

BUTTON-TREE, *n.* The *Conocarpus*, called also button-wood, a genus of plants, natives of the West-Indies.

Fam. of Plants. Encyc.

BUTTON-WEED, *n.* A genus of plants, the *Spermacoce*.

Fam. of Plants.

BUTTON-WOOD, *n.* The *Cephalanthus*, a shrub of N. America, growing five or six feet high.

Encyc.

2. The *Platanus Occidentalis*, Western plane-tree, a large tree growing in N. America, producing rough balls, from which it is named. The wood is hard, and used for windlasses, wheels and blocks.

Belknap. Mease.

BUT-TRESS, *n.* [This word appears to be composed of *but*, end, and *truss*, or some word of that family.]

1. A prop; a wall or abutment built arch-wise, serving to support another wall on the outside, when very high or loaded with a heavy superstructure.

Encyc. South.

BUT-TRESS, *v. t.* To support by a buttress; to prop.

BUT-TRESSED, *a.* Supported with a buttress.

Hard.

BUTTS, *n. plu.* [from *butt*.] A place where archers meet to shoot at mark. Also, short pieces of land in arable ridges and furrows.

Encyc. Johnson.

BUT-YR-WINK, *n.* A bird.

Johnson.

BUTYRA/COUS, { [from *butyrum*, but-
{ *a. ter.*] Having the
qualities of butter; resembling butter.

Encyc. Nicholson. Floyer.

BUX/OM, *a.* [Sax. *bocum*, from *bog*, a bow, *bugan*, to bend, and *sum*, some-]

Obs.

1. Obedient; obsequious; ready to obey.

Obs. Milton.

2. Gay; lively; brisk.

3. Wanton; jolly.

Dryden.

BUX/OMLY, *adv.* Obediently.

Obs.

BUX/OMNESS, *n.* Meekness; obedience.

Chaucer.

2. Briskness; amorousness.

BUY, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *bought*, pron. *buot*.

[Sax. *bigan*, or *byegan*, *bygan*; Goth. *bugan*, to buy.]

1. To acquire the property, right or title to any thing, by paying a consideration or an equivalent in money. It differs from *barter* only in this, that in *barter* the consideration or equivalent is some species of commodity; in *purchase*, the consideration is money paid or promised. To purchase; to acquire by paying a price to the satisfaction of the seller; opposed to *sell*.

2. To procure by a consideration given, or by something that is deemed worth the thing bought; to procure at a price; as, to *buy* pleasure with praise; to *buy* favor with flattery.

Denham.

3. To bribe; to corrupt or pervert the judgment, by paying a consideration.

To *buy off*, to influence to compliance; to cause to bend or yield by some consideration, as to *buy off* conscience; to detach by a consideration given, as to *buy off* one from a party.

To *buy out*, to buy off, or detach from.

Shak.

2. To purchase the share or shares of a person in a stock, fund, or partnership, by which the seller is separated from the company, and the purchaser takes his place;

as, *A buys out B*. To purchase stock in any fund or partnership, is to *buy in*.

To *buy on credit*, is to purchase a thing, on a promise in fact or in law, to make payment at a future day.

To *buy the refusal*, is to give money for the right of purchasing at a fixed price at a future time.

To *buy the small pox*, in South Wales, is to receive it by inoculation.

Encyc.

In popular language, to *buy* is to pay dear for, as in Chaucer.

BUY, *v. i.* To negotiate, or treat about a purchase.

I will buy with you and sell with you.

Shak. Wotton.

BUYER, *n.* One who buys; a purchaser.

BUYING, *ppr.* Purchasing.

BUZZ, *v. i.* [It. *buzzicare*, to whisper; Pers. *بزدان* *bazidan*, to blow as wind.]

1. To make a low hissing sound, as bees; to make the sound of *z*, with an expiration of breath between the tongue and the roof of the mouth or upper teeth.

2. To whisper; to speak with a low hissing voice; to make a low hissing sound.

Shak. Hayward.

BUZZ, *v. t.* To whisper; to spread, as report, by whispers, or to spread secretly.

Bedley.

BUZZ, *n.* The noise of bees; also, a whisper.

South. Bacon.

BUZZ/ARD, *n.* [D. *buznard*; G. *bussard*, *bushard*; It. *bozzago*; Fr. *buze*, *buse* or *bused*; Pers. *باز* *hawk*.]

1. A species of falco, or hawk, the *buteo*; a rapacious, but sluggish bird; the breast usually of a yellowish white; the upper parts of a deep brown. In some parts of America, it is called the great *Hen-hawk*.

2. A block-head; a dunce.

Pennant. Encyc. Johnson.

BUZZ/ARD, *a.* Senseless; stupid.

Milton.

BUZZARDET, *n.* A species of Falco or hawk, resembling the buzzard in most respects; but its legs are in proportion rather longer.

Pennant.

BUZZ/ER, *n.* A whisperer; one who is busy in telling tales secretly.

Shak.

BUZZ/ING, *ppr.* Making a low hissing sound; whispering; tattling in secret.

BY, *prep.* [Sax. *be* or *big*; Goth. *bi*; Sw. and Dan. *be*; D. *by*; G. *bei*; all contracted from *big*. This word in composition is often written *be*, as in *because*, *besiege*. In Sw. and Dan. it is used only in composition. The Sw. and Dan. *pa*, and Russ. *po*, may be from a different root, although they are nearly allied in signification, and may be the same word differently written. This preposition occurs as a prefix in all the Sclenetic languages, contracted indeed into 2. See the Introduction. The primary sense is, *pressing, close, near, at*; but in Goth. and Sax. it signifies also, *about, according to, on, with, against, after, &c.* In some of these senses, it coincides with the Russ. *po*. The original verb to which this word belongs, most probably signifies to pass, to go, or come, to drive, to press.]

1. Near; close; as, *sit by me*; that house stands *by* a river. So in *It. presso*, from *L. pressus*; Fr. *pres*, *appres*.

2. Near, in motion; as, to move, go or pass *by* a church. But it seems, in other phrases, or with a verb in the past time, to signify *past*, gone beyond. "The procession is gone *by*;" "the hour is gone *by*;" "John went *by*;" "we now use *past* as an equivalent word. The procession is gone *past*. *Gone by* is in strictness tautology, as now used; but I apprehend *by* signifies primarily *near*.

3. Through, or with, denoting the agent, means, instrument or cause; as, "a city is destroyed *by* fire;" "profit is made *by* commerce;" "to take *by* force." This use answers to that of the Latin *per*, through, denoting a passing, acting, agency, or instrumentality.

4. "Day *by* day;" "year *by* year" "article *by* article." In these phrases, *by* denotes passing from one to another, or each particular separately taken.

5. "By the space of seven years." In this phrase, *by* denotes through, passing or continuing, during.

6. "By this time, the sun had risen." The word here seems to denote, *at, present or come to*.

7. According to; as, "this appears *by* his own account;" "these are good rules to live *by*."

8. On; as, "to pass *by* land or water;" "great battles *by* sea and land." In the latter phrase, *at* or *on* might be substituted for *by*.

9. It is placed before words denoting quantity, measure or proportion; as, to sell *by* the pound; to work *by* the rod or perch; this line is longer *by* a tenth.

10. It is used to represent the means or instrument of swearing, or affirming; as, to swear *by* heaven, or *by* earth; to affirm *by* all that is sacred.

11. In the phrase, "he has a cask of wine *by* him," *by* denotes nearness or presence.

12. "To sit *by* one's self" is to sit alone, or without company.

13. "To be present *by* attorney." In this phrase, *by* denotes means or instrument; through or in the presence of a substitute.

14. In the phrase, "North *by* West," the sense seems to be north *passing* to the west, inclining or going westward, or near west.

As an adverb, *by* denotes also nearness, or presence; as, there was no person *by*, at the time. But some noun is understood. So in the phrase, "to pass or go *by*," there is a noun understood.

By and *by* is a phrase denoting nearness in time; in a short time after; presently; soon.

When persecution ariseth, because of the word, *by* and *by*, he is offended. Math. xiii.

By the *by* signifies, as we proceed or pass, [Fr. *en passant*], noting something interposed in the progress of a discourse, which is distinct from the main subject. The old phrase, "on the *by*," on the passage, is now obsolete.

To stand *by*, is to stand near, or to support.

By, in *lullaby*, and in the nursery, a word used in lulling infants to sleep, is evidently allied to words found in many languages.