

Belgie is now applied to the Netherlands, called also Flanders, or that part of the Low Countries which formerly belonged to the house of Austria.

BELIAL, *n.* [Heb. בְּלִיָּה.] As a noun, unprofitableness; wickedness. As an adjective, worthless; wicked. In a colloquial sense, wicked men. *Parkhurst.*

BELI-BEL, *v. t.* [be and libel.] To libel or traduce. [Not used.] *Fuller.*

BELIE, *v. t.* [be and lie. Sax. *beliegan*, to believe and lie, to lig, or lyg, a lie; D. *beliegen*; Ger. *belügen*, to belie. See *Live*.]

1. To give the lie to; to show to be false; to charge with falsehood; as, the heart *belies* the tongue. It is rarely used of declarations; but of appearances and facts which show that declarations, or certain appearances and pretences are false and hypocritical. Hence,

2. To counterfeit; to mimic; to feign resemblance.

With dust, with horse's hoofs, that beat the ground,
And martial brass, *belie* the thunder's sound.

Dryden.

3. To give a false representation.

Should I do so, I should *belie* my thoughts.

Shak.

4. To tell lies concerning; to calumniate by false reports.

Thou dost *belie* him, Percy.

Shak.

5. To fill with lies.

Slander doth *belie* all corners of the world.

Shak.

BELIED, *pp.* Falsely represented either by word or obvious evidence and indication; counterfeited; mimicked.

BELIEF, *n.* [Sax. *geloef*, leave, license, permission, consent, assent, belief, faith or trust; *geloefan*, *geloefan*, *geloefian*, *geloefan*, to believe; *loefan*, to leave and to live. From these words, it appears that *belief* is from the root of *leave*, permission, assent; Sax. *loef*, leave and *belief*, files; *loef*, permission, license; written also *lif* and *lufa*; *lyfan*, to permit; D. *geloof*, G. *glaube*, belief, credit, faith; *gelooven*, *glauben*, to believe; Dan. *bedøve*, to promise; D. *oorlof*, *verlof*, leave, permission; G. *urlaub*, leave, *urlauben*. The primary sense of *believe* is to throw or put to, or to assent to; to leave with or to rest on; to rely. See *Leave* and *Live*.]

1. A persuasion of the truth, or an assent of mind to the truth of a declaration, proposition or alleged fact, on the ground of evidence, distinct from personal knowledge; as the *belief* of the gospel; *belief* of a witness. *Belief* may also be founded on internal impressions, or arguments and reasons furnished by our own minds; as the *belief* of our senses; a train of reasoning may result in *belief*. *Belief* is opposed to *knowledge* and *sense*.

2. In *theology*, faith, or a firm persuasion of the truths of religion.

No man can attain [to] *belief* by the bare contemplation of heaven and earth. *Hooker.*

3. Religion; the body of tenets held by the professors of faith.

In the heat of persecution, to which christian *belief* was subject, upon its first promulgation.

Hooker.

4. In some cases, the word is used for persuasion or opinion, when the evidence is

not so clear as to leave no doubt; but the shades of strength in opinion can hardly be defined, or exemplified. Hence the use of qualifying words; as a *firm*, *full* or *strong belief*.

5. The thing believed; the object of belief.

Superstitious prophecies are the *belief* of fools. *Bacon.*

6. A creed; a form or summary of articles of faith. In this sense, we generally use *Cred*.

BELIEVABLE, *a.* That may be believed; credible. *Sherwood.*

BELIEVE, *v. t.* To credit upon the authority or testimony of another; to be persuaded of the truth of something upon the declaration of another, or upon evidence furnished by reasons, arguments, and deductions of the mind, or by other circumstances, than personal knowledge. When we *believe* upon the authority of another, we always put confidence in his veracity. When we *believe* upon the authority of reasoning, arguments, or a concurrence of facts and circumstances, we rest our conclusions upon their strength or probability, their agreement with our own experience, &c.

2. To expect or hope with confidence; to trust.

I had fainted, unless I had *believed* to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Ps. xxvii.

BELIEVE, *v. i.* To have a firm persuasion of any thing. In some cases, to have full persuasion, approaching to certainty; in others, more doubt is implied. It is often followed by *in* or *on*, especially in the scriptures. *To believe in*, is to hold as the object of faith. "Ye believe in God, *believe* also to me." John xiv. *To believe on*, is to trust, to place full confidence in, to rest upon, with faith. "To them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that *believe* on his name." John i. *John*. But there is no ground for much distinction.

In *theology*, to *believe* sometimes expresses a mere assent of the understanding to the truths of the gospel; as in the case of Simon. Acts viii. In others, the word implies, with this assent of the mind, a yielding of the will and affections, accompanied with a humble reliance on Christ for salvation. John i. 12. iii. 15.

In popular use, and familiar discourse, to *believe* often expresses an opinion in a vague manner, without a very exact estimate of evidence, noting a mere preponderance of opinion, and is nearly equivalent to *think* or *suppose*.

BELIEVED, *pp.* Credited; assented to, as true.

BELIEVER, *n.* One who believes; one who gives credit to other evidence than that of personal knowledge.

2. In *theology*, one who gives credit to the truth of the scriptures, as a revelation from God. In a more restricted sense, a professor of christianity; one who receives the gospel, as unfolding the true way of salvation, and Christ, as his Savior.

In the primitive church, those who had been instructed in the truths of the gospel and baptized, were called *believers*; in distinction from the *catechumens*, who were

under instruction, as preparatory to baptism and admission to church privileges.

Encyc.

BELIEVING, *ppr.* Giving credit to testimony or to other evidence than personal knowledge.

BELIEVINGLY, *adv.* In a believing manner.

BELIKE, *adv.* [be and like.] Probably; likely; perhaps. [Nearly antiquated.]

BELIKELY, *adv.* Probably. [Not used.] *Hall.*

BELIVE, *adv.* [See *Live*.] Speedily; quickly. *Obs.* *Spenser.*

BELL, *n.* [Sax. *bell*, *bellan*, *belle*, so named from its sound; G. *bellan*, to bawl, or bellow; W. *ballaw*; G. *bellan*; D. *id.*; coinciding with *baawa* and *pello*. See *Peal*.]

1. A vessel or hollow body, used for making sounds. Its constituent parts are a barrel or hollow body, enlarged or expanded at one end, an ear or cannon by which it is hung to a beam, and a clapper on the inside. It is formed of a composition of metals. Bells are of high antiquity. The blue tunic of the Jewish High Priest was adorned with golden bells; and the kings of Persia are said to have the hem of their robe adorned with them in like manner. Among the Greeks, those who went the nightly rounds in camps or garrisons, used to ring a bell, at each sentinel-box, to see that the soldier on duty was awake. Bells were also put on the necks of criminals, to warn persons to move out of the way of so ill an omen, as the sight of a criminal or his executioner; also on the necks of beasts and birds, and in houses. In churches and other public buildings, bells are now used to notify the time of meeting of any congregation or other assembly. *Encyc.*

In private houses, bells are used to call servants, either hung and moved by a wire, or as hand-bells. Small bells are also used in electrical experiments.

2. A hollow body of metal, perforated, and containing a solid ball, to give sounds when shaken; used on animals, as on horses or hawks.

3. Any thing in form of a bell, as the cup or calyx of a flower.

To bear the bell, is to be the first or leader, in allusion to the bell-wether of a flock, or the leading horse of a team or drove, that wears bells on his collar.

To shake the bells, a phrase of Shakspeare, signifies to move, give notice or alarm.

BELL, *v. i.* To grow in the form of bells, as buds or flowers.

BELL-FASHIONED, *a.* Having the form of a bell. *Mortimer.*

BELL-FLOWER, *n.* [bell and flower.] A genus of plants, so named from the shape of the corol or flower which resembles a bell, L. *Campanula*, a genus of monogynian pentanders, comprehending many species.

BELL-FOUNDER, *n.* [bell and founder.] A man whose occupation is to found or cast bells.

BELL-MAN, *n.* [bell and man.] A man who rings a bell, especially to give notice of any thing in the streets.

BELL-METAL, *n.* [bell and metal.] A mixture of copper and tin, in the proportion