

**THE CENTURY DICTIONARY: AN
ENCYCLOPEDIA LEXICON OF THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE. IN SIX
VOLUMES. VOLUME III, PP.
2423-2694**

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WILLIAM DWIGHT WHITNEY

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CENTURY DICTIONARY

AN ENCYCLOPEDIA LEXICON
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF
WILLIAM DWIGHT WHITNEY, PH.D., LL.D.
PROFESSOR OF COMPARATIVE PHILOLOGY AND SANSKRIT
IN YALE UNIVERSITY

IN SIX VOLUMES
VOLUME III



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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE ETYMOLOGIES AND DEFINITIONS.

a. adj. . . . adjective
 abbr. . . . abbreviation
 abstr. . . . abstract
 acc. . . . accusative
 accom. . . . accommodated, accom-
 modation
 act. . . . active
 adv. . . . adverb
 AF. . . . Anglo-French
 agr. . . . agriculture
 AL. . . . Anglo-Latin
 alg. . . . algebra
 Amer. . . . American
 anat. . . . anatomy
 an. . . . ancient
 antiq. . . . antiquity
 ar. . . . Arabic
 arch. . . . architecture
 archæol. . . . archaeology
 arith. . . . arithmetic
 art. . . . artifice
 AS. . . . Anglo-Saxon
 astr. . . . astronomy
 astr. . . . astronomer
 astro. . . . astrology
 aug. . . . augmentative
 Bar. . . . Bartran
 Beng. . . . Bengali
 biol. . . . biology
 Bohem. . . . Bohemian
 bot. . . . botany
 Bras. . . . Brazilian
 Bret. . . . Breton
 Bryt. . . . Brythonic
 Bulg. . . . Bulgarian
 carp. . . . carpentry
 Cat. . . . Catalan
 Cath. . . . Catholic
 cen. . . . centum
 chem. . . . chemistry
 cf. . . . *confer*, compare
 ch. . . . church
 Chald. . . . Chaldean
 chem. . . . chemical, chemistry
 Chin. . . . Chinese
 chron. . . . chronology
 colloq. . . . colloquial, colloquially
 com. . . . common, commercia
 comp. . . . composition, com-
 pound
 compar. . . . comparative
 conch. . . . conchology
 conj. . . . conjunction
 contr. . . . contracted, contrac-
 tion
 Cur. . . . Curash
 cran. . . . cranology
 cranion. . . . cranionomy
 crystal. . . . crystallography
 D. . . . Dutch
 Dan. . . . Danish
 dat. . . . dative
 def. . . . definite, definition
 deriv. . . . derivative, derivation
 dist. . . . distance, distal
 dif. . . . different
 dim. . . . diminutive
 distrib. . . . distributive
 dram. . . . dramatic
 dynam. . . . dynamical
 E. . . . East
 E. . . . English (usually mean-
 ing modern English)
 eol. . . . eotechnical
 econ. . . . economy
 e. g. . . . *exempli gratia*, for
 example
 Egypt. . . . Egyptian
 E. Ind. . . . East Indian
 etiol. . . . etiology
 embryol. . . . embryology
 Eng. . . . English

engin. . . . engineering
 entom. . . . entomology
 Ep. . . . Episcopi
 equiv. . . . equivalent
 esp. . . . especially
 Eth. . . . Ethiopic
 ethnog. . . . ethnography
 ethnol. . . . ethnology
 etym. . . . etymology
 Eux. . . . Euxine
 exan. . . . exclamation
 f. fem. . . . feminine
 F. . . . French (usually mean-
 ing modern French)
 Flam. . . . Flemish
 fort. . . . fortification
 freq. . . . frequentative
 Fr. . . . French
 fut. . . . future
 G. . . . German (usually mean-
 ing New High Ger-
 man)
 Gael. . . . Gaelic
 gal. . . . galvanism
 gal. . . . gallic
 geog. . . . geography
 geol. . . . geology
 geom. . . . geometry
 Goth. . . . Gothic (Moesogothic)
 Gr. . . . Greek
 gram. . . . grammar
 gran. . . . granary
 H. . . . Hebrew
 her. . . . heraldy
 herpet. . . . herpetology
 Hist. . . . history
 hist. . . . history
 horol. . . . horology
 hor. . . . horoscopes
 Hung. . . . Hungarian
 hydr. . . . hydraulics
 hyd. . . . hydrostatics
 Icel. . . . Icelandic (usually
 meaning Old Ice-
 landic otherwise call-
 ed Old Norse)
 Ict. . . . ichthyology
 I. e. . . . *in eod. loc. ut*
 imper. . . . imperative
 imperf. . . . imperfect
 imp. . . . imperative
 imp. . . . imperfect
 Ind. . . . Indian
 Indo. . . . Indo-European
 Ind. . . . Indian
 Ind. . . . Indian
 instr. . . . instrumental
 Interj. . . . interjection
 Inter. . . . intensive
 Ir. . . . Irish
 irreg. . . . irregular, irregularly
 It. . . . Italian
 Jap. . . . Japanese
 L. . . . Latin (usually mean-
 ing cup classical Latin)
 Lat. . . . Latin
 L. G. . . . Low German
 Lehen. . . . lehenology
 lib. . . . liberal, liberally
 Lit. . . . Lithuanian
 Lith. . . . Lithuanian
 lithog. . . . lithography
 lithol. . . . lithology
 L. L. . . . Late Latin
 m. . . . masculine
 mach. . . . machinery
 mammal. . . . mammalogy
 manuf. . . . manufacturing
 math. . . . mathematics
 MD. . . . Middle Dutch
 ME. . . . Middle English (other-
 wise called Old Eng-
 lish)

mech. . . . mechanics, mechan-
 ical
 med. . . . medicine
 mensur. . . . mensuration
 metal. . . . metallurgy
 metaph. . . . metaphysics
 meteor. . . . meteorology
 Mex. . . . Mexican
 MGr. . . . Middle Greek, medie-
 val Greek
 MHO. . . . Middle High German
 mil. . . . military
 mineral. . . . mineralogy
 ML. . . . Middle Latin, medie-
 val Latin
 MLO. . . . Middle Low German
 mod. . . . modern
 morph. . . . morphology
 myth. . . . mythology
 n. . . . noun
 n. . . . neuter
 N. . . . New
 N. . . . North
 N. Amer. . . . North America
 nat. . . . natural
 naut. . . . nautical
 nar. . . . navigation
 NGr. . . . New Greek, modern
 Greek
 NHO. . . . New High German
 (usually simply G.,
 German)
 NL. . . . New Latin, modern
 Latin
 non. . . . nonnegative
 Norw. . . . Norwegian
 north. . . . northern
 New. . . . Norwegian
 num. . . . numismatic
 O. . . . Old
 ob. . . . obsolete
 ob. . . . obsolete
 Ob. . . . Old Bulgarian (other-
 wise called Church
 Slavonic, Old Slavic,
 Old Slavonic)
 Old. . . . Old Catalan
 OD. . . . Old Dutch
 ODan. . . . Old Danish
 odolog. . . . odontology
 odontol. . . . odontology
 OF. . . . Old French
 OFran. . . . Old Flemish
 Old. . . . Old Gaelic
 Old. . . . Old German
 Old. . . . Old Irish
 Old. . . . Old Italian
 Old. . . . Old Latin
 Old. . . . Old Low German
 Old. . . . Old Northmanian
 OFran. . . . Old Franconian
 orig. . . . original, originally
 Orth. . . . orthology
 OS. . . . Old Saxon
 Old. . . . Old Spanish
 ost. . . . osteology
 OSw. . . . Old Swedish
 OTurk. . . . Old Turkish
 p. a. . . . participial adjective
 pal. . . . paleontology
 part. . . . participle
 pass. . . . passive
 pathol. . . . pathology
 part. . . . partake
 Pers. . . . Persian
 pers. . . . person
 persp. . . . perspective
 Peruv. . . . Peruvian
 petro. . . . petrography
 pet. . . . petrology
 phar. . . . pharmacy
 Ph. . . . Phoenician
 philol. . . . philology
 phil. . . . philosophy
 phonog. . . . phonography

photog. . . . photography
 phys. . . . physical
 physiol. . . . physiology
 pl. . . . plural
 post. . . . postical
 polit. . . . political
 Pol. . . . Polish
 pos. . . . possessive
 pp. . . . past participle
 pres. . . . present participle
 Pr. . . . Provençal (usually
 meaning Old Pro-
 vençal)
 prof. . . . profane
 prep. . . . preposition
 pres. . . . present
 pres. . . . present
 priv. . . . privative
 prob. . . . probably, probable
 pron. . . . pronoun
 pron. . . . pronounced, pronun-
 tiation
 prop. . . . property
 pro. . . . prosoy
 Prot. . . . Protestant
 prov. . . . provincial
 psych. . . . psychology
 q. v. . . . *quod* (or *pl. quæ*)
 red. . . . reduplicate
 reg. . . . regular, regularly
 repr. . . . representing
 rhet. . . . rhetoric
 Rom. . . . Roman
 Rom. . . . Roman
 R. Amer. . . . South American
 R. Amer. . . . South American
 sc. . . . *scilicet*, under-
 stand, supply
 Sc. . . . Scotch
 Saxon. . . . Saxonian
 scrip. . . . scripture
 scrip. . . . scripture
 Serv. . . . Serbian
 sig. . . . singular
 Skt. . . . Sanskrit
 Slav. . . . Slavic, Slavonic
 Sp. . . . Spanish
 subj. . . . subjunctive
 superl. . . . superlative
 sur. . . . surveying
 Sw. . . . Swedish
 syn. . . . synonymy
 Syr. . . . Syriac
 tech. . . . technology
 tele. . . . telegraphy
 terat. . . . teratology
 term. . . . terminology
 Test. . . . Testonic
 theo. . . . theological
 therap. . . . therapeutics
 toxicol. . . . toxicology
 Tr. . . . Turkish
 trigon. . . . trigonometry
 Turk. . . . Turkish
 trop. . . . tropography
 ult. . . . ultimate, ultimately
 v. . . . verb
 var. . . . variant
 vet. . . . veterinary
 v. l. . . . intransitive verb
 v. t. . . . transitive verb
 W. . . . Welsh
 Wall. . . . Walloon
 W. . . . Walloon
 W. Ind. . . . West Indian
 w. . . . wadography
 zod. . . . zoology
 zool. . . . zoology

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION.

a as in fat, man, pang
 ä as in fate, many, date
 ä as in far, father, guard
 ä as in fat, tall, laugh
 ä as in ask, fast, sat
 ä as in fare, hair, bear
 ä as in met, pet, hear
 ä as in mate, maid, maid
 ä as in her, fern, heard
 i as in pin, it, limit
 i as in plea, right, file
 o as in not, on, frog
 ö as in note, pole, floor
 ö as in more, more, room
 ö as in nor, song, off
 u as in but, am, blood
 ü as in music, suit, few (also new, tube, duty: see Preface, pp. ix, x)

ä as in pull, book, could
 ö German ü, French u
 öt as in off, job, boy
 öe as in possé, proceed, now

A single dot under a vowel in an unaccounted syllable indicates the abbreviation and lightening, without absolute loss of its distinctive quality. See Preface, p. xi. Thus:

ä as in prelate, coverage, captain.
 ö as in oblige, episode.
 ö as in adequate, eulogy, democracy.
 ö as in singular, education.

A double dot under a vowel in an unaccounted syllable indicates that

even in the mouth of the best speakers, its sound is variable to, and in ordinary utterance actually becomes, the short *o*-sound (cf. bot, pen, etc.). See Preface, p. xi. Thus:

ä as in errand, republican.
 ö as in pretend, difference.
 i as in charity, family.
 ö as in ruler, actor, clock.
 ö as in Frelia, peninsula.
 ö as in the book.
 ö as in nature, feature.

A mark (-) under the consonants *t*, *d*, *s* indicates that they in this instance are variable to *th*, *f*, *sh*, *sk*. Thus:

ä as in nature, adventure.
 ä as in science, education.
 ä as in leisure.
 ä as in nature.

th as in thin.

ts as in this.

ch as in German *ach*, Scotch loch.

h French nasalizing *u*, as in loup, *ou*.

ly (in French words) French liquid (nasal) *l*.

' denotes a primary, " a secondary accent. (A secondary accent is not marked if at its regular interval of two syllables from the primary, or from another secondary.)

SIGNS.

< read from; *l. e.*, derived from.
 > read before; *l. e.*, from which is derived.
 ~ read and; *l. e.*, compounded with, or with *and*.
 ~ read opposite with; *l. e.*, synonymically parallel with.
 ✓ read root.
 * read theoretical or alleged; *l. e.*, theoretically assumed, or asserted but unverified, form.
 † read obsolete.

SPECIAL EXPLANATIONS.

A superior figure placed after a title word indicates that the word so marked is distinct etymologically from other words, following or preceding it, applied in the same manner and marked with different numbers. Thus:

back¹ (back¹) *n.* The posterior part, etc.
 back² (back²) *n.* Lying or being behind, etc.
 back³ (back³) *v.* To furnish with a back, etc.
 back⁴ (back⁴) *adv.* Behind, etc.
 back⁵ (back⁵) *n.* The serif form of hair.
 back⁶ (back⁶) *n.* A large flat-bottomed boat, etc.

Various abbreviations have been used in the credits to the quotations, as "No." for number, "at." for stanza, "p." for page, "l." for line, "¶" for paragraph, "fol." for folio. The method used in indicating the subdivisions of books will be understood by reference to the following plan:

Section only § 5.
 Chapter only ch.

Canto only xv.
 Book only B.
 Book and chapter B. ch.
 Part and chapter B. ch. p.
 Book and line B. l.
 Book and page B. p.
 Act and scene A. s.
 No. and page N. p.
 Volume and page V. p.
 Chapter and verse Ch. v.
 Part, canto, and stanza P. c. s.
 Chapter and section or ¶ Ch. s. ¶.
 Volume, part, and section or ¶ V. p. s. ¶.
 Book, chapter, and section or ¶ B. ch. s. ¶.

Different grammatical phases of the same word are grouped under one head, and distinguished by the Roman numerals I, II, III, etc. This applies to transitive and intransitive uses of the same verb, to adjectives used also as nouns, to nouns used also as adjectives, to adverbs used also as prepositions or conjunctions, etc.

The capitalizing and italicizing of certain or all of the words in a synonym-list indicates that the words so distinguished are discriminated in the text immediately following, or under the title referred to.

The figures by which the synonym-lists are sometimes divided indicate the senses or definitions with which they are connected.

The title-words begin with a small (lower-case) letter, or with a capital, according to usage. When usage differs, in this matter, with the different senses of a word, the abbreviations [cp.] for "capital" and [l. c.] for "lower-case" are used to indicate this variation.

The difference observed in regard to the capitalizing of the second element in zoological and botanical terms is in accordance with the existing usage in the two sciences. Thus, in zoology, in a scientific name consisting of two words the second of which is derived from a proper name, only the first would be capitalized. But a name of similar derivation in botany would have the second element also capitalized.

The names of zoological and botanical classes, orders, families, genera, etc., have been uniformly italicized, in accordance with the present usage of scientific writers.



1. The seventh letter and fifth consonant in the English alphabet. It is a sign of lip closure, having been first used by the Romans by a slight modification of C, when the distinguished Greek scholar Ptolemy from the 2nd cent. both used this representation as if it was found available and was adopted. (See C.) It has in English two principal or normal sounds, usually called "hard p" and "soft p" respectively. The former is the value originally belonging to the sign; the latter is the value originally belonging to the sign, modified by the position of the lips and the position of the tongue and the adjacent part, which breath enough to set the vocal chords vibrating in, during the continuance of the contact, as in the case of the other so-called stops (for stops or checks), giving the allophonic element. The p and p sounds are most often called the guttural stops; although since the guttural part has nothing to do with their formation, many authorities prefer to call them plain or labial p and p. The p and p in English is a compound (p = dak, the roman correlative of the palatal c, a variant of the sibilant of the hard p, the point of contact being further forward, the tongue and a slight or stillian vowel being added to the nasal element. It is though mainly to the Romance part of the language, p never occurs at the beginning of words of Anglo-Saxon origin (where it is always hard or changed to pi) and has nearly at all end of such words (where "p" is as in sleep, sheep, couple). Except in such instances, the word of Germanic origin, it is hard also before a r. The principal digraphs containing p are ph and pf. The former is written instead of the native guttural and sibilant p (see words for further note), and is either silent (as in night) or pronounced as f (as in laugh). With the digraph ph it written the nasal which corresponds to p and p in the same manner as n to d and t, or m to b and p, and which (for example, in country) is just as much a dentate sound as n or m. This guttural or palatal nasal is not an independent alphabetic element in any such way as n or m; in the older stages of the language of our family, it appears only before a next following p or t, as a nasal made guttural by assimilation to them; and the combination representing f is simply one in which the s, formerly pronounced, has become silent, like the t of od in dead, clock, food, etc. It is now silent before t in the same syllable, as in gnaw, spin. For g as the original of consonant y, see p.

2. As a mediæval Roman numeral, 600, and with a line over it, 600,000.—3. In the calendar, the seventh dominical letter.—4. In music: (a) The key-note of the major key of one sharp, having the signature shown at 1, or of the minor key of two flats, having the signature shown at 2. In music, in mediæval music, the final of the Mixolydian mode. (b) In the fixed system of notation, the fifth tone of the scale, and called so; hence so named by French musicians. (c) On the keyboard of the pianoforte, the white key next to the left of the middle of each group of three black keys. (d) The tone given by such a key, or a tone in unison with such a tone. (e) The degree of a staff assigned to such a key or tone; with the treble clef, the second line or the first added space above, as at 3. (f) A note on such a degree, indicating such a key or tone, as at 4.—5. In physics, a symbol for notation of gravity, which is about 9.8 meters (or 32 feet) per second.—6. In chem., a symbol for phosphorus; now rarely used, P being substituted for it.—g also. See go.

gāh, n. An earlier form of go.

gā, n. See go.

gā (gā). A dialectal pretic of go. See **gāh**, **gā**. 1. In chem., the symbol for gallium.—2. A dialectal form of gee, one of the United States.

gā (gā). n. pret. and pp. gābed, pp. gābed. (f) ME. gāben, talk idly, jest, lie in jest, lie (the alleged AS. *gabben*, in Somner, is a myth); (f) OE. *gabbe*, mock, make game of, opt. of OFries. *gabbe*, accuse, prosecute, NPries. *gabben*, laugh, gabber, jest, sport (Heilhothen).

The Rom. form, OF. *gabber* = Fr. *gabier* = It. *gabber*, mock, deride, deceive, cheat; = Eg. *gabber*, praise, reff. boast, are also of Scand. origin. Hence *gā*, n., *gabbe*, freq., and ult. *gabber* and *gabber*; see those words, and cf. *gab*, n. There is no proof of the supposed ult. Celtic origin (fr. *gab*, *gab*, *gab*, the mouth, etc.; see *gab*, *gab*). I. Intrusive. 1. To jest; lie in jest; speak with exaggeration; lie. Their gods will not gab, that grantid him first The chief to take; I am not loth to gab. *Distinction of Troy* (R. E. T. 8. 1). 1. By not, or gabbe not, I shall be called to gab. *Wyclif*, Gal. 1. 28 (orig.). So to sign (needs to say), and to gab to gab. 2. To talk idly; talk much; chatter; praise. [Now only colloq.] I am not loth to gab. *Chaucer*, Miller's Tale. Ne, though I saye, I am not loth to gabbe. *Chaucer*, Miller's Tale. Thus act one of the knights of France, who hold it for gl'es and praise to gab, as they term it, of exploits that are beyond human power. *Scott*, Talisman. III. Trans. To speak or tell falsely. My sense, and athen that show wit That I shall see, gabbe some. *Scott*, Talisman. But tall, etc. *Douglas*, Conf. Amant. It null tress seild that told me ther was not such a nother knyght in the worldis, for he gabbed to write. *Beowulf* (E. T. 8. 1). II. Gab (gab). n. [Cf. ME. *gabbe*, idle talk, lying; of. *gab*, *gab*, n. = Fr. *gab*, mocking, mockery (OF. *gab*, etc.; see *gab*); from the verb. Cf. *gab*, n. Idle talk; chatter; loquacity. [Colloq.] Some once blate idly, and some w' gab Our lawes heard us staie. *Shakespeare*, Twelfth Night. Whiles that at night. *Burton*, Hallowes' Eve. I always knew you had the gab of the gab of some, but I never believed you were half the man you are. *De Witt*, Notes. **gab**(gab), n. [Sc. = North. E. *gab*, the mouth; see *gab*.] The mouth. It ake maie in your gab and then your cheeks can be told. *James's Scottish Proverbs*, p. 16. **gab**(gab), v. t. [Appar. C *gab*, the mouth; or a var. of *gab* or *gab*, assimilated to *gab*.] To project like a tank. Of teeth there be three sort; for either they be treated like sares, or else set flat, even and level, or hat of all stand *gabbing* out of the mouth. *Randell*, tr. of *Pliny*, tr. 7. **gab**(gab), n. (Origin obscure.) A hook or crook; specifically, the hook on an oceanic-rod which engages the wrist on the rock-shaft lever of a valve-motion. *E. H. Aught*. **gab**(gab), n. [OF. *gā*, *gab*, n., also *gab*, n. = Fr. *gab* = It. *gabbe*, a jest, joke, mock, mockery; = Eg. *gabbe*, praise (ult. identical with *gab*, n. = Fr. from the verb; see under *gab*).] A jest; joke; mock; a piece of pleasantry. One account perhaps all the "Ballad of King Arthur" were remarkable than the fact of its close imitation of the famous game made by Chateauguay and his companions at the court of King Arthur, which was first met with in a romance of the twelfth century. It is to be presumed that the author of the ballad, etc., and embellishing his story by converting King Hagon's spy into a "lady friend," by those means the game accomplished. *Child's Ballads*, I. 28, App.

gabbar(gab'ar), n. [Perhaps connected with *gabbar (?).] Coarse packing-cloth: a term formerly used for the wrappers in which Irish goods were packed. **gabbarine**, **gabbarine** (gab'ar-dén, -ar-dén), n. [= It. *gabbarine*, formerly also called *gab*; = OF. *gabbarine*, Cf. *gabbarine*, a gabbarine appar. extended from Fr. *gabbe*, a great-coat with hood and long sleeves, = OF. *gabbe* = It. *gabbanio*, a shepherd's cloak, dim. *gabbanella*, a gabbarine, etc.; perhaps connected with *gab*, *gabbe*, a large cloak with hood and sleeves, *gabbe*, a cabin, hut, etc.; see *gab*, *gabbe*, *gabbe*, *gabbe*, *gabbe*, etc.] A long loose*

cloak or frock, generally coarse, with or without sleeves and a hood, formerly worn by common men out of doors, and distinctively by Jews when their mode of dress was regulated by law; hence, any similar outer garment worn at the present day, especially in Eastern countries. You call me mischievous, out through God And sit upon my Jewish shoulders. *Mas. M. V. 1. 1.* And all for use of that which I make none. *Shakespeare*, Macbeth, III. 2. The stem is close again; my best way is to creep under his gabbarine. *Shakespeare*, The Taming of the Shrew, IV. 1. Under your gabbarines wear pistols at. *Shakespeare*, The Taming of the Shrew, IV. 1. 1. 2. Here was a Tanager merchant in sky-blue gabbarine, with a Puritan shawl I waded around his neck. *Mac. M. V. 1. 1.* T. R. Aldrich, Postmaster to Posh, p. 202. **gabbar**(gab'ar), n. [Cf. *gabbar*, a kind of dish or platter; ML. as in *gabbar*.] A vessel suspended in a church, probably to hold a light. *See below*. **gabbar**, **gabbar** (gab'ar, -ar), n. [Formerly also *gabbar*, *gabbar*, *gabbar*; Cf. *gabbar* = It. *gabbar*, a lighter, a store-vessel; Lat. dim. *gabbar*, *gabbar*, *gabbar*, *gabbar*, etc.] A kind of heavy-built vessel, barge, or lighter, intended especially for inland navigation; as a coal-gabbar. [Obsolete or dialectal.] Chateauguay to vessels like the *gabbar* of France, Gallia, sailing down the river, the gabbar, which sails as a mine or *gabbar* sail. *Navy's Voyage*, II. 172. Little gabbar, with coals and provisions, etc., came up here from Montreal. *De Witt*, Notes. I swung and bobbed under as mids as a gabbar: that's moored by a three-cable chain at the Bicentennial. *De Witt*, Notes. **gabbar**(gab'ar), n. [Eh. platform.] The place where Pilate sat at Christ's trial. It appears to have been a scaffolded pavement outside the pretorium or judgment-hall, on which the tribunal was placed, from which the governor pronounced final sentence. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that was called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, *Gabbar*. *John*, ch. 18. **gabber**, v. n. A Middle English form of *gab*. **gabber** (gab'ar), n. [Cf. ME. *gabber*, a liar, deceiver; C *gab* + -ar.] 1. One who gabs, prates, talks idly, or lies. He is a japer and a gabber, and no terry (true) reputation, that oftentimes doth lye for which him ought to repute. *Chaucer*, Prioress's Tale. Drunken he sat at the *gabber* table. *Tasso*, *Liber*, p. 126. **gabber** (gab'ar), n. [From the verb.] 2. A person skillful in the art of burlesque. *Franklin*, Autobiog. (ed. 1813), p. 67. **gabber** (gab'ar), v. t. and f. [Cf. *D. gabberen*, *gabben*; a var. of *gabbe*, freq. of *gab*; Cf. equiv. *gabber*.] To gabble. [Prov. Eng. and Scotch.] **gabbin**, n. [ME. *gabbing*; verbal n. of *gab*, v.] Idle talk; prating; lying; deceit. His gyp was all wiles to women and to bygone: *gabbings*, and with *gabbing* to go with the people. *Piers Plowman* (B), st. 184. *Dante*, *Divine Comedy*. *Fort Page*, p. 177. He ye right after, when the chieftain shall be here, I shall well know yef he has made any *gabbing*, and I have very trust in God, that yet if he so ye have said, ye shall not be done ther-by. *Martin* (R. E. T. 8. 1). **gabbe** (gab'be), v. t. pret. and pp. gabbed, pp. gabbed. [Cf. *gabbe* (= *D. gabberen*), *gabbe*, freq. of *gab*.] Cf. the assimilated forms *gabbe* and *gabbe*, and *gabber*. I. *gabbe*. 1. To talk noisily and rapidly; speak incoherently or without sense; japper. *See above*, and such a *gabbe*. *Shakespeare*, Twelfth Night. Run to best Jack Pudding *gabbe*. *Shakespeare*, Twelfth Night. Upon my coming last there, at or eight of them surprised me on horseback, and began to gabbe their own language. *Brown*, Source of the Nile, I. 136.

182

2. To utter inarticulate sounds in rapid succession, like a goose when feeding.

Who ever the lost grandeur part second, the sprawling legs her bonny eyes!

Who (steps and gabbles) he tries to talk.

III. Frase. 1. To utter rapidly, rapidly, and incoherently: as, to gabble a lesson. [Colloq.]

2. To affect in some way by gabbling.

What do I talk about the gift of tongues? ... it was no gift, but the confusion of tongues which had gabbled us into a past.

gabgle (gab'l), n. [*Gabble*, s.]. 1. Loud or rapid talk without sense or coherence.

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excite duty, especially in continental Europe; formerly, in France, specifically the tax on salt, but also applied to taxes on other industrial products.

The three estates ordered that the gabell of salt should be retained.

Berners, ix. of Froissart's Chron., i. civ. and indeed on almost everything that can be eaten, drunk, or worn.

gabell (gab'el), s. f. prev. and pp. gabelled or gabelled, pp. gabelling or gabelling. [Gabel, s.] To tax. [Rare.]

gabellor (gab'el-er), n. A collector of the gabell or taxes. [Rare.]

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gabied

bricks which form the frame for the gabion. Also called gabion brick, fern, and sometimes loam.

gabionade, gabionade (gab'ee-nad'), n. [*Gabionade*, s.]. 1. In fort., a work formed chiefly of gabions, especially the gabions placed to cover guns from an enfilading fire.

Gabionades used as traverse to protect gun from enfilading fire. See Amer. N. H., LVII, 27.

2. Any hydraulic structure composed in whole or part of gabions sunk in a stream to control the current.

gabionage (gab'ee-naj), n. [*Gabion* + *age*]. The supply or disposition of gabions in a fortification.

gabioned (gab'ee-ned), n. [*Gabion* + *ed*]. In fort., furnished with, formed of, or protected by gabions.

The fourth day were planted under the gird of the citadel two deep gabions and two cuttings against the towers, defended or gabionned with a cross wall, through which our battery lay. Havelock's Report, II, li, 140.

He told me he had a plan of attacking Chertsey by floating batteries, strongly parapeted and gabionned, which he was sure would succeed.

W. H. Russell, Diary in India, I, 121.

gabionnade, n. See gabionnade.

gabion, gabion (gab'ee-on), n. [*Gabion* + *on*]. A structure made of stone, earth, or other material, used in fortifications.

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