

1. A sound state of a person or thing; a state which is prosperous, or at least not unfortunate, not declining; prosperity; happiness.

As we love the *weal* of our souls and bodies.

The *weal* or *wo* in thee is plac'd. *Bacon.*

So we say, the public *weal*, the general *weal*, the *weal* of the nation or state.

B. Trumbull.

2. Republic; state; public interest. [But we now use *commonwealth*, in the sense of *state*.]

WEAL, *n.* The mark of a stripe. [See *Wale*.]

Weald, wald, walt, wold, in Saxon and other Teutonic dialects, signifies a wood or forest. It is found in names, as in *Walt-ham*, wood-house; corruptly pronounced *Wal-tham*.

WE'ALSMAN, *n.* [*weal* and *man*.] A name given sneeringly to a politician. *Shak.*

WEALTH, *n.* *welth*. [from *weal*; Sax. *wel-ega*, *welga*, rich.] Prosperity; external happiness. *Obs.*

2. Riches; large possessions of money, goods or land; that abundance of worldly estate which exceeds the estate of the greater part of the community; affluence; opulence.

Each day new *wealth* without their care provides. *Dryden.*

WEALTHILY, *adv.* Richly. *Shak.*

WEALTHINESS, *n.* State of being wealthy; richness.

WEALTHY, *a.* Rich; having large possessions in lands, goods, money or securities, or larger than the generality of men; opulent; affluent. As *wealth* is a comparative thing, a man may be *wealthy* in one place, and not so in another. A man may be deemed *wealthy* in a village, who would not be so considered in London.

WEAN, *v. t.* [Sax. *wenan*, *gewenan*, to accustom; from the root of *wane*, *wout*; *gewunian*, to delay; D. *wenan*, *afwenan*; G. *entwöhnen*; Sw. *wänja*. See *Wont*.]

1. To accustom and reconcile, as a child or other young animal, to a want or deprivation of the breast.

And the child grew, and was *weaned*. *Gen. xxi.*

2. To detach or alienate, as the affections, from any object of desire; to reconcile to the want or loss of any thing; as, to *wean* the heart from temporal enjoyments.

WE'ANED, *pp.* Accustomed or reconciled to the want of the breast or other object of desire.

WE'ANEL, } *n.* A child or other animal
WE'ANLING, } newly weaned.

Milton.

WE'ANING, *ppr.* Accustoming or reconciling, as a young child or other animal, to a want of the breast; reconciling to the want of any object of desire.

WEAPON, *n.* *wep'n*. [Sax. *wæpn*, *wepn*; D. *G. wapen*; Dan. *vaaben*; Sw. *vapen*. This word seems to be from some root signifying to strike, L. *vapulo*, our vulgar *whap*, *awhap*.]

1. Any instrument of offense; any thing used or designed to be used in destroying or annoying an enemy. The *weapons* of rude nations are clubs, stones and bows

and arrows. Modern *weapons* of war are swords, muskets, pistols, cannon and the like.

2. An instrument for contest, or for combating enemies.

The *weapons* of our warfare are not carnal. 2 Cor. x.

3. An instrument of defense.

1. *Weapons*, in *botany*, arms; thorns, prickles, and stings, with which plants are furnished for defense; enumerated among the *fulcres* by Linne. *Martyn.*

WEAPONED, *a.* *wep'nd*. Armed; furnished with weapons or arms; equipped.

Hayward.

WEAPONLESS, *a.* Unarmed; having no weapon. *Milton.*

WEAPON-SALVE, *n.* [*weapon* and *salve*.] A salve which was supposed to cure the wound, by being applied to the weapon that made it. *Obs.* *Boyle.*

WEAR, *v. t.* pret. *wore*; pp. *worn*. [W. *gwariaw*, to spend or consume; Sax. *we-ran*, *werian*, to carry, to wear, as arms or clothes.]

1. To waste or impair by rubbing or attrition; to lessen or diminish by time, use or instruments. A current of water often *wears* a channel in limestone.

2. To carry appendant to the body, as clothes or weapons; as, to *wear* a coat or a robe; to *wear* a sword; to *wear* a crown. On her white breast a sparkling cross she *wore*. *Pope.*

3. To have or exhibit an appearance; to bear; as, she *wears* a smile on her countenance.

4. To affect by degrees. Trials *wear* us into a liking of what possibly, in the first essay, displeased us. *Locke.*

To *wear away*, to consume; to impair, diminish or destroy by gradual attrition or decay. *Dryden.*

To *wear off*, to diminish by attrition or slow decay. *South.*

To *wear out*, to consume; to render useless by attrition or decay; as, to *wear out* a coat or a book.

2. To consume tediously; as, to *wear out* life in idle projects.

3. To harass; to tire. He shall *wear out* the saints of the Most High. *Dan. vii.*

4. To waste the strength of; as an old man *worn out* in the service of his country.

WEAR, *v. i.* To be wasted; to be diminished by attrition, by use, or by time.

Thou wilt surely *wear away*. *Ex. xviii.*

2. To be tediously spent. Thus *wore out* night. *Milton.*

3. To be consumed by slow degrees. It is better to *wear out*, than to rust out.

To *wear off*, to pass away by degrees. The follies of youth *wear off* with age.

WEAR, *n.* The act of wearing; diminution by friction; as the *wear* and tear of a garment.

2. The thing worn.

WEAR, *n.* [Sax. *wær*, *wer*; from the root of *werian*, to hold, defend, protect; D. *waaren* or *weeren*; often written *wier*. See *Warren* and *Guard*.]

1. A dam in a river to stop and raise the water, for conducting it to a mill, or for taking fish.

2. An instrument or kind of basket work for catching fish.

WEARABLE, *a.* That can be worn.

Swift.

WEARD, Sax. a warden, in names, denotes watchfulness or care, but it must not be confounded with *ward*, in *toward*.

WEARER, *n.* [from *wear*.] One who wears or carries as appendant to the body; as the *wearer* of a cloke, a sword or a crown. 2. That which wastes or diminishes.

WE'ARINESS, *n.* [from *weary*.] The state of being weary or tired; that lassitude or exhaustion of strength which is induced by labor; fatigue.

With *weariness* and wine oppress'd. *Dryden.*

2. Lassitude; uneasiness proceeding from continued waiting, disappointed expectation or exhausted patience, or from other cause.

WEARING, *ppr.* Bearing on or appendant to the person; diminishing by friction: consuming.

2. *a.* Denoting what is worn; as *wearing* apparel.

WEARING, *n.* Clothes; garments. *Obs.* *Shak.*

WEARISH, *a.* Buggy; watery. [Not in use.]

2. Weak; washy. [Not in use.] *Carew.*

WE'ARISOME, *a.* [from *weary*.] Causing weariness; tiresome; tedious; fatiguing; as a *wearisome* march; a *wearisome* day's work.

Wearisome nights are appointed unto me. *Job vii.*

WE'ARISOMELY, *adv.* Tediously; so as to cause weariness. *Raleigh.*

WE'ARISOMENESS, *n.* The quality of exhausting strength or patience; tire-someness; tediousness; as the *wearisomeness* of toil, or of waiting long in anxious expectation.

WE'ARY, *a.* [Sax. *werig*; allied perhaps to *wear*.]

1. Having the strength much exhausted by toil or violent exertion; tired; fatigued.

[It should be observed however that this word expresses less than *tired*, particularly when applied to a beast; as a *tired* horse. It is followed by *of*, before the cause of fatigue; as, to be *weary of* marching; to be *weary of* reaping; to be *weary of* study.]

2. Having the patience exhausted, or the mind yielding to discouragement. He was *weary* of asking for redress.

3. Causing weariness; tiresome; as a *weary* way; a *weary* life. *Spenser. Shak.*

WE'ARY, *v. t.* [from the adjective.] To reduce or exhaust the physical strength of the body; to tire; to fatigue; as, to *weary* one's self with labor or traveling.

The people shall *weary* themselves for very vanity. *Hab. ii.*

2. To make impatient of continuance.

I stay too long by thee; I *weary* thee. *Shak.*

3. To harass by any thing irksome; as, to be *wearyed* of waiting for the arrival of the post.

To *weary out*, to subdue or exhaust by fatigue.

WE'ASAND, } *n. s* as *z*. [Sax. *wasand*, *wa-*
WE'SAND, } send; perhaps
from the root of *wheeze*, and Goth. *oud*,
Dan. *aande*, breath.]