

MOHL, *n.* A spot. [Sax. *mal*.] [Not in use.]
MOIST, *a.* [Fr. *moite*, for *moiste*; Arm. *moüst*; Russ. *moizu*, to wet. If the last radical letter is a dental, this word may belong to the family of *L. madeo*, Gr. *μαδαω*. See Class Ms. No. 1. and Class Md. No. 1.]

1. Moderately wet; damp; as a moist atmosphere or air.

Exhalation dusk and moist. *Milton.*

2. Containing water or other liquid in a perceptible degree.

MOISTEN, *v. t.* *mois'n.* To make damp; to wet in a small degree.

A pipe a little moistened on the inside.

Bacon.

His bones are moistened with marrow. *Job*

xxi.

MOIST, as a verb, is obsolete.

MOISTENED, *pp.* *mois'nd.* Made wet in a small degree.

MOISTENER, *n.* *mois'ner.* He or that which moistens.

MOISTENING, *ppr.* *mois'ning.* Wetting moderately.

MOISTFUL, *a.* Full of moisture. *Drayton.*

MOISTNESS, *n.* Dampness; a small degree of wetness. *Addison.*

MOISTURE, *n.* [Fr. *moiteur*.] A moderate degree of wetness.

Set such plants as require much moisture, on

sandy, dry grounds. *Bacon.*

2. A small quantity of any liquid; as the moisture of the body.

MOISTY, *a.* Drizzling. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

MOKES, of a net, the meshes. [Not in use.] *Ainsworth.*

MO'KY, *a.* [W. *mug*; from the root of *smoke*.]

Muggy; dark; murky. *Obs.*

MO'LAR, *a.* [L. *molaris*.] Having power to grind; grinding; as the molar teeth.

Bacon.

MOLASSES, an incorrect orthography of *melasses*.

MOLD, *n.* [Sax. *mold*, *molda*, *myl*; W. *mol*; D. Dan. *mul*; Sw. G. *mull*; probably allied to *mellow*, L. *mollis*. See *Mellow*, *Meal* and *Mill*. It is incorrectly written *mould*.]

1. Fine soft earth, or earth easily pulverized, such as constitutes soil; as black mold.

Ed. W. Indies.

A mortal substance of terrestrial mold.

Hoole.

2. A substance like down which forms on bodies which lie long in warm and damp air. The microscope exhibits this substance as consisting of small plants.

Encyc.

3. Matter of which any thing is formed. Nature formed me of her softest mold.

Addison.

MOLD, *n.* [Sp. *molde*, a mold or matrix; *moldar*, *amoldar*, to cast; Port. *molde*, *moldar*, id.; Fr. *moule*; Arm. *moul*; Dan. *mul*, *muld*; W. *mold*, whence *moldiave*, to mold, work or knead. This may be radically the same word as *mold*, fine earth; a name taken from the material of molds. The connection of *matrix* with *mater* and *matéria*, fortifies this conjecture.]

1. The matrix in which any thing is cast and receives its form. Molds are of various kinds. Molds for casting cannon and various vessels, are composed of some species of earth, particularly clay. Molds for other purposes consist of a cavity in

some species of metal, cut or formed to the shape designed, or are otherwise formed, each for its particular use.

2. Cast; form; as a writer of vulgar mold.

Waller.

3. The suture or contexture of the skull.

Ainsworth.

4. In ship-building, a thin flexible piece of timber, used as a pattern by which to form the curves of the timbers and compassing pieces.

Encyc.

5. Among gold beaters, a number of pieces of vellum or a like substance, laid over one another, between which the leaves of gold and silver are laid for beating.

Encyc.

MOLD, *v. t.* To cause to contract mold.

Knolles.

2. To cover with mold or soil.

Edwards.

MOLD, *v. i.* To contract mold; to become moldy.

Bacon.

MOLD, *v. t.* To form into a particular shape; to shape; to model.

He forgeth and moldeth metals. *Hall.*

Did I request thee, Maker, from my clay

To mold me man? *Milton.*

2. To knead; as, to mold dough or bread.

Ainsworth.

MOLDABLE, *a.* That may be molded or formed.

Bacon.

MOLDED, *pp.* Formed into a particular shape; kneaded.

2. Covered with mold.

MOLDER, *n.* He who molds or forms into shape.

MOLDER, *v. i.* [Dan. *mulner*, Sw. *multna*, to grow moldy.]

1. To turn to dust by natural decay; to crumble; to perish; to waste away by a gradual separation of the component particles, without the presence of water. In this manner, animal and vegetable substances molder, and so also do stones and shells.

When statues molder, and when arches fall.

Prior.

2. To be diminished; to waste away gradually.

If he had sat still, the enemy's army would have moldered to nothing.

Clarendon.

MOLDER, *v. t.* To turn to dust; to crumble; to waste.

Some felt the silent stroke of moldering age.

Pope.

MOLDERING, *ppr.* Turning to dust; crumbling; wasting away.

MOLDINESS, *n.* [from *moldy*.] The state of being moldy.

Bacon.

MOLDING, *ppr.* [from *mold*.] Forming into shape; kneading.

MOLDING, *n.* Any thing cast in a mold, or which appears to be so; hence, in architecture, a projecture beyond the wall, column, wainscot, &c. an assemblage of which forms a cornice, a door-case, or other decoration.

Encyc.

MOLD-WARP, *n.* [Sax. *mold* and *worpan*, to turn. See *Mole*.]

A mole; a small animal of the genus *Talpa*, that moves under ground and turns up the mold or surface of the earth.

Spenser. Carew.

MOLDY, *a.* [from *mold*.] Overgrown with mold.

Addison.

MOLE, *n.* [Sax. *mal*, *mal*; D. *maal*; G. *mahl*.]

1. A spot, mark or small permanent protuberance on the human body, from which usually issue one or more hairs.

2. [L. *mola*.] A mass of fleshy matter of a spherical figure, generated in the uterus.

Encyc.

MOLE, *n.* [L. *moles*; Fr. *mole*; W. *mol*, a heap, or *mwel*, a mass.]

1. A mound or massive work formed of large stones laid in the sea by means of coffer dams, extended either in a right line or an arch of a circle before a port, which it serves to defend from the violent impulse of the waves; thus protecting ships in a harbor. The word is sometimes used for the harbor itself.

Encyc.

2. Among the Romans, a kind of mausoleum, built like a round tower on a square base, insulated, encompassed with columns and covered with a dome.

Encyc.

MOLE, *n.* [D. *mol*; G. *maulwurf*, mold-warp; Sw. *mullsork*, *mullvad* or *mullwarpel*; Dan. *muldevarp*.]

A small animal of the genus *Talpa*, which in search of worms or other insects, forms a road just under the surface of the ground, raising the soil into a little ridge; from which circumstance it is called a mold-warp, or mold-turner. The mole has very small eyes.

Ray.

Learn of the mole to plow, the worm to weave.

Pope.

MOLE, *v. t.* To clear of mole-hills. [Local.]

Pegge.

MO'LE-BAT, *n.* A fish. *Ainsworth.*

MO'LE-CAST, *n.* A little elevation of earth made by a mole.

Mortimer.

MO'LE-CATCHER, *n.* One whose employment is to catch moles.

Tusser.

MO'LE-CRICKET, *n.* An insect of the genus *Gryllus*.

MO'LECULE, *n.* [Fr. from *molc*.] A very minute particle of matter. Molecules are elementary, constituent, or integrant. The latter result from the union of the elementary.

Dict. Nat. Hist. Fourcroy. Kirwan.

MO'LE-EYED, *a.* Having very small eyes; blind.

MO'LE-HILL, *n.* [W. *malur*.] A little hillock or elevation of earth thrown up by moles working under ground; hence proverbially, a very small hill, or other small thing, compared with a larger.

—Having leaped over such mountains, lie down before a mole-hill.

South.

MOLEST, *v. t.* [Fr. *molester*; It. *molestare*; Sp. *molestar*; from L. *molestus*, troublesome; Sp. *moler*, to grind, to molest, to vex, L. *molo*. See *Mill*.]

To trouble; to disturb; to render uneasy.

They have molested the church with needless opposition.

Hooker.

MOLESTATION, *n.* Disturbance; annoyance; uneasiness given. [It usually expresses less than *razation*.]

Brown.

MOLEST'ED, *pp.* Disturbed; troubled; annoyed.

MOLEST'ER, *n.* One that disturbs.

MOLEST'FUL, *a.* Troublesome.

MOLEST'ING, *ppr.* Disturbing; troubling.

MO'LE-TRACK, *n.* The course of a mole under ground.

Mortimer.

MO'LE-WARP, *n.* A mole. [See *Mole* and *Mold-warp*.]