

is somewhat like a spoon or spatula. Its plumage is white and beautiful.

SPOON-DRIFT, *n.* In seamen's language, a showery sprinkling of sea water, swept from the surface in a tempest. *Mar. Dict.*
SPOONFUL, *n.* [*spoon and full.*] As much as a spoon contains or is able to contain; as a tea *spoonful*; a table *spoonful*.

2. A small quantity of a liquid. *Arbutnot.*
SPOON-MEAT, *n.* [*spoon and meat.*] Food that is or must be taken with a spoon; liquid food.

Diet most upon *spoon-meats*. *Harvey.*

SPOON-WORT, *n.* A plant of the genus *Cochlearia*; scurvy grass.

SPORADIC, *a.* [*Fr. sporadicus*; *Gr. σποραδικος*, separate, scattered; whence certain isles of Greece were called *Sporades*.]

Separate; single; scattered; used only in reference to diseases. A *sporadic* disease, is one which occurs in particular persons and places, in distinction from an epidemic, which affects persons generally or in great numbers.

Sporadic diseases are opposed to epidemics, as accidental, scattered complaints, neither general nor contagious. *Parr.*

SPORT, *n.* [*D. boert, jest*; *boerten*, to jest; *boertig*, merry, facetious, jocular.]

1. That which diverts and makes merry; play; game; diversion; also, mirth. The word signifies both the cause and the effect; that which produces mirth, and the mirth or merriment produced.

Her *sports* were such as carried riches of knowledge upon the stream of delight. *Sidney.*

Here the word denotes the cause of amusement.

They called for Samson out of the prison-house; and he made them *sport*. *Judges xvi.*
Here *sport* is the effect.

2. Mock; mockery; contemptuous mirth. Then make *sport* at me, then let me be your jest. *Shak.*

They made a *sport* of his prophets. *Esdas.*
3. That with which one plays, or which is driven about.

To fitting leaves, the *sport* of every wind. *Dryden.*

Never does man appear to greater disadvantage than when he is the *sport* of his own ungoverned passions. *J. Clarke.*

4. Play; idle jingle.

An author who should introduce such a *sport* of words upon our stage, would meet with small applause. *Broome.*

5. Diversion of the field, as fowling, hunting, fishing. *Clarendon.*

In *sport*. To do a thing in *sport*, is to do it in jest, for play or diversion.

So is the man that deceiveth his neighbor, and saith, am not I in *sport*? *Prov. xxvi.*

SPORT, *v. t.* To divert; to make merry; used with the reciprocal pronoun.

Against whom do ye *sport yourselves*? *Is. lvii.*

2. To represent by any kind of play.

Now *sporting* on thy lyre the love of youth. *Dryden.*

SPORT, *v. i.* To play; to frolic; to wanton.

See the brisk lambs that *sport* along the mead. *Anon.*

2. To trifle. The man that laughs at religion *sports* with his own salvation.

SPORTER, *n.* One who sports.

SPORTFUL, *a.* Merry; frolicsome; full of jesting; indulging in mirth or play; as a *sportful* companion.

Down he alights among the *sportful* herd. *Milton.*

2. Ludicrous; done in jest or for mere play. These are no *sportful* productions of the soil. *Bentley.*

SPORTFULLY, *adv.* In mirth; in jest; for the sake of diversion; playfully.

SPORTFULNESS, *n.* Play; merriment; frolic; a playful disposition; playfulness; as the *sportfulness* of kids and lambs.

SPORTIVE, *a.* Gay; merry; wanton; frolicsome.

Is it I
That drive thee from the *sportive* court? *Shak.*

2. Inclined to mirth; playful; as a *sportive* humor.

SPORTIVENESS, *n.* Playfulness; mirth; merriment. *Walton.*

2. Disposition to mirth.

SPORTLESS, *a.* Without sport or mirth; joyless.

SPORTSMAN, *n.* [*sport and man.*] One who pursues the sports of the field; one who hunts, fishes and fowls.

2. One skilled in the sports of the field. *Addison.*

SPORTULARY, *a.* [*from L. sportula*, a basket, an alms-basket.]

Subsisting on alms or charitable contributions. [*Little used.*] *Hall.*

SPORTULE, *n.* [*L. sportula*, a little basket.]

An alms; a dole; a charitable gift or contribution. [*Not in use.*] *Ayliffe.*

SPOT, *n.* [*D. spat*, a spot, spavin, a pop-gun; *spatten*, to spot, to spatter; *Dan. spette*, a spot, and *spet*, a pecker; *svart spet*, a woodpecker. We see this word is of the family of *spatter*, and that the radical sense is to throw or thrust. A *spot* is made by spattering or sprinkling.]

1. A mark on a substance made by foreign matter; a speck; a blot; a place discolored. The least *spot* is visible on white paper.

2. A stain on character or reputation; something that soils purity; disgrace; reproach; fault; blemish.

Yet Chloe sure was form'd without a *spot*. *Pope.*

See I Pet. i. 17. Eph. v. 27.

3. A small extent of space; a place; any particular place.

The *spot* to which I point is paradise. *Milton.*

Fix'd to one *spot*. *Otway.*

So we say, a *spot* of ground, a *spot* of grass or flowers; meaning a place of small extent.

4. A place of a different color from the ground; as the *spots* of a leopard.

5. A variety of the common domestic pigeon, so called from a spot on its head just above its beak.

6. A dark place on the disk or face of the sun or of a planet.

7. A lucid place in the heavens.

Upon the *spot*, immediately; before moving; without changing place. [*So the French say, sur le champ.*] *Swift.*

It was determined upon the *spot*.

SPOT, *v. t.* To make a visible mark with some foreign matter; to discolor; to

stain; as, to *spot* a garment; to *spot* paper.

2. To patch by way of ornament. *Addison.*

3. To stain; to blemish; to taint; to disgrace; to tarnish; as reputation.

My virgin life no *spotted* thoughts shall stain. *Sidney.*

To *spot* timber, is to cut or chip it, in preparation for hewing.

SPOTLESS, *a.* Free from spots, foul matter or discoloration.

2. Free from reproach or impurity; pure; untainted; innocent; as a *spotless* mind; *spotless* behavior.

A *spotless* virgin and a faultless wife. *Waller.*

SPOTLESSNESS, *n.* Freedom from spot or stain; freedom from reproach. *Donne.*

SPOTTED, *pp.* Marked with spots or places of a different color from the ground; as a *spotted* beast or garment.

SPOTTEDNESS, *n.* The state or quality of being spotted.

SPOTTER, *n.* One that makes spots.

SPOTTINESS, *n.* The state or quality of being spotty.

SPOTTING, *ppr.* Marking with spots; staining.

SPOTTY, *a.* Full of spots; marked with discolored places.

SPOUS'AGE, *n.* [*See Spouse.*] The act of espousing. [*Not used.*]

SPOUS'AL, *a.* [*from spouse.*] Pertaining to marriage; nuptial; matrimonial; conjugal; connubial; bridal; as *spousal* rites; *spousal* ornaments. *Pope.*

SPOUSAL, *n.* [*Fr. epousailles*; *Sp. esposales*; *L. sponsalia*. See *Spouse.*]

Marriage; nuptials. It is now generally used in the plural; as the *spousals* of Hippolyta. *Dryden.*

SPOUSE, *n.* *spouz.* [*Fr. epouse*; *Sp. esposa*; *esposa*; *It. sposo*, *sposa*; *L. sponsus*, *sponsa*, from *spondeo*, to engage; *fr. posam*, id. It appears that *n* in *spondeo*, is not radical, or that it has been lost in other languages. The sense of the root is to put together, to bind. In *Sp. esposas* signifies manacles.]

One engaged or joined in wedlock; a married person, husband or wife. We say of a man, that he is the *spouse* of such a woman; or of a woman, she is the *spouse* of such a man. *Dryden.*

SPOUSE, *v. t.* *spouz.* To wed; to espouse. [*Little used. See Espouse.*] *Chaucer.*

SPOUSE/ED, *pp.* Wedded; joined in marriage; married; but seldom used. The word used in lieu of it is *espoused*. *Milton.*

SPOUSELESS, *a.* *spouz/less.* Destitute of a husband or of a wife; as a *spouseless* king or queen. *Pope.*

SPOUT, *n.* [*D. spuit*, a spout; *spuiten*, to spout. In *G. spützen* is to spit, and *spotten* is to mock, banter, sport. These are of one family; *spout* retaining nearly the primary and literal meaning. Class Bd. See *Bud* and *Pout*.]

1. A pipe, or a projecting mouth of a vessel, useful in directing the stream of a liquid poured out; as the *spout* of a picher, of a tea pot or water pot.

2. A pipe conducting water from another pipe, or from a trough on a house.

3. A violent discharge of water raised in a column at sea, like a whirlwind, or by a whirlwind. [*See Water-spout.*]