.*

3. Power which gives cheerfulness or courage.

Hold thou my heart, establish thou my *sprights*. [*Not in use.*] *Sidney.*

4. An arrow. [*Not in use.*] *Bacon.*

SPRIGIT, *v. t.* To haunt, as a *spright*. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

SPRIGITFUL, *a.* [This word seems to be formed on the root of *sprag*, a local word, pronounced in America, *spry*. It belongs to the family of *spring* and *sprig*.]

Lively; brisk; nimble; vigorous; gay.

Spoke like a *sprightful* noble gentleman.

Shak.

Steeds *sprightful* as the light.

Cowley.

[This word is little used in America. We use *sprightly* in the same sense.]

SPRIGITFULLY, *adv.* Briskly; vigorously. *Shak.*

SPRIGITFULNESS, *n.* Briskness; liveliness; vivacity. *Hammond.*