

7. A number of things passing through the air together; a volley; as a *flight* of arrows.
8. A periodical flying of birds in flocks; as the *spring* flight or autumnal *flight* of ducks or pigeons.
9. In *England*, the birds produced in the same season.
10. The space passed by flying.
11. A mounting; a soaring; lofty elevation and excursion; as a *flight* of imagination or fancy; a *flight* of ambition.
12. Excursion; wandering; extravagant sallies; as a *flight* of folly. *Tidolson.*
13. The power of flying. *Shak.*
14. In certain lead works, a substance that flies off in smoke. *Encyc.*
- Flight of stairs*, the series of stairs from the floor, or from one platform to another.
- FLIGHTINESS**, *n.* The state of being flighty; wildness; slight delirium.
- FLIGHT-SHOT**, *n.* The distance which an arrow flies.
- FLIGHTY**, *a.* Fleeting; swift.  
The *flighty* purpose never is o'ertook. *Shak.*
2. Wild; indulging the sallies of imagination.
3. Disordered in mind; somewhat delirious.
- FLIM-FLAM**, *n.* [*See flim.*] A freak; a trick. *Bauman.*
- FLIM-SINESS**, *n.* State or quality of being flimsy; thin; weak texture; weakness; want of substance or solidity.
- FLIM-SY**, *a.* *s.* as *z.* [*W. flymsi*, having a fickle motion; *flyms*, to make sharp, quick, pungent. *Owen.* But *Lluyd* renders *flymsi*, vain, weak. The word is retained by the common people in New England in *flimsy*, weak, limber, easily bending. See *Class. Lm.* No. 2, 5, 6.]
1. Weak; feeble; slight; vain; without strength or solid substance; as a *flimsy* pretext; a *flimsy* excuse; *flimsy* objections. *Milner.*
2. Without strength or force; spiritless.  
Proud of a vast extent of *flimsy* lines. *Pope.*
3. Thin; of loose texture; as *flimsy* cloth or stuff. [*Little used.*]
- FLINCH**, *v. i.* [I have not found this word in any other language; but the sense of it occurs in *blench*, and not improbably it is from the same root, with a different prefix.]
1. To shrink; to withdraw from any suffering or undertaking, from pain or danger; to fail of proceeding, or of performing any thing. Never *flinch* from duty. One of the parties *flinched* from the combat.  
A child, by a constant course of kindness, may be accustomed to bear very rough usage without *flinching* or complaining. *Locke.*
2. To fail. *Shak.*
- FLINCHER**, *n.* One who flinches or fails.
- FLINCHING**, *ppr.* Failing to undertake, perform or proceed; shrinking; withdrawing.
- FLINDER**, *n.* [*D. flenter*, a splinter, a tatter.]  
A small piece or splinter; a fragment.  
*New England.*  
[This seems to be splinter, without the prefix.]
- FLING**, *v. t.* pret. and *pp.* *flung*. [*Ir. lingim*, to fling, to dart, to fly off, to skip. If *n.* is

- not radical, as I suppose, this may be the *W. luttiane*, to fling, to throw, to dart, and *L. lego, legare.*]
1. To cast, send or throw from the hand; to hurl; as, to *fling* a stone at a bird.  
[This fate that *flings* the dice; and as the *flings*. Of kings makes peasants, and of peasants, kings. *Dryden.*]
2. To dart; to cast with violence; to send forth.  
He—like Jove, his lightning *flung*. *Dryden.*
3. To send forth; to emit; to scatter.  
Every beam new transient colors *flings*. *Pope.*
4. To throw; to drive by violence.
5. To throw to the ground; to prostrate.  
The wrestler *flung* his antagonist.
6. To battle; to defeat; as, to *fling* a party in litigation.  
To *fling* away, to reject; to discard.  
Cromwell, I charge thee, *fling* away ambition. *Shak.*
- To *fling* down, to demolish; to ruin.
2. To throw to the ground.
- To *fling* off, to battle in the chase; to defeat of prey. *Addison.*
- To *fling* out, to utter; to speak; as, to *fling* out hard words against another.
- To *fling* in, to throw in; to make an allowance or deduction, or not to charge in an account. In settling accounts, one party *flings* in a small sum, or a few days work.
- To *fling* open, to throw open; to open suddenly or with violence; as, to *fling* open a door.
- To *fling* up, to relinquish; to abandon; as, to *fling* up a design.
- FLING**, *v. i.* To incline; to wince; to fly into violent and irregular motions. The horse began to *fling* and *kick*.
2. To cast in the teeth; to utter harsh language; to sneer; to upbraid. The scold began to *flout* and *fling*.
- To *fling* out, to grow unruly or outrageous. *Shak.*
- FLING**, *n.* A throw; a cast from the hand.
2. A gibe; a sneer; a sarcasm; a severe or contemptuous remark.  
1. who love to have a *fling*,  
Both at senate house and king. *Swift.*
- FLINGER**, *n.* One who flings; one who jeers.
- FLINGING**, *ppr.* Throwing; casting; jeering.
- FLINT**, *n.* [*Sax. flint*; *Sw. flinta*.] In *Dan.* *flint* is a light gun, and *flint* is called *flint-stone*, flint-stone. So also in *German*. The Dutch and Germans call it also *fire-stone*. It may be from the root of *splendore*.]
1. In natural history, a sub-species of quartz, of a yellowish or bluish gray, or grayish black color. It is amorphous, interspersed in other stones, or in nodules or rounded lumps. Its surface is generally uneven, and covered with a rind or crust, either calcareous or argillaceous. It is very hard, strikes fire with steel, and is an ingredient in glass. *Kirwan. Encyc.*
2. A piece of the above described stone used in firearms to strike fire.
3. Any thing proverbially hard; as a heart of flint.
- FLINT-HEART**, *a.* Having a hard, unfeeling heart.

- FLINTY**, *a.* Consisting of flint; as a *flinty* rock.
2. Like flint; very hard; not impressible; as a *flinty* heart.
3. Cruel; unmerciful; inexorable. *Shak.*
4. Full of flint stones; as *flinty* ground. *Bacon.*
- Flinty-slate**, a mineral of two kinds, the common and the Lydian stone. *Ure.*
- FLIP**, *n.* A mixed liquor consisting of beer and spirit sweetened.
- FLIP-FLAP**, *n.* An iron used, when heated, to warm flip.
- FLIPPANCY**, *n.* [*See Flippant.*] Smoothness and rapidity of speech; volubility of tongue; fluency of speech.
- FLIPPANT**, *a.* [*W. flippanu*, to make smooth or glib, from *lib*, *lipa*, flaccid, soft, limber; allied to *flabby*, and to *glib*, and probably to *L. labor*, to slide or slip, and to *liber*, free. *Class. Lb.*]
1. Of smooth, fluent and rapid speech; speaking with ease and rapidity; having a voluble tongue; talkative.
2. Pert; petulant; wagish.  
Away with *flippant* epilogues. *Thomson.*
- FLIPPANTLY**, *adv.* Fluently; with ease and volubility of speech.
- FLIPPANTNESS**, *n.* Fluency of speech; volubility of tongue; flippancy.  
[This is not a low, vulgar word, but well authorized and peculiarly expressive.]
- FLIRT**, *v. t.* *flurt*. [This word evidently belongs to the root of *L. flore*, or *ploro*, signifying to throw, and coming with *blurt*. *Qui Sax. flardian*, to trifle.]
1. To throw with a jerk or sudden effort or exertion. The boys *flirt* water in each other's faces. He *flirted* a glove or a handkerchief.
2. To toss or throw; to move suddenly; as, to *flirt* a fan.
- FLIRT**, *v. i.* To jeer or gibe; to throw harsh or sarcastic words; to utter contemptuous language, with an air of disdain.
2. To run and dart about; to be moving hastily from place to place; to be unsteady or fluttering. The girls *flirt* about the room or the street.
- FLIRT**, *n.* A sudden jerk; a quick throw or cast; a darting motion.  
In unfurling the fan are several little *flirts* and vibrations. *Addison.*
2. A young girl who moves hastily or frequently from place to place; a pert girl.  
Several young *flirts* about town had a design to cast us out of the fashionable world. *Addison.*
- FLIRT**, *a.* Pert; wanton. *Shak.*
- FLIRTATION**, *n.* A flirting; a quick sprightly motion. *Shak.*
2. Desire of attracting notice. [*A cant word.*] *Addison.*
- FLIRTED**, *pp.* Thrown with a sudden jerk.
- FLIRTING**, *ppr.* Throwing; jerking; tossing; darting about; rambling and changing place hastily.
- FLIT**, *v. t.* [*D. sliden*, to fly or flee; *Dan. flyder*, *Sw. flyta*, to flow, to glide away; *Dan. flyter*, *Sw. flytta*, to remove; *Ice. flidur*, swift. This word coincides in elements with *Heb. Ch. Syr. ʔṣṣ*. *Class. Ld.* No. 43. It is undoubtedly from the same root as *Reel*, which see.]