

6. In a low tone; with a feeble voice; as, to speak *faintly*.

7. Without spirit or courage; timorously.

He *faintly* now declines the fatal strife.

Deuham.

FA'INTNESS, *n.* The state of being faint; loss of strength, color and respiration.

2. Feebleness; languor; want of strength.

Hooker.

3. Inactivity; want of vigor.

Spenser.

4. Feebleness, as of color or light.

5. Feebleness of representation; as *faintness* of description.

6. Feebleness of mind; timorousness; dejection; irresolution.

I will send a *faintness* into their hearts.

Lev. xxvi.

FAINTS, *n. plu.* The gross fetid oil remaining after distillation, or a weak spirituous liquor that runs from the still in rectifying the low wines after the proof spirit is drawn off; also, the last runnings of all spirits distilled by the alembic.

Encyc. Edwards, W. Ind.

FA'INTY, *a.* Weak; feeble; languid.

Dryden.

FAIR, *a.* [*Sax. feger; Sw. fager; Dan. fæver.* If the sense is primarily to open, to clear, to separate, this word may belong to the root of *Sax. faga, Dan. fejr, D. veegon, G. fegen*, to sweep, scour, furbish.]

1. Clear; free from spots; free from a dark hue; white; as a *fair skin*; a *fair complexion*. Hence,

2. Beautiful; handsome; properly, having a handsome face.

Thou art a *fair woman* to look upon.

Gen. xii.

3. Pleasing to the eye; handsome or beautiful in general.

Thus was he *fair* in his greatness, in the length of his branches. *Ezek. xxxi.*

4. Clear; pure; free from feculence or extraneous matter; as *fair water*.

5. Clear; not cloudy or overcast; as *fair weather*; a *fair sky*.

6. Favorable; prosperous; blowing in a direction towards the place of destination; as a *fair wind* at sea.

7. Open; direct, as a way or passage. You are in a *fair way* to promotion. Hence, likely to succeed. He stands as *fair* to succeed as any man.

8. Open to attack or access; unobstructed; as a *fair mark*; a *fair butt*; *fair* in sight; in *fair sight*; a *fair view*.

9. Open; frank; honest; hence, equal; just; equitable. My friend is a *fair man*; his offer is *fair*; his propositions are *fair* and honorable.

10. Not effected by insidious or unlawful methods; not foul.

He died a *fair* and natural death. *Temple.*

11. Frank; candid; not sophistical or insidious; as a *fair disputant*.

12. Honest; honorable; mild; as opposed to insidious and compulsory; as, to accomplish a thing by *fair means*.

13. Frank; civil; pleasing; not harsh.

When *fair words* and good counsel will not prevail on us, we must be frightened into it.

Le Etrange.

14. Equitable; just; merited.

His doom is *fair*.

That dust I am, and shall to dust return.

Milton.

15. Liberal; not narrow; as a *fair livelihood*. *Carew.*

16. Plain; legible; as, the letter is written in a *fair hand*.

17. Free from stain or blemish; unspotted; untarnished; as a *fair character* or fame.

FAIR, *adv.* Openly; frankly; civilly; complaisantly.

One of the company spoke him *fair*.

L'Estrange.

2. Candidly; honestly; equitably. He promised *fair*.

3. Happily; successfully.

Shak.

4. On good terms; as, to keep *fair* with the world; to stand *fair* with one's companions.

To bid *fair*, is to be likely, or to have a fair prospect.

Fair and square, just dealing; honesty.

FAIR, *n.* *Elliptically*, a fair woman; a handsome female. *The fair*, the female sex.

2. Fairness; applied to things or persons. [*Not in use.*]

FAIR, *n.* [*Fr. foire; W. fair; Arm. foar.*

foer, feir, or for; L. forum, or feria. The

It, *feria*, and *Sp. feria*, a fair, are the *L. feria*,

a holiday, a day exempt from labor;

G. feier, whence *feiern*, to rest from labor.

If *fair* is from *forum*, it may coincide in origin

with *Gr. φορὸν, εμποροῦμα*, to trade,

whence *εμπορὸν, emporium*, the primary sense of which is to pass. In Norman

French we find *fair* and *feire*. If *fair* is

from *feria*, it is so called from being held

in places where the wakes or feasts at

the dedication of churches were held, or

from the feasts themselves. It is a fact

that Sundays were formerly market-

days.]

A stated market in a particular town or city; a stated meeting of buyers and sellers for trade. A fair is annual or more frequent.

The privilege of holding fairs is granted by the king or supreme power.

Among the most celebrated *fairs* in Europe are those of Francfort and Leipsic in Germany; of Novi in the Milanese; of Riga and Archangel in Russia; of Lyons and St. Germain in France. In Great Britain many towns enjoy this privilege.

Encyc.

FAIR-HAND, *a.* Having a fair appearance.

Shak.

FAIRING, *n.* A present given at a fair.

Gay.

FAIRLY, *adv.* Beautifully; handsomely.

[*Little used.*]

2. Commodiously; conveniently; as a town

fairly situated for foreign trade.

3. Frankly; honestly; justly; equitably;

without disguise, fraud or prevarication.

The question was *fairly* stated and argued.

Let us deal *fairly* with all men.

4. Openly; ingenuously; plainly. Let us

deal *fairly* with ourselves or our own

hearts.

5. Candidly.

I interpret *fairly* your design. *Dryden.*

6. Without perversion or violence; as, an inference may be *fairly* deduced from the premises.

7. Without blots; in plain letters; *fairly* legibly; as an instrument or record *fairly* written.

8. Completely; without deficiency. His antagonist fought till he was *fairly* defeated.

9. Softly; gently. *Milton.*

FA'IRNESS, *n.* Clearness; freedom from spots or blemishes; whiteness; as the *fairness* of skin or complexion.

2. Clearness; purity; as the *fairness* of water.

3. Freedom from stain or blemish; as the *fairness* of character or reputation.

4. Beauty; elegance; as the *fairness* of form.

5. Frankness; candor; hence, honesty; ingenuousness; as *fairness* in trade.

6. Openness; candor; freedom from disguise, insidiousness or prevarication; as the *fairness* of an argument.

7. Equality of terms; equity; as the *fairness* of a contract.

8. Disinctness; freedom from blots or obscurity; as the *fairness* of hand-writing; the *fairness* of a copy.

FA'IR-SPOKEN, *a.* Using fair speech; bland; civil; courteous; plausible.

Atius, a fair-spoken man.

Hooker.

FA'IRY, *n.* [*G. fee; Fr. fée*, whence *feer*,

to enchant, *feerie*, a *faery land*, *It. fata*.

The origin of this word is not obvious,

and the radical letters are uncertain. The

conjectures of Baxter, Jamieson and others

throw no satisfactory light on the sub-

ject.]

1. A *faury*; an imaginary being or spirit, supposed to assume a human form, dance in meadows, steal infants and play a variety of pranks. [See *Elf* and *Demon*.]

Locke. Pope.

2. An enchantress. *Shak.*

Fairy of the mine, an imaginary being supposed to inhabit mines, wandering about in the drifts and chambers, always employed in cutting ore, turning the windlass, &c., yet effecting nothing. The Germans believe in two species; one fierce and malevolent; the other gentle. [See *Cobalt*.]

Encyc.

Fairy ring or circle, a phenomenon observed in fields, vulgarly supposed to be caused by fairies in their dances. This circle is

of two kinds; one about seven yards in diameter, containing a round bare path, a

foot broad, with green grass in the middle; the other of different size, encompassed with grass.

Encyc.

FA'IRY, *a.* Belonging to fairies; as *faury land*.

Shak.

2. Given by fairies; as *faury money* or favors. *Dryden. Locke.*

FA'IRYLIKE, *a.* Imitating the manner of fairies. *Shak.*

FA'IRYSTONE, *n.* A stone found in gravel pits.

Johnson.

The fossil echinite, abundant in chalk pits. *Cyc.*

FAITH, *n.* [*W. fwy; Arm. feiz; L. fides; It. fede; Port. and Sp. fe; Fr. foi; Gr. πίστις; L. fido*, to trust; *Gr. πείθομαι*, to persuade, to draw towards anything, to conciliate; *αἰσθάνομαι*, to believe, to obey.

In the Greek Lexicon of Hederic it is said, the primitive signification of the verb is to bind and draw or lead, as *πείθομαι* signifies a rope or cable, as does *αἰσθάνομαι*.

But this remark is a little incorrect. The sense of the verb, from which that of rope