

In a ship, *forward* denotes toward the forepart.

FORWARD, *a.* Near or at the forepart in advance of something else; as the *forward* gun in a ship, or the *forward* ship in a fleet; the *forward* row in a team.

2. Ready; prompt; strongly inclined.

Only they know that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was *forward* to do. Gal. ii.

3. Ardent; eager; earnest; violent.

Or lead the *forward* youth to noble war.

4. Bold; confident; less reserved or modest than is proper; in an ill sense; as, the boy is too *forward* for his years.

5. Advanced beyond the usual degree; advanced for the season. The grass or the grain is *forward*, or *forward* for the season; we have a *forward* spring.

6. Quick; hasty; too ready. Be not *forward* to speak in public. Prudence directs that we be not too *forward* to believe current reports.

7. Anterior; fore.

Let us take the instant by the *forward* top.

8. Advanced; not behindhand.

FORWARD, *v. t.* To advance; to help onward; to promote; as, to *forward* a good design.

2. To accelerate; to quicken; to hasten; as, to *forward* the growth of a plant; to *forward* one in improvement.

3. To send forward; to send towards the place of destination; to transmit; as, to *forward* a letter or dispatches.

FORWARDED, *pp.* Advanced; promoted; aided in progress; quickened; sent onward; transmitted.

FORWARDER, *n.* He that promotes, or advances in progress.

FORWARDING, *ppr.* Advancing; promoting; aiding in progress; accelerating in growth; sending onwards; transmitting.

FORWARDLY, *adv.* Eagerly; hastily; quickly.

FORWARDNESS, *n.* Cheerful readiness; promptness. It expresses more than *williness*. We admire the *forwardness* of christians in propagating the gospel.

2. Eagerness; ardor. It is sometimes difficult to restrain the *forwardness* of youth.

3. Boldness; confidence; assurance; want of due reserve or modesty.

In France it is usual to bring children into company, and cherish in them, from their infancy, a kind of *forwardness* and assurance.

4. A state of advance beyond the usual degree; as the *forwardness* of spring or of corn.

FORWASTE, *v. t.* To waste; to desolate. [Not in use.]

FORWEARY, *v. t.* To dispirit. [Not in use.]

FORWEEP, *v. i.* To weep much.

FORWORD, *n.* [fore and word.] A promise. [Not in use.]

FOSS, *n.* [Fr. *fosse*; Sp. *fosa*; L. *it. fossa*; from *fossus*, *fodio*, to dig. Class Bd.]

1. A ditch or moat; a word used in fortification.

2. In anatomy, a kind of cavity in a bone, with a large aperture.

FOSSIL, *a.* [Fr. *fossile*; Sp. *fossil*; *It. fossile*; L. *fossilis*, from *fodio*, *fossus*, to dig.]

1. Dug out of the earth; as *fossil* coal; *fossil* salt. The term *fossil* is now usually appropriated to those inorganic substances, which have become penetrated by earthy or metallic particles. Thus we say, *fossil* shells, *fossil* bones, *fossil* wood.

2. That may be taken from the earth by digging.

FOSSIL, *n.* A substance dug from the earth, or penetrated with earthy or metallic particles.

Fossils are *native* or *extraneous*. *Native fossils* are minerals, properly so called, as earths, salts, combustibles and metallic bodies. *Extraneous fossils* are bodies of vegetable or animal origin accidentally buried in the earth, as plants, shells, bones and other substances, many of which are petrified.

FOSSIL-COPAL, *n.* Highgate resin; a resinous substance found in perforating the bed of blue clay at Highgate, near London. It appears to be a true vegetable gum or resin, partly changed by remaining in the earth.

FOSSILIST, *n.* One who studies the nature and properties of fossils; one who is versed in the science of fossils.

FOSSILIZATION, *n.* The act or process of converting into a fossil or petrification.

FOSSILIZE, *v. t.* To convert into a fossil; as, to *fossilize* bones or wood.

FOSSILIZE, *v. i.* To become or be changed into a fossil.

FOSSILIZED, *pp.* Converted into a fossil.

FOSSILIZING, *ppr.* Changing into a fossil.

FOSSILOGY, *n.* [fossil, and Gr. *logos*, discourse.]

A discourse or treatise on fossils; also, the science of fossils.

FOSSROAD, { *n.* A Roman military way

FOSSWAY, { *n.* in England, leading from

Tonnes through Exeter to Barton on the Humber; so called from the ditches on each side.

FOSTER, *v. t.* [Sax. *fostran*, from *foster*, a nurse or food; Sw. and Dan. *foster*, a child, one fed; Dan. *foster*, to nurse. I suspect this word to be from *food*, quasi, *foodster*, for this is the D. word, *voedster*, a nurse, from *voeden*, to feed; D. *voedsterheer*, a foster-father.]

1. To feed; to nourish; to support; to bring up.

Some say that ravens *foster* forlorn children.

2. To cherish; to forward; to promote growth. The genial warmth of spring *fosters* the plants.

3. To cherish; to encourage; to sustain and promote; as, to *foster* passion or genius.

FOSTER, *v. i.* To be nourished or trained up together.

FOSTERAGE, *n.* The charge of nursing.

FOSTER-BROTHER, *n.* A male nursed at the same breast, or fed by the same nurse.

FOSTER-CHILD, *n.* A child nursed by a woman not the mother, or bred by a man not the father.

FOSTER-DAM, *n.* A nurse; one that performs the office of a mother by giving food to a child.

FOSTER-EARTH, *n.* Earth by which a plant is nourished, though not its native soil.

FOSTERED, *pp.* Nourished; cherished; promoted.

FOSTERER, *n.* A nurse; one that feeds and nourishes in the place of parents.

FOSTER-FATHER, *n.* One who takes the place of a father in feeding and educating a child.

FOSTERING, *ppr.* Nursing; cherishing; bringing up.

FOSTERING, *n.* The act of nursing, nourishing and cherishing.

2. Nourishment.

FOSTERLING, *n.* A fosterchild.

FOSTERMENT, *n.* Food; nourishment. [Not used.]

FOSTER-MOTHER, *n.* A nurse.

FOSTER-NURSE, *n.* A nurse. [Tautological.]

FOSTER-SISTER, *n.* A female nursed by the same person.

FOSTER-SON, *n.* One fed and educated, like a son, though not a son by birth.

FOSTRESS, *n.* A female who feeds and cherishes; a nurse.

FOTHER, *n.* [G. *fuder*, a tun or load; D. *voeder*; Sax. *fother*, food, fodder, and a mass of lead, from the sense of stuffing, crowding. See *Food*.]

A weight of lead containing eight pigs, and every pig twenty one stone and a half. But the *fother* is of different weights. With the plumbers in London it is nineteen hundred and a half, and at the mines, it is twenty two hundred and a half.

FOTHER, *v. t.* [from stuffing. See the preceding word.]

To endeavor to stop a leak in the bottom of a ship, while afloat, by letting down a sail by the corners, and putting chopped yarn, oakum, wool, cotton, &c. between it and the ship's sides. These substances are sometimes sucked into the cracks and the leak stopped.

FOTHERING, *ppr.* Stopping leaks, as above.

FOTHERING, *n.* The operation of stopping leaks in a ship, as above.

FOUGADE, *n.* [Fr. *fougade*; Sp. *fogada*; from L. *foculus*.]

In the art of war, a little mine, in the form of a well, 8 or 10 feet wide, and 10 or 12 deep, dug under some work, fortification or post, charged with sacks of powder and covered with stones or earth, for destroying the works by explosion.

FOUGHT, *pret.* and *pp.* of *fight*; pron. *faul*. [See *Fight*.]

FOUGHTEN, for *fought*. Obs.

FOUL, *a.* [Sax. *ful*, *faul*; D. *vail*; G. *faul*; Dan. *faul*. In Ch. with a prefix, *ῥαῖ* nabil, to defile. The Syr. with a different prefix, *ῥαῖ* tafel, to defile. It coincides