

COW-WEED, *n.* A plant of the genus *Chenopodium*, or *chervil*.

COW-WHEAT, *n.* A plant of the genus *Melampyrum*.

COWARD, *n.* [Fr. *coward*; Arm. *couhard*; Sp. and Port. *cobarde*. The original French orthography was *culeart*, and it has been supposed to be from *culum vertere*, to turn the tail. This suggestion receives countenance from the corresponding word in Italian, *codardo*, *codartus*, which would seem to be from *codre*, the tail; and it derives confirmation from the use of the word in heraldry. In Welsh, it is *cagan*, *cagri*, from the same root as *L. caco*.]

1. A person who wants courage to meet danger; a poltroon; a timid or pusillanimous man.

A coward does not always escape with disgrace, but sometimes loses his life. *South.*

2. In heraldry, a term given to a lion borne in the escutcheon with his tail doubled between his legs. *Encyc.*

COWARD, *a.* Destitute of courage; timid; base; as a *coward* wretch.

2. Proceeding from or expressive of fear, or timidity; as *coward* cry; *coward* joy.

Shak. Prior.

COWARDICE, *n.* [Fr. *cowardise*; Sp. *cobardía*.] Want of courage to face danger; timidity; pusillanimity; fear of exposing one's person to danger.

Cowardice alone is loss of fame. *Dryden.*
Did cowardice; did injustice ever sink?

COWARDLIKE, *a.* Resembling a coward; mean.

COWARDLINESS, *n.* Want of courage; timidity; cowardice.

COWARDLY, *a.* Wanting courage to face danger; timid; timorous; fearful; pusillanimous. *Bacon.*

2. Mean; base; befitting a coward; as a *cowardly* action.

3. Proceeding from fear of danger; as *cowardly* silence. *South.*

COWARDLY, *adv.* In the manner of a coward; meanly; basely. *Knolles.*

COWARDOUS, *a.* Cowardly. [Not used.] *Barret.*

COWARDSHIP, *n.* Cowardice. [Not used.] *Shak.*

COWER, *v. i.* [W. *cuerian*, to squat, or cower; *cwr*, a circle; G. *kauern*. See Class Gr. No. 32. 34. 37.]

To sink by bending the knees; to crouch; to squat; to stoop or sink downwards.

Our dame sits *cowering* o'er a kitchen fire. *Dryden.*

COWER, *v. t.* To cherish with care. [Not used.] *Spenser.*

COWISH, *a.* Timorous; fearful; cowardly. [Little used.] *Shak.*

COWL, *n.* [contracted from Sax. *cugle*, *cugle*; L. *oculus*; Fr. *cocail*; Sp. *cogulla*; Port. *cogula*, *cucula*.]

1. A monk's hood, or habit, worn by the Bernardines and Benedictines. It is either white or black.

What differ more, you cry, than crown and cowl? *Pope.*

2. A vessel to be carried on a pole betwixt two persons, for the conveyance of water. *Johnson.*

COWL-STAFF, *n.* A staff or pole on which a vessel is supported between two persons. *Suckling.*

COWLED, *a.* Wearing a cowl; hooded; in shape of a cowl, as a *cowled* leaf.

COW-LIKE, *a.* Resembling a cow. *Pope.*

COW-WORKER, *n.* One that works with another; a co-operator.

COWRY, *n.* A small shell, the *Cyprea moneta*, used for coin in Africa and the East Indies.

COX-COMB, *n.* [*cock's comb*.] The top of the head. *Shak.*

2. The comb resembling that of a cock, which licensed fools wore formerly in their caps. *Shak.*

3. A top; a vain showy fellow; a superficial pretender to knowledge or accomplishments. *Dryden. Pope.*

4. A kind of red flower; a name given to a species of *Celosia*, and some other plants.

COX-COMBLY, *a.* Like a coxcomb. [Not used.] *Beaumont.*

COX-COMICAL, *a.* Foppish; vain; conceited; a *cox* word.

COY, *a.* [Fr. *coi*, or *coy*, quiet, still, contracted probably from the *L. quiesco* or its root, or from *cautus*.]

Modest; silent; reserved; not accessible; shy; not easily condescending to familiarity.

Like *Daphne* she, as lovely and as *coy*. *Wallar.*

COY, *v. i.* To behave with reserve; to be silent or distant; to refrain from speech or free intercourse. *Dryden.*

2. To make difficulty; to be backward or unwilling; not freely to condescend. *Shak.*

3. To smooth or stroke. *Shak.*

COY, for *decoy*, to allure. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

COYISH, *a.* Somewhat coy, or reserved; *COYLY*, *adv.* With reserve; with dissimulation to familiarity. *Chapman.*

COYNES, *n.* Reserve; unwillingness to become familiar; disposition to avoid free intercourse, by silence or retirement.

When the kind nymph would *coyness* feign, And hides but to be found again. *Dryden.*

COYS'TREL, *n.* A species of degenerate hawk. *Dryden.*

COZ, *a.* A contraction of *cousin*. *Shak.*

COZEN, *v. t.* *cu'z'n*. [Qu. Arm. *cozycyn*, *couchiein*, *concheza*, to cheat, or to waste and fitter away. In Russ. *koznodni* is a cheat. Qu. *chou*, *cheat*.]

1. To cheat; to defraud.

He that suffers a government to be abused by carelessness and neglect, does the same thing with him that corruptly sets himself to *cozen* it. *L'Estrange.*

2. To deceive; to beguile.

Children may be *cozened* into a knowledge of the letters. *Locke.*

COZENAGE, *n.* Cheat; trick; fraud; deceit; artifice; the practice of cheating. *Dryden. Swift.*

COZENED, *pp.* Cheated; defrauded; beguiled.

COZENER, *n.* One who cheats, or defrauds.

COZENING, *ppr.* Cheating; defrauding; beguiling.

CRA, *n.* [Sax. *crabba* and *hrefen*; Sw. *krabba*; Dan. *krabbe*, *krabs*; D. *krab*, *krabbe*; G. *krabbe*, *krabs*; Fr. *creviceuse*; W. *crab*, claws; *cravure*, a crab; *cravu*, to scratch; Gr. *καράβος*; L. *carabus*. It may be allied to the Ch. כרב *kerab*, to plow,

Eng. to *grave*, *engrave*, L. *scribo*, Gr. *γράφω*, literally, to scrape or scratch. See Class Rh. No. 30. 18. &c.]

1. A crustaceous fish, the cray-fish, Cancer, a genus containing numerous species. They have usually ten feet, two eyes, pedunculated, elongated and movable. To this genus belong the lobster, the shrimp, &c.

2. A wild apple, or the tree producing it; so named from its rough taste.

3. A peevish morose person. *Johnson.*

4. A wooden engine with three claws for lanching ships and heaving them into the dock. *Philips.*

5. A pillar used sometimes for the same purpose as a cupstap. *Mar. Dict.*

6. Cancer, a sign in the zodiac.

Crab's claws, in the materia medica, the tips of the claws of the common crab; used as absorbents. *Encyc.*

Crab's eyes, in pharmacy, concretions formed in the stomach of the cray-fish. They are rounded on one side, and depressed and situated on the other, considerably heavy, moderately hard, and without smell. They are absorbent, discutient and diuretic. *Encyc.*

Crab-like, small insects that stick fast to the skin.

CRA, *a.* Sour; rough; austere. [Qu. *crab*, supra, or L. *acerbus*.]

CRA-APPLE, *n.* A wild apple. [See *Crab*, No. 2.]

CRA-GRASS, *n.* A genus of plants, the *Digitaria*. *Muhlenberg.*

CRA-TREE, *n.* The tree that bears crabs. *Shak.*

CRA-YAWS, *n.* The name of a disease in the West Indies, being a kind of ulcer on the soles of the feet, with hard callous lips. *Encyc.*

CRA-BED, *a.* [from *crab*.] Rough; harsh; austere; sour; peevish; morose; cynical; applied to the temper. *Shak.*

2. Rough; harsh; applied to things.

3. Difficult; perplexing; as a *crabbed* author or subject. *Dryden.*

CRA-BEDDLY, *adv.* Peevishly; roughly; morosely; with perplexity. *Johnson.*

CRA-BEDDNESS, *n.* Roughness; harshness.

2. Sourness; peevishness; asperity.

3. Difficulty; perplexity.

CRA-BBY, *a.* Difficult. *Mozon.*

CRA-BER, *n.* The water-rat. *Watton.*

CRA'K, *v. t.* [Fr. *cracker*; D. *kraken*; G. *krachen*; Dan. *krakke*; It. *crocare*; W. *rhacian*; Sp. *rajaz*; Port. *rachar*; probably from the root of *break*, *uwerk*, and coinciding with the Gr. *επικραω*, *epikraō*; also with Eng. *crank*, *croak*. The W. has also *crig*, a crack, from *rhig*, a notch. *Queen*. See Class Gr. No. 34.]

1. To rend, break, or burst into chinks; to break partially; to divide the parts a little from each other; as, to *crack* a board or a rock; or to break without an entire severance of the parts; as, to *crack* glass, or ice.

2. To break in pieces; as, to *crack* nuts.

3. To break with grief; to afflict deeply; to pain; to torture; as, to *crack* the heart.

We now use *break*, or *rend*. *Shak.*

4. To open and drink; as, to *crack* a bottle of wine. [Low.]