

oats or barley bound together; a bundle of stalks or straw.

—The reaper fills his greedy hands,

And binds the golden *sheaves* in brittle bands.

Dryden.

2. Any bundle or collection; as a *sheaf* of arrows.

Dryden.

SHEAF, *v. t.* To collect and bind; to make sheaves.

Shak.

SHEAL, to *shell*, not used.

Shak.

SHEAR, *v. t.* pret. *sheared*; pp. *sheared* or *shorn*. The old pret. *shore* is entirely obsolete. [Sax. *scetran*, *scyrn*, *sciran*, to shear, to divide, whence *share* and *shire*; G. *scheren*, to shear or shave, and to vex, to rail, to jeer; *schier dich weg*, get you gone; *schier dich aus dem wege*, move out of the way; D. *scheeren*, to shave, shear, banter, stretch, warp; *de gek scheeren*, to play the fool; *zig weeg scheeren*, to *sheer off*; Dan. *skierer*, to cut, carve, saw, hew; *skierts*, a jest, jeer, banter; *skierlsce*, to sport, mock, jeer; Sw. *skära*, to reap, to mow, to cut off, to cleanse, to rinse; Sans. *schaura* or *chaura*, to shave; W. *ysgar*, a part, a *share*; *ysgariav*, to separate. The Greek has *ἐφαρειν*, to shave, and *ξερω*, to shave, shear, cut off or lay waste. The primary sense is to separate or force off in general; but a prominent signification is to separate by rubbing, as in *scouring*, or as in *shaving*, cutting close to the surface. Hence the sense of *jeering*, as we say, to give one the *rub*. See *Scour* and Class Gr. No. 5. and 8.]

1. To cut or clip something from the surface with an instrument of two blades; to separate any thing from the surface by shears, scissors or a like instrument; as, to *shear* sheep; to *shear* cloth. It is appropriately used for the cutting of wool from sheep or their skins, and for clipping the nap from cloth, but may be applied to other things; as, a horse *shears* the ground in feeding much closer than an ox.

2. To separate by shears; as, to *shear* a fleece.

3. To reap. [Not in use.] *Scottish.*

Gower.

SHEAR, *v. i.* To deviate. [See *Sheer*.]

SHE'ARBILL, *n.* [*shear* and *bill*.] A fowl, the black skimmer or cut-water. (*Rhyncops nigra*.)

Encyc.

SHEARD, *n.* A shard. [See *Shard*.]

SHE'ARED, *pp.* Clipped; deprived of wool, hair or uap.

SHE'ARER, *n.* One that shears; as a *shearer* of sheep.

Milton.

SHEARMAN, *n.* *sher'man*. One whose occupation is to shear cloth.

SHEARS, *n. plu.* [from the verb.] An instrument consisting of two blades with a bevel edge, movable on a pin, used for cutting cloth and other substances by interception between the two blades. Shears differ from scissors chiefly in being larger.

Fate urg'd the *shears* and cut the sylph in twain.

Pope.

2. Something in the form of the blades of shears.

3. Wings. [Not in use.]

Spenser.

4. An engine for raising heavy weights. [See *Shears*.]

5. The denomination of the age of sheep,

from the cutting of the teeth; as sheep of one *shear*, two *shear*, &c. [Local.]

Mortimer.

SHE'AR-WATER, *n.* A fowl. [*Larus niger*.]

Ainsworth.

A species of petrel, (*Procellaria puffinus*, Linn.) found on the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland.

Encyc.

The cut-water, (*Rhyncops nigra*.)

Bartram.

SHEAT. [See *Sheet*.]

SHE'AT-FISH, *n.* [G. *scheide*, Cuvier.] A fish, a species of *Silurus*, having a long slimy body destitute of scales, and the back dusky, like that of the eel.

Dict. Nat. Hist.

SHEATH, *n.* [Sax. *scæth*, *scæthe*; G. *scheide*; D. *scheede*; from separating, G. *scheiden*, D. *scheien*, Sax. *scædan*. See *Shade*.]

1. A case for the reception of a sword or other long and slender instrument; a scabbard. A *sheath* is that which separates, and hence a defense.

2. In *botany*, a membrane investing a stem or branch, as in grasses.

Martyn.

3. Any thin covering for defense; the wing-case of an insect.

SHEATH, } *v. t.* To put into a case or
SHEATHE, } scabbard; as, to *sheathe*
a sword or dagger.

2. To inclose or cover with a sheath or case.

The leopard—keeps the claws of his fore feet turned up from the ground, and *sheathed* in the skin of his toes.

Greiv.

'Tis in my breast she *sheathes* her dagger now.

Dryden.

3. To cover or line; as, to *sheathe* the bowels with demulcent or mucilaginous substances.

4. To obtund or blunt, as acrimonious or sharp particles.

Arbuthnot.

5. To fit with a sheath.

Shak.

6. To case or cover with boards or with sheets of copper; as, to *sheathe* a ship to preserve it from the worms.

To *sheathe* the sword, a figurative phrase, to put an end to war or enmity; to make peace. It corresponds to the Indian phrase, to *bury the hatchet*.

SHE'ATHED, *pp.* Put in a sheath; inclosed or covered with a case; covered; lined; invested with a membrane.

2. *a.* In *botany*, vaginate; invested by a sheath or cylindrical membranaceous tube, which is the base of the leaf, as the stalk or culm in grasses.

Martyn.

SHE'ATHING, *ppr.* Putting in a sheath; inclosing in a case; covering; lining; investing with a membrane.

SHE'ATHING, *n.* The casing or covering of a ship's bottom and sides; or the materials for such covering.

SHE'ATHLESS, *a.* Without a sheath or case for covering; unsheathed.

Percy's Masque.

SHE'ATH-WINGED, *a.* [*sheath* and *wing*.] Having cases for covering the wings; as a *sheath-winged* insect.

Brown.

SHE'ATHY, *a.* Forming a sheath or case.

Brown.

SHEAVE, *n.* [In D. *schyf* is a shee, a truckle, a quilt, a fillet, a draughtsman, a pane. In G. *scheibe* is a mark, a pane, a wheel, the knee-pan, a slice.]

In *seamen's language*, a wheel on which the rope works in a block. It is made of hard

wood or of metal. When made of wood, it is sometimes *bushed*, that is, has a piece of perforated brass let into its center, the better to sustain the friction of the pin.

Mar. Dict.

SHEAVE, *v. t.* To bring together; to collect. [Not in use.]

Ashmole.

SHE'AVED, *a.* Made of straw. [Not in use.]

Shak.

SHE'AVE-HOLE, *n.* A channel cut in a mast, yard or other timber, in which to fix a sheave.

Mar. Dict.

SHECK'LATON, *n.* [Fr. *ciclaton*. Chalmers.]

A kind of gilt leather. [Not in use.]

Spenser.

SHED, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *shed*. [Sax. *scedan*, to pour out. If *s* is a prefix, this word coincides in elements with D. *gielen*, to pour, to cast. G. *giessen*, Eng. *gush*. It coincides also in elements with *shoot*. See the Noun.]

1. To pour out; to effuse; to spill; to suffer to flow out; as, to *shed* tears; to *shed* blood. The sun *sheds* light on the earth; the stars *shed* a more feeble light.

This is my blood of the New Testament, which is *shed* for many for the remission of sins. Matt. xxvi.

2. To let fall; to cast; as, the trees *shed* their leaves in autumn; fowls *shed* their feathers; and serpents *shed* their skin.

3. To scatter; to emit; to throw off; to diffuse; as, flowers *shed* their sweets or fragrance.

SHED, *v. i.* To let fall its parts.

White oats are apt to *shed* most as they lie, and black as they stand.

Mortimer.

SHED, *n.* [Sax. *sced*, a shade; Sw. *skyld*, a defense; *skydda*, to protect, to defend or shelter; Dan. *skytter*, id. *skytter*, a shooter; *skyts*, a defense; *skytt*, a gun; *skyder*, to shoot; G. *schützen*, to defend; *schütze*, a shooter; D. *schullen*, to defend, to parry or stop; *schutter*, a shooter. It appears that *shed*, the noun and verb, and *shoot*, are from one source, and *shade*, *scud*, *scath*, and several other words, when traced, all terminate in the same radical sense, to thrust, rush or drive.]

1. A slight building; a covering of timber and boards, &c. for shelter against rain and the inclemencies of weather; a poor house or hovel; as a horse-*shed*.

The first *Aletes* born in lowly *shed*.

Fairfax.

Sheds of reeds which summer's heat repel.

Sandys.

2. In composition, effusion; as in blood-*shed*. [See the Verb.]

SHED, *v. t.* To keep off; to prevent from entering; as a hut, umbrella or garment that *sheds* rain.

SHED'DER, *n.* One that sheds or causes to flow out; as a *shedder* of blood.

SHED'DING, *ppr.* Effusing; causing to flow out; letting fall; casting; throwing off; sending out; diffusing; keeping off.

SHEEN, } *a.* [Sax. *scene*, *scen*, bright.
SHEENY, } This is the old orthography of shine, which see.] Bright; glittering; showy.

Up rose each warrior bold and brave,
Glistening in filed steel and armor *sheen*.

Fairfax.

[This word is used only in poetry.]

SHEEN, *n.* Brightness; splendor. *Milton.*