

oners of war are considered and treated as *slaves*. The *slaves* of modern times are more generally purchased, like horses and oxen.

2. One who has lost the power of resistance; or one who surrenders himself to any power whatever; as a *slave* to passion, to lust, to ambition. *Waller.*

3. A mean person; one in the lowest state of life.

4. A drudge; one who labors like a slave.

SLAVE, *v. i.* To drudge; to toil; to labor as a slave.

SLAVEBORN, *a.* Born in slavery.

SLAVELIKE, *a.* Like or becoming a slave.

SLAVER, *n.* [the same as *slabber*.] *Saliva* driveling from the mouth. *Pope.*

SLAVER, *v. i.* To suffer the spittle to issue from the mouth.

2. To be besmeared with saliva. *Shak.*

SLAVER, *v. t.* To smear with saliva issuing from the mouth; to defile with drivel.

SLAVERED, *pp.* Defiled with drivel.

SLAVERER, *n.* A driveler; an idiot.

SLAVERING, *ppr.* Letting fall saliva.

SLAVERY, *n.* [See *Slave*.] Bondage; the state of entire subjection of one person to the will of another.

Slavery is the obligation to labor for the benefit of the master, without the contract or consent of the servant. *Paley.*

Slavery may proceed from crimes, from captivity or from debt. Slavery is also *voluntary* or *involuntary*; *voluntary*, when a person sells or yields his own person to the absolute command of another; *involuntary*, when he is placed under the absolute power of another without his own consent. Slavery no longer exists in Great Britain, nor in the northern states of America.

2. The offices of a slave; drudgery.

SLAVE-TRADE, *n.* [*slave* and *trade*.] The barbarous and wicked business of purchasing men and women, transporting them to a distant country and selling them for slaves.

SLAVISH, *a.* Pertaining to slaves; servile; mean; base; such as becomes a slave; as a *slavish* dependence on the great.

2. Servile; laborious; consisting in drudgery; as a *slavish* life.

SLAVISHLY, *adv.* Servilely; meanly; basely.

2. In the manner of a slave or drudge.

SLAVISHNESS, *n.* The state or quality of being slavish; servility; meanness.

SLAVONIC, *a.* Pertaining to the Slavons or ancient inhabitants of Russia.

SLAVONIC, *n.* The Slavonic language.

SLAY, *v. t.* pret. *slew*; pp. *slain*. [*Sax. slagan, slagan*; Goth. *slahan*; G. *schlagen*; D. *slaan*; Sw. *slå*; Dan. *slaa*, to strike, to kill. The proper sense is to strike, and as beating was an early mode of killing, this word, like *smite*, came to signify to kill. It seems to be formed on the root of *lay*; as we say, to *lay on*.]

1. To kill; to put to death by a weapon or by violence. We say, he *slew* a man with a sword, with a stone, or with a club, or with other arms; but we never say, the sheriff *slays* a malefactor with a halber, or a man is *slain* on the gallows or by poison.

So that *slay* retains something of its primitive sense of *striking* or *beating*. It is particularly applied to killing in battle, but is properly applied also to the killing of an individual man or beast.

2. To destroy.

SLAYER, *n.* One that slays; a killer; a murderer; an assassin; a destroyer of life.

SLAYING, *ppr.* Killing; destroying life.

SLEAVE, *n.* [*Ice. slefu*.] The knotted or entangled part of silk or thread; silk or thread untwisted. *Drayton.*

SLEAVE, *v. t.* To separate threads; or to divide a collection of threads; to sleigh; a word used by weavers.

SLEAVED, *a.* Raw; not spun or wrought. *Holinshead.*

SLEAZY, { *a.* [probably from the root of
SLEEZY, { *a.* loose; Sax. *lysan*, *alysan*, to loose.]

Thin; flimsy; wanting firmness of texture or substance; as *sleazy* silk or muslin.

SLED, *n.* [D. *sleede*; G. *schlitten*; Sw. *slåde*; Dan. *slæde*; W. *ysled*; probably from *sliding* or drawing.]

A carriage or vehicle moved on runners, much used in America for conveying heavy weights in winter, as timber, wood, stone and the like.

SLED, *v. t.* To convey or transport on a sled; as, to *sled* wood or timber.

SLEDDED, *pp.* Conveyed on a sled.

SLED, *v. t.* Mounted on a sled. *Shak.*

SLEDGING, *ppr.* Conveying on a sled.

SLEDGING, *n.* The act of transporting on a sled.

2. The means of conveying on sleds; snow sufficient for the running of sleds. Thus we say in America, when there is snow sufficient to run a sled, it is good *sledding*; the *sledding* is good. Sometimes in New England, there is little or no good *sledding* during the winter.

SLEDGE, *n.* [*Sax. slegge, slege*; D. *sley*; Dan. *slegge*; Sw. *slägga*; from the root of *slay*, to strike.]

1. A large heavy hammer; used chiefly by ironsmiths.

2. In England, a sled; a vehicle moved on runners or on low wheels. In this sense, the word is not used in America; but the same word is used in a somewhat different sense, and written *sligh*.

SLEEK, *a.* [D. *lecken*, to leak, to smooth or sleek; *gelekt*, made smooth; G. *schlicht*; allied to *lick*, or G. *gleich*, even, equal, like. See *Like*.]

1. Smooth; having an even smooth surface; whence, glossy; as *sleek* hair.

So *sleek* her skin, so faultless was her make—
Dryden.

2. Not rough or harsh.

Those rugged names to our like mouths grow
sleek—
Milton.

SLEEK, *n.* That which makes smooth; varnish. [*Little used*.]

SLEEK, *v. t.* To make even and smooth; as, to *sleek* the hair.

2. To render smooth, soft and glossy.

Gentle, my lord, *sleek* o'er your rugged looks.
Shak.

SLEEK, *adv.* With ease and dexterity; with exactness. [*Vulgar*.]

SLEEKLY, *adv.* Smoothly; nicely.

SLEE/KNESS, *n.* Smoothness of surface. *Feltham.*

SLEE/KSTONE, *n.* A smoothing stone. *Peacham.*

SLEE/KY, *a.* Of a sleek or smooth appearance. [*Not in use*.] *Thomson.*

SLEEP, *v. i.* pret. and pp. *slept*. [*Sax. slepan, slæpan*; Goth. *slæpan*; G. *schlafen*; D. *slaapen*. This word seems to be allied to words which signify to rest or to relax; G. *schlaff*.]

1. To take rest by a suspension of the voluntary exercise of the powers of the body and mind. The proper time to *sleep* is during the darkness of night.

2. To rest; to be unemployed; to be inactive or motionless; as, the sword *sleeps* in its sheath.

3. To rest; to lie or be still; not to be noticed or agitated. The question *sleeps* for the present.

4. To live thoughtlessly.

We *sleep* over our happiness—
Atterbury.

5. To be dead; to rest in the grave for a time. 1 Thess. iv.

6. To be careless, inattentive or unconcerned; not to be vigilant. *Shak.*

SLEEP, *n.* That state of an animal in which the voluntary exertion of his mental and corporeal powers is suspended, and he rests unconscious of what passes around him, and not affected by the ordinary impressions of external objects. Sleep is generally attended with a relaxation of the muscles, but the involuntary motions, as respiration and the circulation of the blood, are continued. The mind is often very active in sleep; but its powers not being under the control of reason, its exercises are very irregular. Sleep is the natural rest or repose intended by the Creator to restore the powers of the body and mind, when exhausted or fatigued.

Sleep of plants, a state of plants at night, when their leaves droop or are folded.

Linne.

SLEEPER, *n.* A person that sleeps; also, a drone or lazy person. *Grew.*

2. That which lies dormant, as a law not executed. [*Not in use*.] *Bacon.*

3. An animal that lies dormant in winter, as the bear, the marmot, &c. *Encyc.*

4. In building, the oblique rafter that lies in a gutter. *Encyc.*

5. In New England, a floor timber.

6. In ship-building, a thick piece of timber placed longitudinally in a ship's hold, opposite the several scarfs of the timbers, for strengthening the bows and stern-frame, particularly in the Greenland ships; or a piece of long compass-timber stayed and bolted diagonally upon the transoms. *Mar. Dict.* *Encyc.*

7. In the glass trade, a large iron bar crossing the smaller ones, hindering the passage of coals, but leaving room for the ashes. *Encyc.*

8. A platform.

9. A fish. [*exocetus*.] *Ainsworth.*

SLEEPFUL, *a.* Strongly inclined to sleep. [*Little used*.]

SLEEPFULNESS, *n.* Strong inclination to sleep. [*Little used*.]

SLEEPILY, *adv.* Drowsily; with desire to sleep.

2. Dully; in a lazy manner; heavily. *Ralcligh.*