

ral, and a Welshman *Cymro*, and their country *Cymru*, of which the adjective is *Cymreig*, and the name of their language, *Cymraeg*. They are supposed to be the *Cimbri* of Jutland. *Owen*.

WELT, *n.* [*W. gwald*, from *gwai*, a fence, a wall; *gwaliau*, to inclose; *gwald*, to hem. See *Wall*.]

A border; a kind of hem or edging, as on a garment or piece of cloth, or on a shoe. *Bacon*.

WELT, *v. t.* To furnish with a welt; to sew on a border.

WELTER, *v. i.* [*Sax. wæltan*; *Sw. wältra*; *G. walzen*; *Dan. wæller*; allied probably to *wallow*, *L. voluto*.]

To roll, as the body of a animal; but usually, to roll or wallow in some foul matter; as, to *welter* in blood or in filth. *Dryden*.

WELTERING, *ppr.* Rolling; wallowing; as in mire, blood, or other filthy matter.

WEM, *n.* [*Sax.*] A spot; a scar. *Obs.*

WEM, *v. t.* [*Sax. wemman*.] To corrupt. *Obs.*

WEN, *n.* [*Sax. wenn*; *D. wen*; *Arm. guennaen*, a wart.]

An encysted swelling or tumor; also, a fleshy excrescence growing on animals, sometimes to a large size. *Cyc.*

WENCH, *n.* [*Sax. wencle*. *Qu. G. wenig*, little.]

1. A young woman. [*Little used*.]

2. A young woman of ill fame. *Sidney*.

3. In *America*, a black or colored female servant; a negress. *Donne*.

WENCH, *v. i.* To frequent the company of women of ill fame. *Addison*.

WENCHER, *n.* A lowd man. *Grew*.

WENCHING, *ppr.* Frequenting women of ill fame.

WEND, *v. i.* [*Sax. wendan*.] To go; to pass to or from. [Obsolete, except in poetry; but its preterit, *went*, is in common use.]

2. To turn round. *Obs.* [*Wend* and *wind* are from the same root.]

WENNEL, *n.* A weasel. [See *Wencel*.] *Obs.*

WEN/NISH, } *a.* [from *wen*.] Having the nature of a wen.

WEN/NY, }

WENT, *pret.* of the obsolete verb *wend*. We now arrange *went* in grammar as the preterit of *go*, but in origin it has no connection with it.

WEPT, *pret.* and *pp.* of *weep*.

When he had come near, he beheld the city and *wept* over it. *Luke xix.*

WERE, *pron.* *wer*, which when prolonged, becomes *ware*. This is used as the imperfect tense plural of *be*; we *were*, you *were*, they *were*; and in some other tenses. It is the Danish verb *werer*, to be, to exist, *Sw. vara*, and in origin has no connection with *be*, nor with *was*. It is united with *be*, to supply its want of tenses, as *went* is with *go*.

WERE, *n.* A dam. [See *Wear*.]

WEREGILD, *n.* [*Sax. wer*, man, and the estimated value of a man, and *gild*, gold, money.]

Formerly, the price of a man's head; a compensation paid for a man killed, partly to the king for the loss of a subject, and partly to the lord of the vassal, and partly to the next of kin. It was paid by the murderer. *Blackstone*.

WERNERIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Werner, the German mineralogist, who arranged minerals in classes, &c. according to their external characters.

WERNERITE, *n.* A mineral, regarded by Werner as a subspecies of scapolite; called foliated scapolite. It is named from that distinguished mineralogist, Werner. It is found massive, and crystalized in octahedral prisms with four sided pyramidal terminations, disseminated in rocks of grayish or red felspar. It is imperfectly lamellar, of a greenish, grayish, or olive green color, with a pearly or resinous luster. It is softer than felspar, and melts into a white enamel.

WERT, the second person singular of the subjunctive imperfect tense of *be*. [See *Were*.]

WERTH, *worth*, in names, signifies a farm, court or village, from *Sax. weorthig*.

Lyc. Dict.

WESL, for *weasand*. [Not in use.]

WEST, *n.* [*Sax. D. G. west*; *Dan. vest*; *Sw. vester*; *Fr. ouest*. This word probably signifies decline or full, or departure; as in *L. occident*, and in other cases. In elements, it coincides with *waste*.]

1. In strictness, that point of the horizon where the sun sets at the equinox, or any point in a direct line between the spectator or other object, and that point of the horizon; or west is the intersection of the prime vertical with the horizon, on that side where the sun sets. *West* is directly opposite to *east*, and one of the cardinal points. In a less strict sense, west is the region of the hemisphere near the point where the sun sets when in the equator. Thus we say, a star sets in the *west*, a meteor appears in the *west*, a cloud rises in the *west*.

2. A country situated in the region towards the sun-setting, with respect to another. Thus in the United States, the inhabitants of the Atlantic states speak of the inhabitants of Ohio, Kentucky or Missouri, and call them people of the *west*; and formerly, the empire of Rome was called the empire of the *West*, in opposition to the empire of the *East*, the seat of which was Constantinople.

WEST, *a.* Being in a line towards the point where the sun sets when in the equator; or in a looser sense, being in the region near the line of direction towards that point, either on the earth or in the heavens.

This shall be your *west* border. *Num. xxxiv.*

2. Coming or moving from the west or western region; as a *west* wind.

WEST, *adv.* To the western region; at the westward; more westward; as, Ireland lies *west* of England.

WEST, *v. i.* To pass to the west; to set, as the sun. [Not in use.] *Chaucer*.

WESTERING, *a.* Passing to the west. [I believe not now used.] *Milton*.

WESTERLY, *a.* Being towards the west; situated in the western region; as the *westerly* parts of England. *Graunt*.

2. Moving from the westward; as a *westerly* wind.

WESTERLY, *adv.* Tending, going or moving towards the west; as a man traveling *westerly*.

WESTERN, *a.* [*west* and *Sax. arn*, place.]

1. Being in the west, or in the region nearly in the direction of west; being in that quarter where the sun sets; as the *western* shore of France; the *western* ocean.

2. Moving in a line to the part where the sun sets; as, the ship makes a *western* course.

WESTING, *n.* Space or distance westward; or departure; as the *westing* and southing of a ship.

WESTWARD, *adv.* [*Sax. westward*; *west* and *weard*, *L. versus*.]

Towards the west; as, to ride or sail *westward*.

WESTWARDLY, *adv.* In a direction towards the west; as, to pass *westwardly*.

WET, *a.* [*Sax. wat*; *Sw. wata*, *Dan. vade*, moisture, *Gr. vatos*; *L. udus*.]

1. Containing water, as *wet* land, or a *wet* cloth; or having water or other liquid upon the surface, as a *wet* table. *Wet* implies more water or liquid than *moist* or *humid*.

2. Rainy; as *wet* weather; a *wet* season.

WET, *n.* Water or wetness; moisture or humidity in considerable degree. Wear thick shoes or pattens to keep your feet from the *wet*.

2. Rainy weather; foggy or misty weather. *Swift*.

WET, *v. t.* *pret.* and *pp. wet*. But *wetted* is sometimes used. [*Sax. watan*; *Sw. wata*; *Dan. vader*.]

1. To fill or moisten with water or other liquid; to sprinkle or humectate; to cause to have water or other fluid adherent to the surface; to dip or soak in liquor; as, to *wet* a sponge; to *wet* the hands; to *wet* cloth.

Wet the thirsty earth with falling show'rs. *Milton*.

2. To moisten with drink. *Walton*.

WETTER, *n.* [*Sax. wether* or *wedder*. In *Dan. vader* is a ram.] A ram castrated.

WETNESS, *n.* The state of being wet, either by being soaked or filled with liquor, or by having a liquid adherent to the surface; as the *wetness* of land; the *wetness* of a cloth. It implies more water or liquid than *humidity* or *moisture*.

2. A watery or moist state of the atmosphere; a state of being rainy, foggy or misty; as the *wetness* of weather or the season.

WETTISH, *a.* Somewhat wet; moist; humid.

WEX, *v. t.* or *i.* To grow; to wax. [Not to be used.] [See *Wax*.]

WEZAND, for *weasand*. [See the latter.]

[NOTE.—In words beginning with *wh*, the letter *h*, or aspirate, when both letters are pronounced, precedes the sound of *w*. Thus *whot*, *when*, are pronounced *hwot*, *hwen*. So they were written by our ancestors, and so they ought to be written still, as they are by the Danes and Swedes.]

WHACK, *v. t.* To strike. This is probably the primary word on which is formed *thwack*. [See *Twit*.] *Whack* is a vulgar word.

WHALE, *n.* [*Sax. hwal*, *hwal*; *G. wall-fisch*, from *wallen*, to stir, agitate or rove; *D. walvisch*; *Sw. Dan. hval*. This fish is named from roundness, or from rolling;