

IAMBIC, *n.* [Fr. *iambique*; L. *iambicus*; Gr. *ιαμβικός*.] Pertaining to the iambus, a poetic foot consisting of two syllables, a short one followed by a long one.

IAMBIC, *n.* [L. *iambus*; Gr. *ιαμβος*.] In **IAMBUS**, *n.* poetry, a foot consisting of two syllables, the first short and the last long, as in *delight*. The following line consists wholly of iambic feet.

He scorneth the poetry that dares his fairy stay.

IAMBICS, *n. plu.* Verses composed of short and long syllables alternately. Anciently, certain songs or satires, supposed to have given birth to ancient comedy.

IBEX, *n.* [L.] The wild goat of the genus *Capra*, which is said to be the stock of the tame goat. It has large knotty horns reclining on its back, is of a yellowish color, and its beard is black. It inhabits the Alps. *Encyc.*

The *Ægagrus*, or wild goat of the mountains of Persia, appears to be the stock of the tame goat. The *Iber* is a distinct species. *Cuvier.*

IBIS, *n.* [Gr. and L.] A fowl of the genus *Tantalus*, and grallæ order, a native of Egypt. The bill is long, subulated, and somewhat crooked; the face naked, and the feet have four toes palmed at the base. This fowl was much valued by the Egyptians for destroying serpents. It is said by Bruce not now to inhabit Egypt, but to be found in Abyssinia. *Encyc.*

The ibis of the Egyptians is a species of the genus *Scolopax*. It was anciently venerated either because it devoured serpents, or because the marking of its plumage resembled one of the phases of the moon, or because it appeared in Egypt with the rising of the Nile. *Cuvier.*

This ibis is common in Egypt during the overflowing of the Nile. *Ed. Encyc.*

ICARIAN, *a.* [from *Icarus*, the son of Dædalus, who fled on wings to escape the resentment of Minos, but his flight being too high was fatal to him, as the sun melted the wax that cemented his wings.]

Adventurous in flight; soaring too high for safety, like Icarus.

ICE, *n.* [Sax. *is*, *isæ*; G. *eis*; D. *ys*; Dan. *is*; Sw. *ice*, *is*; Ir. *cúise*.] The true or ordinary word would be *ice*. The primary sense is doubtless to set, to fix, to congeal or harden. It may be allied to the G. *eisen*, iron; or perhaps also to L. *os*, a bone.]

1. Water or other fluid congealed, or in a solid state; a solid, transparent, brittle substance, formed by the congelation of a fluid, by means of the abstraction of the heat necessary to preserve its fluidity, or to use common language, congealed by cold.

2. Concreted sugar.

To break the ice, is to make the first opening to any attempt; to remove the first obstructions or difficulties; to open the way.

ICE, *v. t.* To cover with ice; to convert into ice. *Fletcher.*

2. To cover with concreted sugar; to frost. *Puller.*

3. To chill; to freeze.

ICEBERG, *n.* [ice and G. *berg*, a hill.] A hill or mountain of ice, or a vast body of ice

accumulated in valleys in high northern latitudes.

This term is applied to such elevated masses as exist in the valleys of the frigid zones; to those which are found on the surface of fixed ice; and to ice of great thickness and height in a floating state. These lofty floating masses are sometimes detached from the icebergs on shore, and sometimes formed at a distance from any land. They are found in both the frigid zones, and are sometimes carried towards the equator as low as 40°. *Ed. Encyc.*

ICEBLINK, *n.* A name given by seamen to a bright appearance near the horizon, occasioned by the ice, and observed before the ice itself is seen. *Encyc.*

ICEBOAT, *n.* A boat constructed for moving on ice.

ICEBOUND, *a.* In seamen's language, totally surrounded with ice, so as to be incapable of advancing. *Mar. Dict.*

ICEBUILT, *a.* Composed of ice.

2. Loaded with ice.

ICEHOUSE, *n.* [ice and house.] A repository for the preservation of ice during warm weather; a pit with a drain for conveying off the water of the ice when dissolved, and usually covered with a roof.

ICEISLE, *n.* *iceile*. [ice and isle.] A vast body of floating ice, such as is often seen in the Atlantic, off the banks of New foundland.

When flat and extending beyond the reach of sight, it is called *field ice*; when smaller, but of very large dimensions, it is called a *floe*; when lofty, an *iceberg*. There are numerous other terms for the different appearances of floating ice. *J. Barlow.*

ICELANDER, *n.* A native of Iceland.

ICELANDIC, *a.* Pertaining to Iceland; and as a noun, the language of the Icelanders.

Ice-land spar, calcareous spar, in laminated masses, easily divisible into rhombs, perfectly similar to the primitive rhomb.

ICEPLANT, *n.* A plant of the genus *Mesembryanthemum*, sprinkled with pellucid, glittering, icy pimples. *Encyc.*

ICESPAR, *n.* A variety of feldspar, the crystals of which resemble ice. *Jamesson.*

ICE-MON, *n.* [L. from the Gr. *κρυμμεν*, from *κρυω*, to follow the steps, *κρυος*, a footstep; a follower of the crocodile.]

An animal of the genus *Viverra*, or weasel kind. It has a tail tapering to a point, and its toes are distant from each other. It inhabits Egypt, Barbary and India. It destroys the most venomous serpents, and seeks the eggs of the crocodile, digging them out of the sand, eating them and destroying the young. In India and Egypt, this animal is domesticated and kept for destroying rats and mice. *Encyc.*

Ichneumon-fly, a genus of flies, of the order of hymenoptera, containing several hundred species. These animals have jaws, but no tongue; the antennæ have more than thirty joints, and are kept in continual motion. The abdomen is generally petiolated, or joined to the body by a pedicel. These animals are great destroyers of caterpillars, plant-lice and other insects,

as the ichneumon is of the eggs and young of the crocodile. *Encyc.*

ICHOGRAPHIC, *a.* [See *Ichthyograph*.] **ICHOGRAPHICAL**, *a.* Pertaining to ichthyography; describing a ground-plot.

ICHOGRAPHY, *n.* [Gr. *ichthys*, a footstep, and *γραφω*, to describe.]

In perspective, the view of any thing cut off by a plane parallel to the horizon, just at the base of it; a ground-plot. *Encyc.*

ICHOR, *n.* [Gr. *ichor*.] A thin watery humor, like serum or whey.

2. Sanious matter flowing from an ulcer. *Encyc.*

ICHOROUS, *a.* Like ichor; thin; watery; serous.

2. Sanious.

ICHTHYOCOL, *n.* [Gr. *ichthys*, a fish, and *κολα*, glue.]

ICHTHYOCOLLA, *n.* [Gr. *ichthys*, a fish, and *κολα*, glue.] Fish-glue; isinglass; a glue prepared from the sounds of fish. *Tooke.*

ICHTHYOLITE, *n.* [Gr. *ichthys*, a fish, and *λιθος*, a stone.]

Fossil fish; or the figure or impression of a fish in rock. *Hitchcock.*

ICHTHYOLOGICAL, *a.* Pertaining to ichthyology.

ICHTHYOLOGIST, *n.* [See *Ichthyology*.] One versed in ichthyology.

ICHTHYOLOGY, *n.* [Gr. *ichthys*, a fish, and *λογος*, discourse.]

The science of fishes, or that part of zoology which treats of fishes, their structure, form and classification, their habits, uses, &c. *Encyc. Ed. Encyc.*

ICHTHYOPHAGOUS, *a.* [Gr. *ichthys*, fish, and *φαγος*, to eat.] Eating or subsisting on fish. *D'Jarville.*

ICHTHYOPHAGY, *n.* [supra.] The practice of eating fish.

ICHTHYOPHTHALMITE, *n.* [Gr. *ichthys*, a fish, and *οφθαλμος*, an eye.] Fish-eye-stone. [See *Apophyllite*.]

ICICLE, *n.* [Sax. *ice-gæd*, D. *yseged*, ice-cone. *Kegel* is a cone or pine pin.]

A pendent conical mass of ice, formed by the freezing of water or other fluid as it flows down an inclined plane, or collects in drops and is suspended. In the north of England, it is called *ickle*.

ICINESS, *n.* The state of being icy, or of being very cold.

2. The state of generating ice.

ICING, *ppr.* Covering with concreted sugar.

ICON, *n.* [Gr. *εικων*, an image, from *εικω*, to resemble.]

An image or representation. [Not in use.] *Brown. Hakevill.*

ICONOCLAST, *n.* [Fr. *iconoclaste*; Gr. *εικων*, an image, and *κλαστης*, a breaker, from *κλαω*, to break.]

A breaker or destroyer of images; a name which Catholics give to those who reject the use of images in religious worship. *Encyc.*

ICONOCLASTIC, *a.* Breaking images.

ICONOGRAPHY, *n.* [Gr. *εικων*, an image, and *γραφω*, to describe.]

The description of images or ancient statues, busts, semi-busts, paintings in fresco, mosaic works, and ancient pieces of miniature.

ICONOLATER, *n.* [Gr. *εικων*, an image, and *λατρης*, a servant.]