

the other, consisting of thin laminae. The feathers which cover the body are called the *plumage*; the feathers of the wings are adapted to flight.

2. Kind; nature; species; from the proverbial phrase, "Birds of a feather," that is, of the same species. [*Unusual*.]  
I am not of that feather to shake off.

My friend, when he most needs me. *Shak.*

3. An ornament; an empty title.

4. On a horse, a sort of natural frizzling of the hair, which, in some places, rises above the lying hair, and there makes a figure resembling the tip of an ear of wheat. *Far. Dict.*

A feather in the cap, is an honor, or mark of distinction.

FEATHER, *v. t.* To dress in feathers; to fit with feathers, or to cover with feathers.

2. To tread as a cock. *Dryden.*

3. To enrich; to adorn; to exalt.

The king cared not to plume his nobility and people, to feather himself. *Bacon.*

To feather one's nest, to collect wealth, particularly from emoluments derived from agencies for others; a proverb taken from birds which collect feathers for their nests.

FEATHER-BED, *n.* A bed filled with feathers; a soft bed.

FEATHER-DRIVER, *n.* One who beats feathers to make them light or loose. *Derham.*

FEATHERED, *pp.* Covered with feathers; enriched.

2. A clothed or covered with feathers. A fowl or bird is a feathered animal.

Rise from the ground like feathered Mercury. *Shak.*

3. Fitted or furnished with feathers; as a feathered arrow.

4. Smoothed, like down or feathers. *Scott.*

5. Covered with things growing from the substance; as land feathered with trees. *Core.*

FEATHEREDGE, *n.* An edge like a feather.

FEATHEREDGE, *n.* *er.*

A board that has one edge thinner than the other, is called featheredge stuff. *Moxon.*

FEATHEREDGED, *a.* Having a thin edge.

FEATHER-FEW, a corruption of feather.

FEATHER-GRASS, *n.* A plant, gramin.

FETHER-GRASS, *n.* plumose.

Johnson.

FEATHERLESS, *a.* Destitute of feathers;

FETHERLESS, *a.* unfledged. *Hewel.*

FEATHERLY, *a.* Resembling feathers.

FETHERLY, *a.* [Not used.] *Brown.*

FEATHER-SELLER, *n.* One who sells feathers for beds.

FEATHERY, *a.* Clothed or covered with feathers. *Milton.*

2. Resembling feathers.

FEATLY, *adv.* [from feat.] Neatly; dextrously; adroitly. [*Little used*.]

Shak. Dryden.

FEATNESS, *n.* [from feat.] Dexterity; adroitness; skillfulness. [*Little used*.]

FEATURE, *n.* [Norm. *facture*; L. *factura*, a making, from *facio*, to make; It. *factura*.]

1. The make, form or cast of any part of the face; any single lineament. We speak of

large features or small features. We see a resemblance in the features of a parent and of a child.

2. The make or cast of the face.

Report the feature of Octavia, her years. *Shak.*

3. The fashion; the make; the whole turn or cast of the body.

4. The make or form of any part of the surface of a thing, as of a country or landscape.

5. Lineament; outline; prominent parts; as the features of a treaty.

FEATURED, *a.* Having features or good features; resembling in features. *Shak.*

FEAZE, *v. t.* To untwist the end of a rope. *Ainsworth.*

FEBRIFACIENT, *a.* [L. *febris*, a fever, and *facio*, to make.] Causing fever.

*Beddos.*

FEBRIFACIENT, *n.* That which produces fever. *Beddos.*

FEBRIFIC, *a.* [L. *febris*, fever, and *facio*, to make.] Producing fever; feverish.

FEBRIFUGE, *n.* [L. *febris*, fever, and *fugo*, to drive away.]

Any medicine that mitigates or removes fever. *Encyc.*

FEBRIFUGE, *a.* Having the quality of mitigating or subduing fever; antifebrile. *Arbuthnot.*

FEBRILE, *a.* [Fr. from L. *febrilis*, from *febris*, fever.]

Pertaining to fever; indicating fever, or derived from it; as febrile symptoms; febrile action.

FEBRUARY, *n.* [L. *Februarius*; Fr. *Fevrier*; It. *Febbraio*; Sp. *Febrero*; Arm. *Fever*; Port. *Fevereiro*; Ir. *Feabhra*; Russ. *Febral*. The Latin word is said to be named from *februus*, to purify by sacrifice, and thus to signify the month of purification, as the people were, in this month, purified by sacrifices and oblations. The word *februus* is said to be a Sabine word, connected with *ferreo*, ferbo, to boil, as boiling was used in purifications. *Varro. Ovid.*

This practice bears a resemblance to that of making atonement among the Jews; but the connection between *ferreo* and *February* is doubtful. The W. *quever*, February, Arm. *hewer*, Corn. *hweal*, are from W. *quever*, violence; the severe month.]

The name of the second month in the year, introduced into the Roman calendar by Numa. In common years, this month contains 28 days; in the bissextile or leap year, 29 days.

FEBRUATION, *n.* Purification. [*See February*.]

Spenser.

FECAL, *a.* [*See Feces*.] Containing or consisting of dregs, lees, sediment or excrement.

FECES, *n. plu.* [L. *faeces*.] Dregs; lees; sediment; the matter which subsides in casks of liquor. *Arbuthnot.*

FECIAL, *a.* [L. *fecialis*.] Pertaining to heralds and the denunciation of war to an enemy; as fecial law. *Kent.*

FECULA, *n.* The green matter of plants; chlorophyl. *Ure.*

2. Starch or farina; called also *amylaceous fecula*.

This term is applied to any pulverulent matter obtained from plants by simply breaking down the texture, washing with water, and subsidence. Hence its application to starch and the green fecula, though entirely different in chemical properties. *Cyc.*

FECULENCE, *n.* [L. *faculentia*, from

FECULENCY, *n.* *faecula, faeces, faex, dregs.*

1. Muddiness; foulness; the quality of being foul with extraneous matter or lees.

2. Lees; sediment; dregs; or rather the substances mixed with liquor, or floating in it, which, when separated and lying at the bottom, are called lees, dregs or sediment. The refining or fining of liquor is the separation of it from its feculencies.

FECULENT, *a.* Foul with extraneous or impure substances; muddy; thick; turbid; abounding with sediment or excrementitious matter.

FECULUM, *n.* [from *faeces*, supra.] A dry, dusty, tasteless substance obtained from plants. *Fourcroy, Trans.*

[This should be fecula.]

FECOND, *a.* [L. *fecundus*, from the root of *fatet*.] Fruitful in children; prolific. *Grant.*

FECONDATE, *v. t.* To make fruitful or prolific.

2. To impregnate; as, the pollen of flowers fecundates the stigma. *Anacharsis, Trans.*

FECONDATED, *pp.* Rendered prolific or fruitful; impregnated.

FECONDATING, *ppr.* Rendering fruitful; impregnating.

FECUNDATION, *n.* The act of making fruitful or prolific; impregnation.

FECUNDIFY, *v. t.* To make fruitful; to fecundate. [*Little used*.]

FECUNDITY, *n.* [L. *fecunditas*.] Fruitfulness; the quality of producing fruit; particularly, the quality in female animals of producing young in great numbers.

2. The power of producing or bringing forth. It is said that the seeds of some plants retain their fecundity forty years. *Ray.*

3. Fertility; the power of bringing forth in abundance; richness of invention.

FED, *pret.* and *pp.* of feed, which see.

FEDERAL, *a.* [from L. *foedus*, a league, allied perhaps to Eng. *vead*, Sax. *weodan*, L. *vas, radis, vador, radimonium*. See *Helb. Ch. Syr.* 22; to pledge, Class Bd. No. 25.]

1. Pertaining to a league or contract; derived from an agreement or covenant between parties, particularly between nations.

The Romans, contrary to federal right, compelled them to part with Sardinia. *Grew.*

2. Consisting in a compact between parties, particularly and chiefly between states or nations; founded on alliance by contract or mutual agreement; as a federal government, such as that of the United States.

3. Friendly to the constitution of the United States. [*See the Noun.*]

FEDERAL, *n.* An appellant in

FEDERALIST, *n.* America, given to the friends of the constitution of the United States, at its formation and adoption, and to the political party which favored