

BUTCHERLY, *a.* [from *butcher*.] Cruel; savage; murderous; grossly and clumsily barbarous. *Shak.*

BUTCHER'S-BROOM, *n.* *Ruscus*; a genus of plants, called also knee-holly. It is used by butchers for brooms to sweep their blocks. *Encyc.*

BUTCHERY, *n.* The business of slaughtering cattle for the table or for market. *Pope.*

2. Murder, especially murder committed with unusual barbarity; great slaughter. *Shak. Dryden.*

3. The place where animals are killed for market; a shambles, or slaughter-house; also, a place where blood is shed. *Shak.*

BUTLER, *n.* [Fr. *boutellier*, from *bouteille*, a bottle, that is, the bottler; fr. *buil-leir*, a butler, from *buidel*, *boide*, a bottle.]

A servant or officer in the houses of princes and great men, whose principal business is to take charge of the liquors, plate, &c. Formerly, an officer in the court of France, being the same as the grand echanson or great cup-bearer of the present times. *Encyc.*

BUTLERAGE, *n.* A duty of two shillings on every tun of wine imported into England by foreigners or merchant strangers. It was a composition for the privileges granted to them by king John and Edward I., and originally received by the crown; but it has been granted to certain noblemen. It was called *butlerage*, because originally paid to the king's butler for the king. *Blackstone. Encyc.*

BUTLERSHIP, *n.* The office of a butler. Gen. xl. 21.

BUTMENT, *n.* [Old Fr. *aboutement*, from *bout*, but, end.]

1. A buttress of an arch; the supporter, or that part which joins it to the upright pier. *Johnson. Encyc.*

2. The mass of stone or solid work at the end of a bridge, by which the extreme arches are sustained. The mass of stone at the end of a timber bridge, without arches, is called by the same name. It is written also *abutment*.

BUT/SHAFT, *n.* [but and shaft.] An arrow to shoot at butts with. *B. Johnson.*

BUTT, *n.* [See *Butt*.] Literally, end, furthest point. Hence, a mark to be shot at; the point where a mark is set or fixed to be shot at. *Dryden.*

2. The point to which a purpose or effort is directed. *Shak.*

3. The object of aim; the thing against which an attack is directed. *Clarendon.*

Hence,

4. The person at whom ridicule, jests or contempt are directed; as the *butt* of ridicule. *Spectator.*

5. A push or thrust given by the head of an animal, as the *butt* of a ram; also, a thrust in fencing.

6. A cask whose contents are 126 gallons of wine, or two hogheads; called also a pipe. A butt of beer is 108 gallons, and from 1500 to 2200 weight of currants is a butt. [Sax. *butle* or *bylt*; Sp. *bola*.] *Johnson.*

7. The end of a plank in a ship's side or bottom. *Mar. Dict.*

8. A particular kind of hinge for doors, &c.

BUTT, *v. i.* [W. *puttias*, to butt, to thrust; It. *buttare*; Sp. *botar*; Port. *botar*, to thrust, or throw; Fr. *balle*, a ball; a thrust; from the same root probably as *but*, *butt*, *L. peto*.] To thrust the head forward; to strike by thrusting the head against, as an ox or a ram. *Wotton. Dryden.*

BUTTER, *n.* [Sax. *buter*, *butera*; D. *boter*; Ger. *butter*; L. *butyrum*; Gr. *βούτυρον*.] An oily substance obtained from cream or milk by churning. Agitation separates the fat or only part of milk from the thin or serous part, called *butter-milk*.

Butter, in the old chemistry, was applied to various preparations; as, *Butter of antimony*, now called the sublimated muriate of antimony, and made by distilling a mixture of corrosive sublimate and the regulus.

Butter of arsenic, sublimated muriate of arsenic, made by a like process.

Butter of bismuth, sublimated muriate of bismuth.

Butter of tin, sublimated muriate of tin.

Butter of zinc, sublimated muriate of zinc.

Fourcroy.

Butter of cacao, is an oily concrete white matter obtained from the cacao nut, made by bruising the nut and boiling it in water. *Nicholson.*

Butter of wax, the oleaginous part of wax, obtained by distillation, and of a butyraceous consistence. *Nicholson.*

BUTTER, *v. t.* To sneer with butter.

2. To increase the stakes at every throw or every game; a cant term among gamblers. *Johnson.*

BUTTER-BUMP, *n.* The bittens. *Johnson.*

BUTTER-BURR, *n.* A plant, a species of *Tussilago*, or Colt's-foot, called *petasites*, growing in wet land, with large leaves.

Fam. of Plants. Encyc.

BUTTER-CUPS, *n.* A name given to a species of *Ranunculus* or crow-foot, with bright yellow flowers; called also golden-cup. *Fam. of Plants. Lec.*

BUTTER-FLOWER, *n.* A yellow flower. *Gay.*

BUTTERFLY, *n.* [from the color of a yellow species.]

Papilio, a genus of insects, of the order of lepidoptera. They have four wings imbricated with a kind of downy scales; the tongue is convoluted in a spiral form; and the body is hairy. The species are numerous. Butter-flies proceed from the crystals of caterpillars; caterpillars hatched from eggs deposited by butterflies; they then change into crystalids, which produce butterflies, which again deposit their eggs.

BUTTERFLY-SHELL, *n.* A genus of testaceous molluscs, with a spiral unilocular shell; called *voluta*. *Encyc.*

BUTTERIS, *n.* An instrument of steel set in wood, for paring the hoof of a horse. *Farrier's Dict.*

BUTTER-MILK, *n.* The milk that remains after the butter is separated from it. *Johnson* calls this *wey*; but *wey* is the thin part of the milk after the curd or cheese is separated. Butter-milk in America is not called *wey*.

BUTTERNUT, *n.* [butter and nut.]

The fruit of an American tree, the *Juglans*

cinerea; so called from the oil it contains. The tree bears a resemblance, in its general appearance, to the walnut, or black walnut, so called. It is sometimes called oibnut and white walnut. The tree is called also butternut or butternut-tree. Dr. M. Cutler calls it *Juglans Cathartica*. *Beltknap.*

BUTTER-PRINT, *n.* A piece of carved wood, used to mark cakes of butter.

BUTTER-STAMP, *n.* A broad fore tooth. *Johnson.*

BUTTER-WIFE, *n.* A woman who sells butter. *Johnson.*

BUTTER-WOMAN, *n.* A species of *Pinguicula*, a plant growing on bogs or soft grounds. The leaves are covered with soft pellicled prickles, which secrete a glutinous liquor; and milk, in which these are steeped, or washed, acquires, in a day or two, consistency, and is an agreeable food, used in the north of Sweden. *Encyc.*

BUTTERY, *a.* [from *butter*.] Having the qualities or appearance of butter. *Harvey.*

BUTTERY, *n.* An apartment in a house, where butter, milk, provisions and utensils are kept. In some colleges, a room where liquors, fruit and refreshments are kept for sale to the students.

BUT TOCK, *n.* The ramp, or the protuberant part behind.

2. The convexity of a ship behind, under the stern. *Mar. Dict.*

BUTTON, *n.* *but'n.* [Fr. *bouton*, a button, a bud; W. *button*, or *bouton*; Corn. *bottun*; It. *botone*; Sp. *boton*, a button or bud; from the root of *bud*, that is, a push or protuberance. See *Butt*.]

1. A knob; a small ball; a catch, used to fasten together the different parts of dress, made of metal, silk, mohair, wood, &c.

2. Any knob or ball fastened to another body; a small protuberant body. *Boyle. Pope.*

3. A bud; a gem of a plant. *Shak.*

4. The button of the reins of a bridle, is a ring of leather, with the reins passed through, which runs along the length of the reins. *Encyc.*

5. A flat piece of wood, turning on a nail or screw, to fasten doors.

6. A small round mass of metal, found at the bottom of a crucible, in chemical experiments. *Nicholson.*

7. The sea-urchin, an animal which has prickles instead of feet. *Linnaeus.*

BUTTON, *v. t.* *but'n.* To fasten with a button, or buttons; to inclose, or make secure with buttons; often followed with *up*, as to *button up* a waistcoat.

2. To dress or clothe. [Not used.]

BUTTON-HOLE, *n.* The hole or loop in which a button is caught.

BUTTON-MAKER, *n.* One whose occupation is to make buttons.

BUTTON-STONE, *n.* A species of figured stone, or hard flint, resembling a button, consisting of two bodies which appear to be the filling up of holes in a shell. A species has been found finely striated, like a mohair button. This name is given also to a species of slate found in the marquise of Bareith. *Encyc.*