

tance, or without due exercise of judgment; a gross mistake.

**BLUNDERBUSS**, *n.* [*blunder*, and *D. bus*, a tube; *Dan. bøsse*; *Sw. bössa*, a gun.]

A short gun or fire-arm, with a large bore, capable of holding a number of balls, and intended to do execution without exact aim.

**BLUNDERER**, *n.* One who is apt to blunder, or to make gross mistakes; a careless person.

**BLUNDERHEAD**, *n.* [*blunder* and *head*.] A stupid fellow; one who blunders.

**BLUNDERING**, *ppr.* Moving or acting with blind precipitance; mistaking grossly; stumbling.

**BLUNDERINGLY**, *adv.* In a blundering manner. *Levis.*

**BLUNT**, *a.* [from the root of *Gr. αὐτὸν*, to dull.]

1. Having a thick edge or point, as an instrument; dull; not sharp.

2. Dull in understanding; slow of discernment. *Shak.*

3. Abrupt in address; plain; unceremonious; wanting the forms of civility; rough in manners or speech. *Bacon.*

4. Hard to penetrate. [*Unusual.*] *Pope.*

**BLUNT**, *v. t.* To dull the edge or point, by making it thicker.

2. To repress or weaken any appetite, desire or power of the mind; to impair the force of any passion which affects the mind, or of any evil or good which affects the body; as, to blunt the edge of love, of pain, or of suffering.

Your ceaseless endeavors will be exerted to blunt the stings of pain. *Dwight.*

**BLUNTED**, *pp.* Made dull; weakened; impaired; repressed.

**BLUNTING**, *ppr.* Making dull; repressing; impairing.

**BLUNTING**, *n.* Restraint. *Taylor.*

**BLUNTLY**, *adv.* In a blunt manner; coarsely; plainly; abruptly; without delicacy, or the usual forms of civility.

**BLUNTNESS**, *n.* Want of edge or point; dullness; obtuseness; want of sharpness.

2. Coarseness of address; roughness of manners; rude sincerity or plainness.

**BLUNT WITTED**, *a.* [*blunt* and *wit*.] Dull; stupid. *Shak.*

**BLUR**, *n.* [I have not found this word in any other language, but probably it is allied to the *W. llur*, black and blue, livid, *L. luridus*.]

A dark spot; a stain; a blot, whether upon paper or other substance, or upon reputation. *South.*

**BLUR**, *v. t.* To obscure by a dark spot, or by any foul matter, without quite effacing.

2. To sully; to stain; to blench; as, to blur reputation. *Bulwer.*

**BLUR RED**, *pp.* Darkened or stained; obscured.

**BLURRING**, *ppr.* Darkening or staining; spotting.

**BLURT**, *v. t.* [Allied probably to *flirt*, to throw.]

To throw out, or throw at random, hastily, or unadvisedly; to utter suddenly or inadvertently; commonly with out, and applied to words. *Young.*

**BLUSH**, *v. i.* [*D. bloezen*; *Sw. blyas*, to blush; *Dan. blusser*, to blaze or glisten; *blusset*,

blushing; *D. blos*, a blush; *Sw. bloss*; *Dan. blus*, a torch; *Dan. blus ved*, to blush or be ashamed; *Ir. loise*, loist, flame. It implies a throwing out, or spreading. *Flash* may be taken from the same root. See *Race*.]

1. To reddening in the cheeks or face; to be suddenly suffused with a red color in the cheeks or face, from a sense of guilt, shame, confusion, modesty, diffidence or surprise; followed by *at* or *for*, before the cause of blushing; as, *blush at your vices*; *blush for your degraded country*.

In the presence of the shameless and unblushing, the young offender is ashamed to blush. *Buckminster.*

2. To bear a blooming red color, or any soft bright color; as the *blushing* rose.

He bears his blushing honors thick upon him. *Shak.*

Shakspeare has used this word in a transitive sense, to *make red*, and it may be allowable in poetry.

**BLUSH**, *n.* A red color suffusing the cheeks only, or the face generally, and excited by confusion, which may spring from shame, guilt, modesty, diffidence or surprise.

The rosy blush of love. *Trumbull.*

2. A red or reddish color.

3. Sudden appearance; a glance; a sense taken from the sudden suffusion of the face in blushing; as, a proposition appears absurd at first blush. *Locke.*

**BLUSHLET**, *n.* A young modest girl. [*Not used.*]

**BLUSHING**, *ppr.* Reddening in the cheeks or face; bearing a bright color.

**BLUSHLESS**, *a.* Unblushing; past blushing; impudent. *Mugton.*

**BLUSHY**, *a.* Like a blush; having the color of a blush. *Harvey.*

**BLUSTER**, *v. i.* [Probably allied to *blaze*, *blast*; *Dan. blusser*, to blaze, to rage.]

1. To be loud, noisy or swaggering; to bluster; to puff; to swagger; as a turbulent or boasting person.

2. To roar, and be tumultuous, as wind; to be boisterous; to be windy; to hurry.

**BLUSTER**, *n.* Noise; tumult; boasting; boisterousness; turbulence; roar of a tempest; violent wind; hurry; any irregular noise and tumult from wind, or from vanity.

**BLUSTERER**, *n.* A swaggerer; a bully; a noisy, tumultuous fellow, who makes great pretensions from vanity.

**BLUSTERING**, *ppr.* Making a noise; puffing; boasting.

**BLUSTERING**, *a.* Noisy; tumultuous; windy.

**BLUSTROUS**, *a.* Noisy; tumultuous; boastful. *Hudibras.*

**BO**, *exclam.* [*W. bee*.] A word of terror; a customary sound uttered by children to frighten their fellows.

**BOA**, *n.* A genus of serpents, of the class Amphibia, the characters of which are, the belly and tail are furnished with scuta. It includes the largest species of serpent, the *constrictor*, sometimes 30 or 40 feet long. *Cyc.*

**BOAR**, *n.* [*Sax. bar*; *Corn. bora*, a boar; *D. beer*, a bear or boar; *Ger. eber*, a boar, and a ginetel or auger; also, *eherschein*, boar-swine. *Qu. L. aper*, and *verres*; *Sans. varaha*.]

The male of swine not castrated.

**BOAR-SPEAR**, *n.* A spear used in hunting boars. *Spenser.*

**BOAR**, *v. i.* In the manege, a horse is said to *boar*, when he shoots out his nose, raising it as high as his ears, and tosses his nose in the wind. *Encyc.*

**BOARD**, *n.* [*Sax. bord* and *bred*, a board, or table; *Gods. board*; *Sw. bord*, and *bråde*; *D. board*, a board, a hen, border, margin; *Ger. bord*, a board, a brim, bank, border; and *bret*, a board, or plank; *Dan. bord*, a board, a table; *brede*, a board, or plank; and *bred*, a border; *W. berr*, a board or table; *Ir. bord*, a table, a border. This word and *board* seem to be allied in origin, and the primary sense is to open or spread, whence broad, dilated.]

1. A piece of timber sawed thin and of considerable length and breadth, compared with the thickness, used for building and other purposes.

2. A table. The table of our rude ancestors was a piece of board, perhaps originally laid upon the knees. "Laui cibum capunt; separata singulis sedes, et sua cuique mensa." The Germans wash before they eat, and each has a separate seat, and his own table. *Tacitus. De Mor. Germ. 22.*

3. Entertainment; food; diet; as, the price of board is two, five, or seven dollars a week.

4. A table at which a council or court is held; hence a council, convened for business, or any authorized assembly or meeting; as a board of directors.

5. The deck of a ship; the interior part of a ship or boat; used in the phrase, *on board*, *aboard*. In this phrase however the sense is primarily the side of the ship. *To go aboard* is to go over the side.

6. The side of a ship. [*Fr. bord*; *Sp. borda*.]

Now board to board, the rival vessels row. *Dryden.*

To fall over board, that is, over the side; the mast went by the board.

*Board* and *board*, side by side.

7. The line over which a ship runs between tack and tack. *To make a good board*, is to sail in a straight line, when close hauled.

*To make short boards*, is to tack frequently. *Mar. Dict.*

8. A table for artificers to sit or work on.

9. A table or frame for a game; as a *chess board*, &c.

10. A body of men constituting a quorum in session; a court, or council; as a board of trustees; a board of officers.

**BOARD**, *v. t.* To lay or spread with boards; to cover with boards.

2. To enter a ship by force in combat, which answers to storming a city or fort on land.

3. To attack; to make the first attempt upon a man. In *Spenser*, to accost. [*Fr. aborder*.] *Obs.* *Bacon. Shak.*

4. To place at board, for a compensation, as a lodger.

5. To furnish with food, or food and lodging, for a compensation; as, a man boards ten students.

**BOARD**, *v. i.* To receive food or diet as a lodger or without lodgings, for a compensation; as, he boards at the moderate price of two dollars a week.

**BOARDABLE**, *a.* That may be boarded, as a ship.