

long, bending like horns, and almost touching the forehead. Along the back are some weak bristles, and on the rest of the body only a sort of wool. These animals live in herds, feed on herbage, are sometimes tamed, and their flesh is well tasted. When pursued hard, they rush into the sea, swim or dive and pass from isle to isle. In the forest, they rest their heads by hooking their upper tusks on a bough.

Encyc.

BAC or BACK, n. [D. *bak*, a bowl or cistern.]

1. In navigation, a ferry-boat or pram.
2. In brewing, a large flat tub, or vessel, in which wort is cooled before boiling; hence called a cooler.
3. In distilleries, a vessel into which the liquor to be fermented is pumped, from the cooler, in order to be worked with the yeast.

BAC'CA, n. [L. *botany*, a berry; a fruit which consists of a pulpy pericarp, without valves, inclosing several naked seeds.

Milne.

BACCALAUREATE, n. [The first part of this word is from the same root as *bachelor*; or as Bailey supposes, from *bacca*, berry; and the latter part, from *laurea*, a laurel, from the practice of wearing a garland of bay berries.]

The degree of bachelor of arts.

BAC'CAT'D, a. [L. *baccatus*, garnished with pearls, from *bacca*, a berry.]

Set or adorned with pearls; having many berries. [*Little used.*]

BAC'CHANAL, n. [*n.* from *Bacchus*, Gr. *BACCHANA'LIAN, n.* *n.* *βακχος*, the deity of wine and revelling. *Qu. Ir. back*, drunk; or D. *bak*, bowl, L. *paculum*; *Gyp. behari*, a cup; or from raging, revelling.]

One who indulges in drunken revels; a drunkard; one who is noisy and riotous, when intoxicated.

BAC'CHANAL, n. [*a.* Revelling in intemperance; *BAC'CHANALIAN, n.* *a.* perate drinking; riotous; noisy.]

BACCHANA'LIAN, a. Pertaining to revelling and drunkenness.

Even *bacchanalian* madness has its charms.

Cowper.

BAC'CHANALIS, n. plu. Drunken feasts; the revels of *bacchanals*. In antiquity, feasts in honor of *Bacchus*, the god of wine. These were celebrated in spring and autumn, with games and shows.

Encyc.

BAC'CHIC, a. Jovial; drunken; mad with intoxication.

2. Relating to *Bacchus*, the god of wine; as *bacchic* feast or song; *bacchic* mysteries. *Faber. Encyc.*

BAC'CHIUS, n. In ancient poetry, a foot composed of a short syllable and two long ones; as in *avari*. *Encyc.*

BACCIFEROUS, a. [L. *baccifer*, of *bacca*, a berry, and *fero*, to bear.]

That produces berries. [See *Bacca*.] *Bacciferous* plants formerly included all such plants as have a pulpy fruit, whether of the apple, berry or cherry kind; but the modern systems of botany comprehend under this description such plants only as bear the pulpy pericarp, called *bacca*, or berry. *Milne.*

BACCIVOROUS, a. [L. *bacca*, berry, and *voro*, to eat.]

Eating or subsisting on berries; as *baccivorous* birds.

BACH'ELOR, n. [Fr. *bachelier*; Sp. *bachiller*, a bachelor of arts and a babbler; Port. *bachard*, id. and *bacello*, a shoot or twig of the vine; It. *bacelliere*, a bachelor of arts; *bacchia*, a staff; *bacchetta*, a rod; L. *baculus*, a stick, that is, a shoot; Fr. *bachellette*, a damsel or young woman; Scot. *bach*, a child; W. *bagen*, a boy, a child; *bageness*, a young girl; from *bac*, small. This word has its origin in the name of a child or young person of either sex, whence the sense of *babbling* in the Spanish. Or both senses are rather from shooting, protruding.]

1. A young man who has not been married.

2. A man of any age, who has not been married; often with the word *old*.

3. A person who has taken the first degree in the liberal arts and sciences, at a college or university. This degree or honor is called the *baccalaureate*. This title is given also to such as take the first degree in divinity, law or physic, in certain European universities.

4. A knight of the lowest order, or more correctly, a young knight, styled, a *knight bachelor*. The Germans anciently constituted their young men knights or soldiers, by presenting to them a shield and a lance, in a great council. This ceremony answered to that of the *toga virilis* of the Romans. In the lively companies of London, those persons not yet admitted to the lively are called *bachelors*.

BACH ELORSHIP, n. The state of being a bachelor.

2. The state of one who has taken his first degree in a college or university.

BACK, n. [Sax. *bac*, *bac*; Dan. *bag*; Sw. *bak*; and Sw. *backe*, *bakke*, a hill, a elod or lump. The sense probably is a ridge, like the Ger. *rucken*, D. *rug*, applied to the shoulders or to the back of a beast.]

1. The upper part of an animal, particularly of a quadruped, whose back is a ridge. In human beings, the hinder part of the body.

2. The outward or convex part of the hand, opposed to the inner, concave part, or nail.

3. As the back of man is the part on the side opposite to the face; hence the part opposed to the front; as the *back* of a book and of a chimney, or the *back* of a house.

4. The part opposite to or most remote from that which fronts the speaker or actor, or the part out of sight; as the *back* of an isle, of a wood, of a village.

5. As the back is the strongest part of an animal, and as the back is behind in motion; hence the thick and strong part of a cutting tool; as the *back* of a knife, or of a saw.

6. The place behind or nearest the back; as, on the *back* of a hill or of a village.

7. The outer part of the body, or the whole body; a part for the whole; as, he has not clothes to his *back*.

8. To turn the back on one, is to forsake, or neglect him. *South.*

9. To turn the back to one, to acknowledge to be superior.

10. To turn the back, is to depart, or to leave the care or cognizance of; to remove or be absent. *Davies.*

11. Behind the back, is in secret, or when one is absent.

12. To cast behind the back, in scripture, is to forget and forgive, Is. xxxviii. 17; or to treat with contempt. Ez. xxiii. 35. Neh. ix. 26.

13. To plow the back, is to oppress and persecute. Ps. cxxix.

14. To bow the back, is to submit to oppression. Rom. xi. 10.

BACK, adv. To the place from which one came; as, to go back is to return.

2. In a figurative sense, to a former state, condition or station; as, he cannot go back from his engagements.

3. Behind; not advancing; not coming or bringing forward; as, to keep back a part; to keep one's self back.

4. Towards times or things past; as, to look back on former ages.

5. Again; in return; as, give back the money.

6. To go or come back, is to return, either to a former place, or state.

7. To go or give back, is to retreat, to recede. **BACK, v. l.** To mount; to get upon the back; sometimes perhaps to place upon the back; as, to back a horse. *Shak.*

2. To support; to maintain; to second or strengthen by aid; as, the Court was backed by the House of Commons. *Dryden.*

3. To put backward; to cause to retreat or recede; as, to back oxen.

4. To back a warrant, is for a justice of the peace in the county where the warrant is to be executed, to sign or indorse a warrant, issued in another county, to apprehend an offender. *Blackstone.*

5. In seamanship, to back an anchor is to lay down a small anchor ahead of a large one, the cable of the small one being fastened to the crown of the large one, to prevent its coming home.

6. To back astern, in rowing, is to manage the oars in a direction contrary to the usual method, to move a boat stem foremost.

7. To back the sails, is to arrange them so as to cause the ship to move astern.

Mar. Dict.

BACK, v. i. To move or go back; as, the horse refuses to back. *Encyc.*

BACK BITE, v. l. [*back* and *bite*.] To censure, sure, slander, reproach, or speak evil of the absent. *Prov. xxv.*

BACK BITER, n. One who slanders, calumniates or speaks ill of the absent.

BACK BITING, n. The act of slandering the absent; secret calumny. 2 Cor. xii.

BACKBITINGLY, adv. With secret slander. *Barret.*

BACK BOARD, n. [*back* and *board*.] A board placed across the after part of a boat.

BACKBONE, n. [*back* and *bone*.] The bone of the back; or the spine.

BACK CARRY, n. A having on the back; a term of law.

BACKDOOR, n. [*back* and *door*.] A door on the back part of a building; a private passage; an indirect way.