

9. To quit; to suffer to cease; as, to *drop* an acquaintance.
10. To let go; to dismiss from association; as, to *drop* a companion.
11. To suffer to end or come to nothing; as, to *drop* a fashion.
12. To bedrop; to speckle; to variegate, as if by sprinkling with drops; as a coat *dropped* with gold. *Milton.*
13. To lower; as, to *drop* the muzzle of a gun.
- DROP**, *v. i.* To distill; to fall in small portions, globules or drops, as a liquid. Water *drops* from the clouds or from the eaves.
2. To let drops fall; to discharge itself in drops.
- The heavens *dropped* at the presence of God. *Ps. lxxvii.*
3. To fall; to descend suddenly or abruptly.
4. To fall spontaneously; as, ripe fruit *drops* from a tree.
5. To die, or to die suddenly. We see one friend after another *dropping* round us. They *drop* into the grave.
6. To come to an end; to cease; to be neglected and come to nothing; as, the affair *dropped*.
7. To come unexpectedly; with in or into; as, my old friend *dropped* in, a moment.
8. To fall short of a mark. [*Not used.*]
Often it *drops* or overshoots. *Collier.*
9. To fall lower; as, the point of the spear *dropped* a little.
10. To be deep in extent.
Her main top-sail *drops* seventeen yards. *Mor. Dict.*
- To *drop astern*, in seamen's language, is to pass or move towards the stern; to move back; or to slacken the velocity of a vessel to let another pass beyond her.
- To *drop down*, in seamen's language, is to sail, row or move down a river, or toward the sea.
- DROP-SERENE**, *n.* [*gutta serena.*] A disease of the eye; amaurosis, or blindness from a diseased retina. *Milton. Core.*
- DROP-STONE**, *n.* Spar in the shape of drops. *Woodward.*
- DROP-WORT**, *n.* The name of a plant, the *Spiraea filipendula*.
- The hemlock drop-wort, and the water drop-wort, are species of *Eranthe*.
- DROPLET**, *n.* A little drop. *Shak.*
- DROPPED**, *pp.* Let fall; distilled; laid aside; dismissed; let go; suffered to subside; sprinkled or variegated.
- DROPPING**, *pp.* Falling in globules; distilling; falling; laying aside; dismissing; quitting; suffering to rest or subside; variegating with ornaments like drops.
- DROPPING**, *n.* The act of dropping; a distilling; a falling.
2. That which drops.
- DROPSICAL**, *a.* [*See Dropsy.*] Diseased with dropsy; hydropical; inclined to the dropsy; *applied to persons.*
2. Partaking of the nature of the dropsy; *applied to disease.*
- DROPSIED**, *a.* Diseased with dropsy. *Shak.*
- DROPSY**, *n.* [*L. hydrops; Gr. ὕδρωψ.*] Swelling, water, and $\omega\psi$, the face. Formerly written *hydropisy*; whence by contraction, *dropsy*.

In medicine, an unnatural collection of water, in any part of the body, proceeding from a greater effusion of serum by the exhalant arteries, than the absorbents take up. It occurs most frequently in persons of lax habits, or in bodies debilitated by disease. The dropsy takes different names, according to the part affected; as *ascites*, or dropsy of the abdomen; *hydrocephalus*, or water in the head; *anasarca*, or a watery swelling over the whole body; &c.

Encyc.

DROSS, *n.* [*Sax. dros; D. droes, G. druse, strangles, glands; D. droesen, G. drusen, dregs; perhaps from rejecting or throwing off.*]

1. The recement or despumation of metals; the scum or extraneous matter of metals, thrown off in the process of melting.

2. Rust; crust of metals; an incrustation formed on metals by oxydation.

Addison.

3. Waste matter; refuse; any worthless matter separated from the better part; impure matter.

The world's glory is but *dross* unclean.

Spenser.

DROSSINESS, *n.* Foulness; rust; impurity; a state of being drossy. *Boyle.*

DROSSY, *a.* Like dross; pertaining to dross.

2. Full of dross; abounding with scorious or recementitious matter; as *drossy* gold.

Donne.

3. Worthless; foul; impure.

DROTCH-EL, *n.* An idle wench; a slugard. [*Not in use.*]

DROUGHT. [*See Drouth.*]

DROUGHTINESS, *n.* Drouthiness.

DROUGHTY, *a.* Drouthy.

DROUMY, *a.* Troubled; dirty. *Obs. Bacon.*

Chaucer has *droy*.

DROUTH, *n.* [contracted from *Sax. drooghte, D. droogte, from drigan or drygan, to dry. See Dry.* This is usually written *drought*, after the Belgic dialect; but improperly. The word generally used is now, as it was written by Bacon, *drouth* or *drouth*; its regular termination is *th*.]

1. Dryness; want of rain or of water; particularly, dryness of the weather, which affects the earth, and prevents the growth of plants; aridness; aridity.

Temple. Bacon.

2. Dryness of the throat and mouth; thirst; want of drink. *Milton.*

DROUTHINESS, *n.* A state of dryness of the weather; want of rain.

DROUTHY, *a.* Dry, as the weather; arid; wanting rain.

2. Thirsty; dry; wanting drink.

DROVE, *pret. of drive.*

DROVE, *n.* [*Sax. druf; from drive.*] A collection of cattle driven; a number of animals, as oxen, sheep or swine, driven in a body. We speak of a *herd* of cattle, and a *flock* of sheep, when a number is collected; but properly a *drive* is a herd or flock *driven*. It is applicable to any species of brutes. Hence,

2. Any collection of irrational animals, moving or driving forward; as a *finny drive*. *Milton.*

3. A crowd of people in motion.

Where *droves*, as at a city gate, may pass.

Dryden.

4. A road for driving cattle. [*English.*]

DROVER, *n.* One who drives cattle or sheep to market. Usually in New England, a man who makes it his business to purchase fat cattle and drive them to market.

2. A boat driven by the tide. *Spenser.*

DROWN, *v. t.* [*Dan. drugner; Sw. dränckia; Sax. adrean, to drown, to drench; from the root of drench and drink.*]

1. Literally, to overwhelm in water; and appropriately, to extinguish life by immersion in water or other fluid; *applied to animals*; also, to suspend animation by submersion.

2. To overwhelm in water; as, to *drown* weeds.

3. To overflow; to deluge; to inundate; as, to *drown* land.

4. To immerse; to plunge and lose; to overwhelm; as, to *drown* one's self in sensual pleasure.

5. To overwhelm; to overpower.

My private voice is *drowned* amid the senate.

Addison.

DROWN, *v. i.* To be suffocated in water or other fluid; to perish in water.

Methought what pain it was to *drown*.

Shak.

DROWN'ED, *pp.* Deprived of life by immersion in a fluid; overflowed; inundated; overwhelmed.

DROWN'ER, *n.* He or that which drowns.

DROWNING, *pp.* Destroying life by submersion in a liquid; overflowing; overwhelming.

DROUSE, *v. i.* *drowz.* [Old Belgic, *droosen.*]

1. To sleep imperfectly or unsoundly; to slumber; to be heavy with sleepiness.

Milton.

2. To look heavy; to be heavy or dull.

DROUSEY, *v. t.* To make heavy with sleep; to make dull or stupid. *Milton.*

DROWSIED, *n.* Sleepiness. *Obs.*

DROWSILY, *adv.* Sleepily; heavily; in a dull sleepy manner.

Dryden.

2. Sluggishly; idly; slothfully; lazily.

Raleigh.

DROWSINESS, *n.* Sleepiness; heaviness with sleep; disposition to sleep.

Milton. Locke.

2. Sluggishness; sloth; idleness; inactivity.

Bacon.

DROWSY, *a.* Inclined to sleep; sleepy; heavy with sleepiness; lethargic; comatose. *Bacon. Dryden.*

2. Dull; sluggish; stupid.

Albany.

3. Disposing to sleep; lulling; as a *drowsy* couch.

DROWSY-HEADED, *a.* Heavy; having a sluggish disposition.

Fotherby.

DRUB, *v. t.* [*Sw. drabba, to touch, hit, beat; trifla, to hit, touch, reach, find; Dan. draber, to kill; trefter, to hit; G. D. trefen; R. trafen, to beat; Sax. tribulan, triflan; It. trebbiare; L. tribula.* These words seem to be from the same root as the *Fr. trouer*, to find, that is, to hit, to strike on, and *atrapper* and *frapper*, Eng. to *rap*. But perhaps there may be two different roots. See Class Rb. No. 4. 28. 29. 37. 39. *Drubbing* is a particular form of driving.]

To *beat* with a stick; to thrash; to cudgel.

The little thief had been soundly *drubbed* with a cudgel.

L'Estrange