

The Oxford English Dictionary

VOLUME XII

V-Z

AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

BEING A CORRECTED RE-ISSUE

WITH AN

INTRODUCTION, SUPPLEMENT, AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES

FOUNDED MAINLY ON THE MATERIALS COLLECTED BY

The Philological Society



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V-Z

AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual values.

g as in *go* (gō).
h ... *ho!* (hō).
r ... *run* (rən), *terrier* (tə'ri:ə).
ɹ ... *her* (hə), *farther* (fɑ:'ðə).
s ... *see* (si), *cess* (ses).
w ... *wen* (wen).
hw ... *when* (hwen).
y ... *yes* (yes).

þ as in *thin* (pin), *bathe* (bæþ).
ð ... *then* (ðen), *bathe* (bæð).
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃɒp), *dish* (diʃ).
tʃ ... *chop* (tʃɒp), *ditch* (diʃ).
ʒ ... *vision* (vi'ʒən), *déjeuner* (de'ʒɔ:ne).
dʒ ... *judge* (dʒʌdʒ).
ŋ ... *singing* (si'ŋŋ), *think* (piŋk).
ŋɡ ... *finger* (fiŋɡə).

(FOREIGN.)

ñ as in *French nasal, environ* (aŋvi'ron).
lʲ ... It. *seraglio* (se'ra:li'o).
nʲ ... It. *signore* (si'no:re).
x ... Ger. *ach* (ax), Sc. *loch* (lox, loxʷ).
xʲ ... Ger. *ich* (ixʲ), Sc. *nicht* (nɔxʲt).
ɣ ... Ger. *sagen* (zä'ɣən).
ɣʲ ... Ger. *legen, regnen* (lɛ'ɣɛn, rɛ'ɣɛnən).

II. VOWELS.

ORDINARY.

a as in *Fr. à la mode* (a la mɔd').
ai ... *aye=yes* (ai), *Isaiah* (ə'zai:ə).
æ ... *man* (mæn).
ɑ ... *pass* (pas), *chant* (tʃant).
au ... *loud* (laud), *now* (nau).
ʊ ... *cut* (kʌt), *son* (sɒn).
e ... *yet* (yet), *ten* (ten).
ɛ ... *survey sb.* (sə'vi:), *Fr. attaché* (ataʃe).
|| ɛ ... *Fr. chef* (ʃɛf).
ə ... *ever* (evə), *nation* (nə'i:ʃən).
ɔi ... *I, eye*, (əi), *bind* (baɪnd).
|| ə ... *Fr. eau de vie* (ə də vi').
i ... *sit* (sit), *mystic* (mistik).
ɪ ... *Psyche* (sai'ki), *react* (ri'æ:kt).
o ... *achor* (ə'ko:), *morality* (mɔræ'liti).
oi ... *oil* (oil), *boy* (boi).
o ... *hero* (hi'ro), *zoology* (zɔ:ɒlədʒi).
ɔ ... *what* (hwɒt), *watch* (wɒtʃ).
ɒ, ɒ* ... *got* (gɒt), *soft* (sɒft).
|| ɔ ... Ger. *Köln* (kœln).
|| ɔ ... *Fr. peu* (pø).
u ... *full* (ful), *book* (buk).
ɪ ... *duration* (diʊ'rei:ʃən).
ʌ ... *unto* (vntu), *frugality* (fru-).
iu ... *Matthew* (mæ'tju), *virtue* (vɜ:tiu).
|| ü ... Ger. *Müller* (mü'lɛr).
|| ü ... *Fr. dune* (dün).
o (see iə, ɔə, ɔ, ü) } see Vol. I, p. xxxiv, note 3.
ɪ, u (see ɛi, ɔu) }
' as in *able* (ə'b'l), *eaten* (i'tn) = voice-glide.

LONG.

ā as in *alms* (āmz), *bear* (bār).
ō ... *curl* (kɔ:l), *fur* (fɔ:).
ē (ēo) ... *there* (ðe:), *pear*, *pare* (pɛ:).
ē (ēi) ... *rein*, *rain* (rɛ:n), *they* (ðe:i).
ē ... *Fr. faire* (fɛr').
ē ... *fir* (fɔ:), *fern* (fɛ:n), *earth* (ɛ:θ).
ī (īo) ... *hier* (hi:), *clear* (kli:).
ī ... *thief* (θi:f), *see* (si).
ō (ōo) ... *boar*, *bore* (bɔ:), *glory* (glɔ:ri).
ō (ōa) ... *so*, *sow* (sɔ:a), *soul* (sɔ:l).
ō ... *walk* (wɔ:k), *wart* (wɔ:t).
ō ... *short* (ʃɔ:t), *thorn* (θɔ:n).
|| ɔ ... *Fr. cœur* (kœr).
|| ɔ ... Ger. *Göthe* (gœtɛ), *Fr. Jeanne* (ʒœn).
ū (ūo) ... *poor* (pɔ:), *moorish* (mɔ:riʃ).
iū, iū ... *pure* (piū:), *lure* (liū:).
iū ... *two moons* (tū mūnz).
iū, iū ... *few* (fiū), *lute* (liūt).
|| ü ... Ger. *grün* (grün), *Fr. jus* (ʒü).

OBSCURE.

ǣ as in *æmceba* (ǣmfǣ).
ǣ ... *accept* (ǣkse'pt), *maniac* (mɛ'i'niæk).
ð ... *datum* (dɛ'i:təm).
ě ... *moment* (mɔ'mɛnt), *several* (se'verəl).
ǣ ... *separate* (adʒi) (se'pə'reit).
ə ... *added* (æ'dɛd), *estate* (ɛstɛ'i:t).
ĩ ... *vanity* (væ'niti).
ĩ ... *remain* (rɛ'mɛ'i:n), *believe* (bɛ'lɛv).
ǫ ... *theory* (θɛ'ɔ:ri).
ð ... *violet* (vai'ɔ:lɛt), *parody* (pær'ɔ:di).
ǫ ... *authority* (ɔ'θɔ:riti).
ǫ ... *connect* (kə'ne:kt), *amazon* (æ'mæzən).
iū, iū ... *verdure* (vɜ:diū), *measure* (me'ʒiū).
iū ... *altogether* (ɔltə'ge:ðə).
iū ... *circular* (sɜ'iklɛ'i:lɛi).

* ɒ the ɔ in soft, of medial or doubtful length.

|| Only in foreign (or earlier English) words

In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. e, æ, representing an earlier a, are distinguished as ɛ, ɶ (having the phonetic value of ɛ and ɶ, or ɶ, above); as in *ende* from *andē* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *mann* from *mann*, *en* from *an*.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

a. [in Etymol.] ... = adoption of, adopted from.
a (as *a* 1300) ... = *ante*, before.
a., *adj.*, *adj.* ... = adjective.
absol., *absol.* ... = absolutely.
abst. ... = abstract.
acc. ... = accusative.
ad. [in Etymol.] ... = adaptation of.
adv., *adv.* ... = adverb.
advb. ... = adverbial, -ly.
AF., *AFr.* ... = Anglo-French.
Anat. ... = in Anatomy.
Antiq. ... = in Antiquities.
aphet. ... = aphetic, aphetized.
app. ... = apparently.
Arab. ... = Arabic.
Arch. ... = in Architecture.
arch. ... = archaic.
Archæol. ... = in Archæology.
assoc. ... = association.
Astr. ... = in Astronomy.
Astrol. ... = in Astrology.
attrib. ... = attributive, -ly.
bef. ... = before.
Biol. ... = in Biology.
Boh. ... = Bohemian.
Bot. ... = in Botany.
Build. ... = in Building.
c (as *c* 1300) ... = *circa*, about.
c. (as 13th c.) ... = century.
Cat. ... = Catalan.
catachr. ... = catachrestically.
Cf., *cf.* ... = *confer*, compare.
Chem. ... = in Chemistry.
cl. L. ... = classical Latin.
cogn. w. ... = cognate with.
collect. ... = collective, -ly.
colloq. ... = colloquially.
comb. ... = combined, -ing.
Comb. ... = Combinations.
Comm. ... = in commercial usage.
comp. ... = compound, composition.
compl. ... = complement.
Conch. ... = in Conchology.
concr. ... = concretely.
conj. ... = conjunction.
cons. ... = consonant.
Const., *Const.* ... = Construction, construed with.
Cryst. ... = in Crystallography.
(D.) ... = in Davies (Sapp. Eng. Glossary).
Da. ... = Danish.
dat. ... = dative.
def. ... = definite.
deriv. ... = derivative, -ation.
dial., *dial.* ... = dialect, -al.
Dict. ... = Dictionary.
dim. ... = diminutive.
Du. ... = Dutch.
Eccl. ... = in ecclesiastical usage.
ellipt. ... = elliptical, -ly.
e. midl. ... = east midland (dialect).
Eng. ... = English.
Ent. ... = in Entomology.
erron. ... = erroneous, -ly.
esp., *esp.* ... = especially.
etym. ... = etymology.
euphem. ... = euphemistically.
exc. ... = except.
f. [in Etymol.] ... = formed on.
f. (in subordinate entries) ... = form of.
fem. (*rarely f.*) ... = feminine.
fig. ... = figurative, -ly.
F., *Fr.* ... = French.
freq. ... = frequently.
Fris. ... = Frisian.
G., *Ger.* ... = German.
Gael. ... = Gaelic.

gen. ... = genitive.
gen. ... = general, -ly.
gen. sign. ... = general signification.
Geol. ... = in Geology.
Geom. ... = in Geometry.
Goth. ... = Gothic (= Moso-Gothic).
Gr. ... = Greek.
Gram. ... = in Grammar.
Heb. ... = Hebrew.
Her. ... = in Heraldry.
Herb. ... = with herbalists.
Hort. ... = in Horticulture.
imp. ... = Imperative.
impers. ... = impersonal.
imperf. ... = imperfect.
ind. ... = Indicative.
indef. ... = indefinite.
inf. ... = Infinitive.
infl. ... = influenced.
int. ... = interjection.
intr. ... = intransitive.
It. ... = Italian.
J., (*J.*) ... = Johnson (quotation from).
(Jam.) ... = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict.
(Jod.) ... = Jodrell (quoted from).
L. ... = Latin.
(L.) (in quotations) ... = Latham's edn. of Todd's [Johnson].
lang. ... = language.
LG. ... = Low German.
lit. ... = literal, -ly.
Lith. ... = Lithuanian.
LXX. ... = Septuagint.
Mal. ... = Malay.
masc. (*rarely m.*) ... = masculine.
Math. ... = in Mathematics.
ME. ... = Middle English.
Med. ... = in Medicine.
med. L. ... = mediæval Latin.
Mech. ... = in Mechanics.
Metaph. ... = in Metaphysics.
MHG. ... = Middle High German.
midl. ... = midland (dialect).
Mil. ... = in military usage.
Min. ... = in Mineralogy.
mod. ... = modern.
Mus. ... = in Music.
(N.) ... = Nares (quoted from).
n. of action ... = noun of action.
n. of agent ... = noun of agent.
Nat. Hist. ... = in Natural History.
Naut. ... = in nautical language.
neut. (*rarely n.*) ... = neuter.
NFr., *NFr.* ... = Northern French.
N. O. ... = Natural Order.
nom. ... = nominative.
north. ... = northern (dialect).
N. T. ... = New Testament.
Numism. ... = in Numismatics.
obj. ... = object.
Obs., *obs.*, *obs.* ... = obsolete.
occas. ... = occasional, -ly.
OE. ... = Old English (= Anglo-Saxon).
OF., *OFr.* ... = Old French.
OFris. ... = Old Frisian.
OHG. ... = Old High German.
OIr. ... = Old Irish.
ON. ... = Old Norse (Old Icelandic).
ONF. ... = Old Northern French.
Opt. ... = in Optics.
Ornith. ... = in Ornithology.
OS. ... = Old Saxon.
OSl. ... = Old Slavonic.
O. T. ... = Old Testament.
OTeut. ... = Original Teutonic.
orig. ... = original, -ly.
Palæont. ... = in Palæontology.
pa. pple. ... = passive or past participle.
pass. ... = passive, -ly.

pa. t. ... = past tense.
Path. ... = in Pathology.
perh. ... = perhaps.
Pers. ... = Persian.
pers. ... = person, -al.
pf. ... = perfect.
Pg. ... = Portuguese.
Philol. ... = in Philology.
phonet. ... = phonetic, -ally.
phr. ... = phrase.
Phren. ... = in Phrenology.
Phys. ... = in Physiology.
pl., *pl.* ... = plural.
poet. ... = poetic.
pop. ... = popular, -ly.
ppl. a., *ppl. adj.* ... = participial adjective.
pple. ... = participle.
Pr. ... = Provençal.
prec. ... = preceding (word or article).
pref. ... = prefix.
prep. ... = preposition.
pres. ... = present.
Prim. sign. ... = Primary signification.
priv. ... = privative.
prob. ... = probably.
pron. ... = pronoun.
pronunc. ... = pronunciation.
prop. ... = properly.
Pros. ... = in Prosody.
pr. pple. ... = present participle.
Psych. ... = in Psychology.
q.v. ... = *quod vide*, which see.
(R.) ... = in Richardson's Dict.
R. C. Ch. ... = Roman Catholic Church.
refash. ... = refashioned, -ing.
refl., *refl.* ... = reflexive.
reg. ... = regular.
repr. ... = representative, representing.
Rhet. ... = in Rhetoric.
Rom. ... = Romanic, Romance.
sb., *sb.* ... = substantive.
Sc. ... = Scotch.
sc. ... = *scilicet*, understand or supply.
sing. ... = singular.
Skr. ... = Sanskrit.
Slav. ... = Slavonic.
Sp. ... = Spanish.
sp. ... = spelling.
spec. ... = specifically.
subj. ... = subject, subjunctive.
subord. cl. ... = subordinate clause.
subseq. ... = subsequently.
subst. ... = substantively.
suff. ... = suffix.
superl. ... = superlative.
Surg. ... = in Surgery.
Sw. ... = Swedish.
s.w. ... = south western (dialect).
T. (T.) ... = in Todd's Johnson.
techn. ... = technical, -ly.
Theol. ... = in Theology.
tr. ... = translation of.
trans. ... = transitive.
transf. ... = transferred sense.
Trig. ... = in Trigonometry.
Typog. ... = in Typography.
ult. ... = ultimate, -ly.
unkn. ... = unknown.
U.S. ... = United States.
v., *vb.* ... = verb.
v. str., or *w.* ... = verb strong, or weak.
vbl. sb. ... = verbal substantive.
var. ... = variant of.
wd. ... = word.
WGer. ... = West Germanic.
w. midl. ... = west midland (dialect).
WS. ... = West Saxon.
(Y.) ... = in Col. Yule's Glossary.
Zool. ... = in Zoology.

† = obsolete.
 ‡ = not naturalized.
 In the quotations.
 * sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms.
 1 = before 1100.
 2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200).
 3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300).
 5-7 = 15th to 17th century. (See General Explanations, Vol. I, p. xxx.)

In the Etymol.
 * indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred.
 :- = extant representative, or regular phonetic descendant of.

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

V.

V (*vī*), the 22nd letter of the modern English and the 20th of the ancient Roman alphabet, was in the latter an adoption of the early Greek vowel-symbol *V*, now also represented by *U* and *Y* (q.v.), but in Latin was employed also with the value of the Greek digamma (*viz. w*), to which it corresponds etymologically. When not purely vocalic, it still denoted this sound at the time when the earliest Latin loan-words were adopted in the Teutonic languages; consequently such words beginning with *v* appear in Old English with *w*. Under the Empire, however, the semi-vocalic sound gradually changed to a bilabial consonant, and finally became the labio-dental voiced spirant now denoted by the letter in English and various other languages. This development did not take place in Old English; and no *v*, whether bilabial or labio-dental, occurred initially in the older Teutonic languages, although the sound was common in other positions (in OE. denoted by *f*, in early texts by *ð*).

In OE. dictionaries there is thus no set of words with initial *V*, one or two Latin words adopted at a late period usually appearing with *f*, as *fann*, *fers* (but also *vers*), from *L. vannus*, *versus*. The first appearance of *V*-words is found in those ME. texts which begin to show a distinct French influence, as the *Ancren Riwe*; even early writers like Orm and Lazamon, while not free from the use of French words, do not employ any beginning with *v*. The number of such words steadily increases in later texts, and is subsequently greatly reinforced by direct adoptions from Latin, by new formations on Latin stems, and by adoptions from other Romanic languages. The other sources of initial *V* are of minor importance. The change of *w* to *v*, which took place in the middle period of the Scandinavian languages, is represented in a few words, as *Valhalla*, *valkyrie*, *viking*, but otherwise the words with this initial are chiefly derived from languages not directly related to English. A small number of words, however, as *vat*, *vixen*, exemplify the voicing of *f*-peculiar to southern (now only south-western) dialects. This change is not indicated in OE. spelling, and how far it had developed in speech is uncertain, but in southern ME. texts all native words (rarely those of French or Latin origin) beginning with *f* may appear with *v* (or its equivalent *u*); the more important variant forms due to this cause are entered in their places below. Conversely words properly having *v* are occasionally written with *f*, and there is evidence that this is not merely graphic, but represents an actual pronunciation. ('Euen so oure Englishmen vse to speake in Essex, for they say finerger for vineger, feale for veale, & contrary wyse a vox for a foxe, voure for foure, etc.' 1546 Langley, tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* I. vi. 14.)

When not initial, *v* occurs freely in native words as well as in those of Latin or other origin. In the former it represents OE. *f* when voiced, as in *æfen* even, *drifan* drive, *lufu* love. The use of *f* (or *ff*) in such words was partly retained in ME. (and especially in Sc. down to the 16th century); but even in late OE. *u* is frequently substituted, and in early ME. (as in med.L. and OF.) *u* and *v* come into general use to denote the sound in all positions. It was only in the 17th century that these two letters, both of which had been employed in a double function (see *U*), were finally distinguished as vowel and consonant; and down to the 19th century words beginning with either letter continued to form one series in dictionaries.

In some ME. (chiefly northern) manuscripts, and in many Scottish texts of the 15th and 16th centuries, *v* is more or less frequently written in place of *w*, while conversely *w* is freely written instead of *v*. These forms are merely graphic, and do not imply a phonetic interchange of *w* and *v* (though in mod. north-eastern Sc. *wr-* has become *vr-*). In south-eastern English dialects the

change of *v* to *w* does occur, and older representations of Cockney speech exhibit a converse change of *w* to *v*, which recent investigators have been unable to verify as still existent. The latter change is illustrated in the following quotations.

1803 *Peccat Anecd. Eng. Lang.* (1814) 77 William, I want my vig... Vitch vig, Sir!... Vy, the vite vig in the wooden vig-box, vitch I vore last Vensday at the westry. 1824 *Spirit Publ. Frns.* (1825) 37, I was valking by the Admirality in my vay home. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxiii, Ve got Tom Vildspark off... ven all the big vigs... said as nothing couldn't save him.

Elision of *v* when not initial has taken place extensively in dialects, especially those of the North and Scotland, as in *deil* devil, *shule* shovel, *hairst* harvest. In standard English this is represented by such words as *hawk*, *head*, *lark*, *lord*, and is specially indicated in a few archaic or poetic forms, as *c'en* even, *c'er* ever, *ne'er* never, *o'er* over.

I. 1. Illustrations of the use of the letter or of its name. † *Double V* [i.e. *U*], = *W*.

1460 in *Archaeol.* (1842) XXIX. 331 There was an *V* and three arres to-gydre. 1530 *PALSGR.* 440 A byfore *V*. 1552 *HULOT s.v.*, There is a diuersitie betwene the single *V*. and the double *V*, therefore the alphabete of them shalbe set diuersly. 1593 *G. HARVEY Pirces Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 211 He that can tickle Mar-prelate with taunts, can twitch double *V*. to the quicke. 1636 *B. JONSON Eng. Gram.* iii. *V*. is, like our *i*, a letter of a double power. 1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* 16 Some Letters of the same name and shape are used sometimes for Vowels, and sometimes for Consonants; as *J*, *V*, *W*, *Y*. 1676 *GREW Anat. Pl.*, *Anat. Fl.* iv. 154 An Angle, twice as big as that of a *V* Consonant. 1728 *CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v. U*, Besides the Vowel *U*, there is a Consonant of the same Denomination, wrote *V*, or *U*. 1736 *AINSWORTH II. s.v.*, Our Saxon ancestors, who commonly substitute *f* in the place of *v*. 1808 *JAMIESON, V*, in some of our old printed books, is invariably used for *W*. 1888 *JACOBI Printers' Vocab.* 151, *V* is not used as a signature in the printer's alphabet. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Oct. 11 The letter for the ensuing year was directed to be changed to *V* Gothic.

2. Used with reference to the shape of the letter; an object having this shape; a *V*-shaped, acute-angled formation.

1832 [see next]. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xiii/1 The corsage draped in the form of a *V* on the bosom. 1863 *TYNDALL Heat* (1870) iv. § 131 The water... is first brought into one arm of the *V*. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 45/2 The first geese of the season will wing their way in lines and *V*'s from the south.

b. *attrib.*, as *V-form*, *shape*; freq. in the sense 'shaped like the letter *V*', as *V-anvil*, *edge*, *hut*, *slide*, *thread*, *tool* (in fret-cutting), *-trough*, etc.; *V-pug*, a species of moth (see quot.).

1861 *SIR W. FAIRBAIRN Iron* 125 The *V*-anvil, fig. 43, the natural offspring of the steam-hammer. 1844 *H. STEPHENS Bk. Farm* III. 704 A rod passing... through a *V*-form brace of iron. 1857 *R. B. PAUL Lett. Canterbury* 57 The form is that of a *V* hut, the extremities of the rafters being left bare. 1879 *C. L. INNES Canterbury Sh.* 20 A *V* hut... is exactly as if you took the roof off a house and stood it on the ground. 1834 *J. RENNIE Consol. Butterf.* & *M.* 132 The *V* Pug (*Empithecra V. ata*)... Wings, marked with a black *V* behind the middle. 1869 *RANKINE Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. N. 2, A pair of opposite dies of a *V* shape. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* VII. 88/1 A rectangular or oblong table of iron... upon two *V* slides. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 479 The *V* supports may now be secured in their places. 1887 *D. A. Low Machine Draw.* (1892) 14 The Whitworth *V* thread... is the standard form of triangular thread used in this country. 1875 *SIR T. SEATON Fret-Cutting* 8 The *V* tool is the most difficult of all tools to sharpen. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 2983, **V*-trough for funnel and subterranean wires. 1842 *FRANCIS Dict. Arts*, **V* tube, a glass tube, in the form of the letter *V*..., to show the decomposition of a neutral salt by galvanism.

c. *Comb.* in *V-shaped* adj. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 202/1 A fissure or triangular *V*-shaped notch. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 423/2 Tools... generally double-angular or *V*-shaped. 1872 *COUES IV. Amer. Birds* 103 A *V*-shaped black mark on side of head.

3. Used to denote serial order, as *V* Battery, *MS. V*, or as a symbol of some thing or person, a point in a diagram, etc.

II. 4. The Roman numeral symbol for: Five († or fifth).

13... *K. Atis* 1851 Anon he dop his bemen blowe, v c. on a browe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Pe v. 303 of prede. c 1449 *Peacock Repr.* I. v. 23, v. Chapter. The *v*. principal argument... is this. 1484 *CAXTON Fables of Esop*, *Alfonce* iii, [Of the x tonnes] v were full of oyle, & the other v were but half ful. 1530 *PALSGR.* 58 As appereth in the iii chaptre and the v rule of the same. 1535 *COVERDALE Job* i. 3, v. C. yock of oxen, v. C. she asses. 1636 *B. JONSON Eng. Gram.* ii, Our numeral letters are, I for 1, V for 5. 1788 *GIBSON Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 6 A single chapter will include, III. The Bulgarians, IV. Hungarians, and V. Russians. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* V. 151/2 With an Engraving, Plate V. *Ibid.* 197/1 Lecture V.

b. *V*, *V-spot*, *V-note*, a five-dollar note. *U.S.*

1837 *Knickerbocker Mag.* IX. 96 My wallet...[was] dis-tended with V's and X's to its utmost capacity. 1849 *LOWELL Biglow P.* Ser. I. viii. 57, I vow my holl sheer o' the spiles wouldn't come nigh a V spot. 1864 *BROWNING Dram. Personæ* Wks. 1896 I. 603 Sixty V's must do. A trifle, though, to start with! *Ibid.*, A poor lad... hears the company Talk grand of dollars, V-notes, and so forth.

III. 5. Abbreviations.

a. Of various Latin words or phrases: *v* = *verso* 'the back of the leaf', *versus* 'against', *vide* 'see'; *v.g.* = *verbi gratia*.

1678 *PHILLIPS, V.G.* an usual character or abbreviation of the words *verbi gratia*, i.e. namely, or to instance in a word. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* II. xxx. § 5 [Ideas] made up of such collections of simple ideas as were really never united...: v.g. [etc.]. 1738 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* (1751) s.v. *Angle, V*. *Phil. Trans.* No. 420. p. 147. 1767 *R. BURN Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) IV. C. c. A Table of the Cases adjudged;... Acton v. Smith... Adams v. Rush [etc.]. 1827 *JARMAN Powell's Devises* II. 311 It is to be observed that Maddison v. Andrew, and Mills v. Norris, were decided at a period when the rule... was not so well settled. 1865 *Reader* 28 Jan., *Rime v. Rhyme*.

b. Of English words and phrases: *V*. = various proper names, as *Victoria*, *Vincent*, *Violet*, etc.; the chemical symbol of Vanadium; *v* = verb, verse, vision (in *Med.*); very (in various phrases, as *v.g.* very good, *v.h.c.* very highly commended, etc.); *V.A.* = *Vicar-Apostolic*; *V.C.* = *Victoria Cross*; *v.d.* = various dates; *V.M.* = *Virgin Mary*; *V.P.* = *Vice-President*; *v.r.* = variant or various reading; *V.S.* = *veterinary surgeon*; *v.y.* = various years.

1670 *COVEL in Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 111 A pretty little picture of the V.M. 1787 in *Milner Suppl. Mem. Eng. Cath.* (1820) 48 The ecclesiastical government by V.V.A. is by no means essential to our religion. 1820 *MILNER Ibid.* 252 The Prelate who did publish the Resolutions was the Western V.A. 1863 *HOTTEN Hand-bk. Topogr.* 195/2 Cuttings from Newspapers [etc.]. V.D. 1866 *F. H. WILSON Our Father* (1869) 122 Placards with the lion and unicorn at the top, the letter V at the one side and R at the other. 1874 *LEVER Ld. Kilgobbin* lxix, It's a case for the V.C. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 8 Mar. 3/4, I have been 'good, bad, and indifferent' and I have been 'v.g.' 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Oct. 10/2, v.h.c. in the cheese fair.

c. In music an abbrev. of various Italian words, as *verte* 'turn', *violino* 'violin', *voce* 'voice', *volta* 'time'.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.* 1 The Letter *V* is often used as an Abbreviation of the Word *Violino*. *Ibid.*, The Letters *VS* at the Bottom of a Leaf are often used as an Abbreviation of the Words *Volto Subito*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *V*, in music, is often used to shew that a piece is designed for the violin; and *VV*, for two violins, or more.

Hence *V-d pa. pple.*, cut with a *V*-shaped incision. 1881 *GREENER Gun* 380 The sight consists of a steel spring screwed on to the top rib, with one end set at right angles and V-d to form the sight.

Va, southern ME. var. *FOE sb.*; obs. Sc. f. *WYR sb.*, *WOE sb.* and *a*.

Vaalite (vā'leit). *Min.* [f. the *Vaal* River, S. Africa, + *-ite* 1 b; named by Maskelyne.] A variety of vermiculite.

1874 *MASKELYNE in Geol. Soc. Lond.* XXX. 409 *Vaalite*... occurs in hexagonal prisms, the angles of which are nearly 60° and 120°.

Vaat, obs. form of *VAT*.

Vac (væk), abbrev. (chiefly in Univ. colloquial use) of *VACATION sb.*

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 55. 3/2 It was very hard in the *Vac.* without Gains. 1864 *Br. CREIGHTON in Mrs. Creighton Life* (1904) I. ii. 11, I shall have all the rest of the *Vac.* to perpend and meditate on that point. 1871 *M. LEGRAND Camb. Freshm.* 365 When I was a boy at Harrow, I always hated going home for the 'vacs'. 1906 *Catholic Weekly* 18 May 7 Others lectured to working men in the *vacs*.

† *Vacabond*. *Obs.* Forms: *a*. 5-6 *vacabound* (e, 5 wayka-). *β*. 5-6 *vacabund* (e. γ. 5-6 *vacabond* (e, 6 *vaco-*, *vaka-*). *δ*. 6 *vacabo(u)n*, *vacabone*. [a. OF. *vacabonde* (*vacquabonde*, *vacca-bon*), app. an alteration of *vagabond* (cf. *VAGABOND* under the influence of *L. vacāre* (F. *vaquer*) to be unoccupied or idle.

The form survives in northern F. dialects, and in the 17th century Chifflet gives *vacabond* as the pron. of *vagabond* (Littre). In Anglo-L. of the 15-16th cent. *vacabundus* occurs in place of *vagabundus*.]

1. A person having no settled means of living or no fixed home; a *vagabond*.

a. 1404 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 37 Al men of the forsaede shirs exepte fowre & five gentilmen & a fewe *vacaboundis*, woldin faene cum to pees. 1472 *Presentments of*

Juries in Surtees Misc. (1890) 24 John Bek is a vacabound. 1483 *Ibid.* 28 One Wrodyngton, a waykabout. 1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII.* c. 12 It shall be leful to the constables... to arrest the sayde vacaboundes and ydell persones. 1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* II. iv. i, Fetcbe me in all ydle vacaboundes.

8. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt. V.* 270/1 Thomas Watkinson... Yoman and Robert Withes late of Salley in the shire of York Vacabunde. 1495 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 568 All maner vacabundes & beggers myghty in body within this Citie. 1530 PALSGR. 183 *Vngz piecz*, a payre of stockes to punyssh the vacabundes. 1552 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 103 Any vacabunde, suspect person, or nowghy people. 1584 *Mirr. Mag.* 16b, He commaunded, that vnto a number of yong diseased vacabunds, there shuld be ministred a thin Diet, an excessive labor, and cleanly lodging.

7. 1472 *Presentments of Juries in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 24 Thomas Dransfeld... liftez as a vacabond. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon xxviii.* 85 There was no begger, vacabonde, nor rybakult... but by grete flockys they came. 1563 in Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 303 Beggars or vakabondes do come into the Cytye. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 39 Hast thou these fourteen yeeeres gone as a vacabonde about the world unknown and despised?

8. 1556 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 113 He dothe harber vacabones. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 19 Vagarantes and sturdy vacabons. 1571 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pythias* E ij, b, Betten with a codgell like a Slaue, a Vacaboun, or a lasie Lubber.

2. *attrib. or as adj.* (Cf. VAGABOND a.)

1538 ELYOT, *Errabundus*, moche wanderynge, or vacabunde. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heraldry* § 190 The true beginning of the Frenchmen was by a vacabunde captainye named Marcomyrus. 1552 HULOET, Vacabund parson, *erro*. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus*, *Hist.* II. viii. 57 Adjoining vnto him certayne fugitive and beggerly vacabond persones.

† Vacabuncy. *Obs.*—1 [irreg. f. *vacabund* VACABOND. Cf. VAGABUNCY.] Vagabondage.

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* c. 25 Euery stronge and valiant begger and vacabound, after he were whipped for his vacabuncie and idelnes.

Vacance (vā'kāns). Chiefly *Sc.* Also 6 vacance, vacans, 9 vacanse. [ad. L. *vacantia* (see next), or a. F. *vacance* (1642).]

† I. a. A vacant period. *Obs.*—1

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* vii. (S.T.S.) I. 43 This gouernance... was callit the Interregne, That is to say, be vacance betuix the deith of aneking to be electioun of ane vthir.

† b. Cessation or suspension of laws. *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* iii. ii. (S.T.S.) I. 247 Pe vacance of lawis [L. *justitium*] was commadit. *Ibid.* 249 At the returning of quintius to rome, the vacance of lawis ceissit.

† 2. The fact of becoming vacant; the vacation of an office. *Obs.*

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 Upoun the vacance of any prelacie the kirkis thairfor salbe disponit to qualiffit ministeris in titill.

3. = VACATION 2. Now rare.

1563-7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S.T.S.) 10 Heir efter... thair may be gevin sum vacans on to the first day of October. 1567 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 32/2 The Lordis of counsell and session he bene in vse... to haue vacance at 3ule, Fastings euin, Pasche, & Witsontday. 1609 in Seton *Life A. Seton* (1882) 9 The Yule vacance to be and continue from the 24th December to the 6th January *inclusiv*. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Law* Scot. II. xii. § ii. (1699) 207 Neither the Sheriff, nor Barrons, can hold Courts *in feriati*, or close, time of Vacance. 1695 SIBBALD *Autobiog.* (1834) 129, I past the Bajon yer under Mr. James Wyseman, who died the vacance thereafter. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 28 These Letters past uppon a Bill signed by three Lordis in Time of Vacance, and four in Time of Session. 1825 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 242 The fates o' the laddies at the Edinburgh Military Academy, on the Saturday before their vacance. 1835 BLACKU, *Mag. XXXVIII.* 154 We have angled ten hours a-day for half-a-week (during the vacance). 1901 TROTTER *Gall. Gossip* 338 Give them vacance to-morrow.

attrib. a 1712 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1750) II. 345 It was just and necessary to arrest him, and make him answer, though in vacance-time. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 46 Their stamack's airt in tift In vacance-time.

† 4. In Eng. use: Leisure, relaxation. *Obs. rare.* 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Eccles.* xxxviii. 25 *comm.*, The wisdom of a scribe in the time of vacance. a 1760 J. H. BROWNE *Poems* (1768) 141 Nor thou disdair Fit hour of Vacance with the Muses' train.

Vacancy (vā'kānsi). Also 6 vacantie, 7 *Sc.* vacancyy. [f. VACANT a. (see -ANCY), or ad. late and med.L. *vacantia* (Sp. and Pg. *vacancia*, It. *vacanza*), f. *vacant-*, *vacans* vacant. Cf. prec.]

I. 1. = VACATION 2. Also in pl. *Now arch.*

c 1580 W. SPELMAN *Dial.* (1896) 6 There I contynued my sute untill the tyme of their vacantie in the Lawe. 1633 W. ROBINSON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 18 He is to come this vacancy into Lincolnshire about business of his own. 1679 *Trials of White & other Jesuits* 62 Joseph. He was [absent] in the time of the Vacancy... L. c. 7. When are the Vacancies? Joseph. In August, my Lord. 1702 MARWOOD *Diary in Cath. Rec. Scot. Publ. VII.* 134 To-day the Vacancies of the lower Classe began, and end at St. Luke. 1703 in Ritchie *Churches of St. Baidred* 128 He must not grant the vacance without acquainting the session. 1780 STILES *Diary* (1901) II. 409 At the End of the Vacancy 1744 Mr. Reed carried his 3 pupils... to enter into Harvard College. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 182 Besides the half and occasional holiday two annual plays, or 'vacancies', have of old been granted to the scholar. 1876 in Hare *Story Life* (1896) IV. 412 They are having their vacancies.

† b. Without article. *Obs. rare.*

1643 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 421 The porter... shall attend the college for saving the fabrick, both in time of play and vacencie. 1691 *tr. Emiliane's Observ. Journ. Naples* 15 Every year in Autumn they have two Months of vacancy.

† 2. Temporary freedom or cessation from business or some usual occupation. Also const. *from.*

1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 21 His assiduous reading in any vacancy from business. 1602 SEGAR *Honour Mil. & Civ.* IV. xxi, For he that hath been longest vacancy may take place before him that is lesse ancient in Vacancy. c 1630 MILTON (*title*), On the University Carrier who sickn'd in the time of his vacancy, being forbid to go to London, by reason of the Plague. 1663 BR. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxix. (1668) 337 He did not find so much vacancy as his heart desired for private Prayer. 1775 JOHNSON *Lett.* (1788) I. 291 Air, and vacancy, and novelty, would... afford all the relief that human art can give.

† b. Free or unoccupied time; leisure. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 26 If he fill'd His vacancy with his Voluptuousnesse. a 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 114 So occupied with outward things abroad, that they have no vacancy to feed their souls within. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* To Rdr., This Work... has taken me up the vacancy of above Twenty years.

† c. An interval of leisure or unoccupied time.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 305 Daies of nothing, but Riots, visits... and such like Exiles from themselves, and vacancies from the business of life. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. *Redempt.* Time 21 An industrious Husband-man, Trades-man, Scholar, will never want business for occasional vacancies and horze subisive. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xx. § 3 There are none so enslav'd to the necessities of life, who might not find many vacancies that might be husbanded to this advantage of their knowledge. 1748 in *Welsh Rev.* Feb. (1892) 350 Filled in y^e vacancies of y^e day with work.

8. The state or condition of being free from or unoccupied with work, business, or action; absence of occupation; idleness; inactivity.

Freq. in the 17th c.; now rare.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 64 Chesse... a sport that agreeth well with their sedentary vacance. 1651 HOBBS *Govt. & Soc.* xii. § 10 They who are least troubled with caring for necessary things... are invited by their vacancy sometimes to disputation among themselves concerning the Commonweal. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* Pref., Having about three Years since, and in the Vacancy of a Country Life, taken this Volume in hand. 1782 W. HEBERDEN *Comment.* xiii. (1806) 78 Nor does the vacancy of a Bath life suit complaints. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 200 The source of the common fondness for novels of this sort rests in that dislike of vacancy and that love of sloth... inherent in the human mind. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. vi, Such is the refuge of our youth and age, The first from Hope, the last from Vacancy.

† b. Const. from. (Freq. in 17th cent.) *Obs.*

1615 JACKSON *Creed* III. Pref. A 3 b, God... blesse me outwardly with that measure of health, of vacancy from other business [etc.]. 1631 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 143 A precise vacancy from all worke... is morall. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 80 Implying, that a Vacancy from Wrath is a necessary Qualification for Prayer. 1712 *Spect.* No. 408 ¶ 8 An absolute Indifference and Vacancy from all Passion.

† c. Freedom from mental preoccupation. *Obs.*

1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 204 ¶ 13 Nor was he able to disengage his attention, or mingle with vacancy and ease in any amusement. 1795 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* V. 293 Her plant mind, in this state of vacancy, had readily been bent to the new pursuit. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. iii, 'Every evening at six'... [they] walk majestically out again, to embroidery, moral scandal, prayers, and vacancy. 1856 AYTOON *Botwell* II. 1, The fishers... whistle o'er their lazy task In happy vacancy.

d. Absence of any determining influence or factor. *rare*—1.

1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. vii. (1762) 64 The Will's Freedom consists in... this Vacancy and Opportunity that is left for the Will itself to be the Determiner of the Act.

II. 4. An unoccupied period or interval; a time of absence of some activity. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 90 For three months before, (No int'rim, not a minutes vacance,) Both day and night did we keepe companie. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. (1641) 2 In these vacancies or distances of time, between Iudge and Iudge. 1663 HEATH *Flagellum* (1672) 32 In so long an interval and vacancy of War, from which this Nation had been blessed.

5. The fact or condition of an office or post being, becoming, or falling vacant; an occasion or occurrence of this.

1607 in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 59 Within four daies of the vacance known. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 197 They began a new Custom, which was, That they would in Vacancies, name the Captains, and other inferior Officers under their Pay. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 172 No candidate shall, after the date... of the writs, or after the vacancy, give any money or entertainment to his electors. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 35 A sale of an advowson, the church being actually void, was simoniacal and void in respect to the then present vacancy. 1896 *Lav Times Rep.* C. 408/1 With reference to the vacancy among the Chancery taxing masters.

b. Const. of (an office, position, etc.).

1610 G. CARLETON *Jurisdic.* 2 That power whereby we succeed the Emperour in the vacance of the Empire. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 321 As did the Clergy of Rome also in the vacancie of that Sea determine. 1687 A. LOVELL *tr. Thevenot's Trav.* I. 77 note, Zornesam Mustapha Basha made Keeper of the Seal during the vacancy of the Charge of Grand Visier. 1726 AYLIEFF *Parergon* 129 In the Vacancy of a Bishopric, the Guardian of the Spiritualities was summon'd to Parliament in the Bishop's Room. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 152 The vacancy of the throne was precedent to their meeting without any royal summons.

c. An instance or occasion of land, a tenancy, etc., being or becoming vacant. *rare.*

1809 CHRISTIAN in *Blackstone's Comm.* II. § It cannot be said that in such a case there is ever a vacancy of possession. 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 827/1 The

maxim... that the tenancy of the land should always be filled, and that the tenant could make no disposition of his interest likely to involve a vacancy in the same tenancy.

6. A vacant or unoccupied office, post, or dignity.

1693 LUTTRELL *Brief. Rel.* (1857) III. 81 Mounseieur Catinat... has sent 250 officers to throw themselves into the towne to supply the vacancies of those that were sick and dead there. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 He shall force a Rupture with some one of his Lieutenants to make a Vacancy for him. 1769 *Junius' Lett.* III. (1788) 46 His military cares have never extended beyond the disposal of vacancies. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* X. II. 638 How could there be an election without a vacancy? 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 286 More than twenty vacancies in the order of the Golden Fleece were placed by him at Henry's disposal.

b. A church without an incumbent or minister.

1867 J. MACFARLANE *Mem. T. Archer* I. 17 The 'vacancies' sought after him.

7. Absence or lack of something. *rare.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii. 269 Jordan, in the vacancy of the inhabitants, having got violent possession, fenced and fortified himself in the slime-pits. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* III. I. II. 11 With this cast of significance, and vacancy of sense, it is allowed to depreciate without being accountable.

III. 8. Empty or void space.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 117 Alas, how is't with you? That you bend your eye on vacance, And with the incorporall ayre do hold discourse. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 221 Th' ayre: which but for vacance, Had gone to gaze on Cleopatra too, And made a gap in Nature. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. xv, The tender blue of that large loving eye Grew frozen with its gaze on vacancy. 1827 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 134 To roar and bellow No Popery to Vacancy and the Moon. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. x. 164 Folding his arms upon his breast, with his eyes fixed upon vacancy, he stood in gloomy silence. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 79 Meanwhile the 'Mersey' came up out of vacancy at her best speed.

9. A vacant, unfilled, or unoccupied space; an open space between objects or things, or in a row or series; a breach, gap, or opening; † an unoccupied or uninhabited piece of ground.

1652 NEEDHAM *tr. Selden's Mare Cl.* 18 In the case of those who first inhabited Vacancies; or who became possess' by right of War and Conquest. 1670 W. PERWICH *Disp.* (1903) 90 As soon as ever he passed the great vacancy, he went to see the Cittadell. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 901 In measuring of Roofing, seldom any deductions are made for... the Vacancies for Lutheran Lights, and Sky-Lights. 1726 R. BRADLEY *Country Gentl. Monthly Director* 3 In places where there are Vacancies in Hedges, set Truncheons, or Twigs of the White Sallow. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Adv.* 209 It [i.e. gun-fire] soon broke us in a terrible manner, though our Vacancies were quickly filled up. 1779 FORRESTER *Voy. N. Guinea* 20 Their saddles have in the middle a vacancy, which must make it easy for the horse. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 55 Small vacancies in the ice would not prevent the journey. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bk.* (1872) I. 20 This great arch... with the lofty vacancy beneath it. 1905 *W. Estm. Gaz.* 26 Jan. 1/3 The closing of the fontanelle, or the 'vacancy' in the infant cranium.

b. *transf.* A blank, gap, or deficiency.

1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* I, Every one. in the valley was required to propose whatever might contribute to fill up the vacancies of attention, and lessen the tediousness of time. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 2 Visions of reluctant homage from crowned heads... have passed away from me, and leave no vacancy. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* v. ii. 317 Without revelation there would be a distinct vacancy in the scheme of knowledge.

10. The state or condition of being vacant, empty, or unoccupied; emptiness.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlv. IV. 453 He contemplated with horror the vacancy and solitude of the city. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 214 Such is the vacancy of dissipated pleasure, that... an opening always remains for something yet to be tried. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revist.* (ed. 4) 52 The dullest country town in England can afford no idea of the stillness and vacancy of the several noble-looking cities. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix, Quentin felt a strange vacancy and chillness of the heart. 1878 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* I. § 12. 31 When David or Hezekiah shrank from the gloomy vacancy of the grave.

b. Lack of intelligence; inanity; vacuity.

1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* v, Where in his face there was wildness and vacancy, in hers there was... patient composure. 1866 — *Boy at Rugby* Christm. Stories (1874) 332 He is a smiling piece of vacancy.

† Va'cand, ppl. a. and sb. *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 *wacande*, 5-6 *wacand*, 7 *vaican*, *vacane*. β. 5 *wak-*, *wakande*, 5-6 *wakand*, 6 *waken*. [Sc. pres. ppl. of *VAKE* v. The usual spelling with c follows that of L. *vacant* - see next.]

A. ppl. a. = VACANT a. (esp. in sense 1).

a. 1405 in Fraser *The Lennox* (1874) II. 57 With the gyffing and the patronage of the said Kirk... also often it happens to be vacand. 1458 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (1872) 126 Sir Wilyam of Fulop chapellane sal be present... to the first service that sal hapyn vacand in thair gouernans. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE x, 531 As Bruce at the pailoun So entry in, and saw wacand his seilt. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxi. 26 Couatye rings into the spiritual state, 3arnand baniffe the quhilk ar now wacand. a 1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 286 He gaue him the pryorie of Coldinghame... quhilk was wacand in his handis at that tyme. 1609 SKENE *Rep. Maj.* 26 After the decels of the husband, the Dowrie of his wife named be him, is vaicand (possessed be na man) or nocht vaicand. 1649 LAMONT *Diary* (Maitl. Club) II. He [the minister] was excommunicate, and his church declared vacane.

β. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 27 Qwhil hus be kynrik was wakande, Off Inglande be kyng was pan thynkande [etc.]. 1456 *Extr. Aberd. Rec.* (1844) I. 21 That chapelary of Saynt

Nichallis altar was than vakande. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneid* (1710) xiii. x. 119 With this the Kyng Latinus can deceis, And left the sceptour vakand to his hand.

B. sb. 1. One who is free to take a mate.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 206 3e speik of berdis on bewch: of blise may thai sing, That, on sanct Valentynis day, ar vacandis ilk yer.

2. A vacant office; a vacancy.

1567 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (1872) 306 Nixt vaken that fallis within the towne of Peblis, that the said Thomas sones sail haif the samin.

Vacant (vā'kánt), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 3-6 *vacant* (5 *vacavnt*), 4- *vacant*, 5-7 *vacante*. [*a.* OF. (also mod.F.) *vacant* (= *It.*, *Sp.*, *Pg.* *vacante*), or ad. *L. vacant*, *vacans*, pres. pp. of *vacāre* to be empty, etc.: cf. prec. In early senses the evidence is scanty until the latter part of the 16th century or later.]

A. adj. 1. Of a benefice, office, position, etc.: Not filled, held, or occupied; in respect of which a successor to the previous incumbent or holder has not been appointed.

Freq. of ecclesiastical benefices (see first group of quots.).

(a) c1290 *S. Eng. Leg. I.* 72/51 *pe bischopriche* of wircestre vacant was and lere. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 110 *Per Steuen*..suore, *pat* if a bischopriche vacant wer *le* 5e, *pe kyng*, no none of his, suld chalange *pat* of *fe*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 237 b, Many churches lye vacant. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 223/1 The Pope had accused the english people, because they suffred the Bishops seas to be vacant so long a time. 1611 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 546 There hath fallen vacant a benefice annexed to ye vicariat. 1671 J. DAVIES (*title*). The Ceremonies of the Vacant See: or a True Relation of what passes at Rome upon the Pope's Death. 1803 NELSON *Let. to R. Suckling* 23 Mar., Mr. Horace Suckling..is very anxious that you should present him to the vacant living. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 95 The archbishopric of York was vacant. 1887 *New York Independent* 8 Sept. 16 One sixth of its churches are 'vacant', meaning of course, without pastors.

(b) 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 38 That he myghte have rejoyced an oþer tetrarchye, beenge vacante *pat* tyme. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 507/2 Vacant, not occuppyd, *vacans*. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 303 b, Yet hath no man hetherto desyred the same places..as common & vacant to be given them. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon v. i.* 145 Special Dignities, which vacante lye For thy best vse and wearing. 1681 *PRIDEAUX Lett.* (Camden) 87 You may be assured y^t as soon as this or any other place is vacant you shall be put in into it. 1805 *Med. Fm.* XIV. 192 Dr. Arnehan..has undertaken to superintend the foreign department of the Medical and Physical Journal, vacant by the decease of the late Dr. Noehden. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 634 If the throne was vacant the Estates of the Realm might place William in it. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 115 Three places had fallen vacant.

† b. Const. of (an incumbent or holder). *rare.* 1207 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9697 *Pe vifte* was *pat* bischopriche & abbeyes al so *pat* vacans were of prelas in be kinges hond were ido. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 109 Northumbrelonde was vacante of a kyngye vijthe yeres.

† c. Having no owner or possessor. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 The goodes of the Empire, whiche shall chaunce to be vacant, he shall geve away to no man. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Vacant Effects* (in *Law*) are such as are abandoned for want of an Heir, after the Death or Flight of their former Owner.

2. Devoid of all material contents or accessories; containing, or occupied by, nothing; unfilled, empty, void.

a1400-50 *Alexander* 4774 For, fra it droze to be derke ay till it dawid eftir, it was bot vacant & voides as vanite it were. c1450 *Goldstow Reg.* 417 (One) void place of their owne lond. *Ibid.* The forsaid vacant place of lond. 1534-5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 15 In the middle a square vacant place, wherein the moulded brick is disposed. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 89 The Moon, When she deserts the night, Hid in her vacant interlunar cave. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 329 The billowy plain..floats wide; nor can evade..its (the blast's) seizing force; Or whirld in air, or into vacant chaff Shook waste. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* 8 The vacant space within the shell. *Ibid.* 91 It fills up the vacant angle under the arm. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xxiii. 472 Instant to his aid The Goddess hasted, to his vacant hand His whip restored. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. Ind.* II. v. ix. 714 From that very moment, complaint was extinguished; and the voice of praise..occupied the vacant air. 1858 GLENNY *Everyday Bk.* 76/2 All the plants that are strong enough..may be planted in vacant places.

transf. a1822 SHELLEY *Death* i. 6 All dead! those vacant names alone..remain. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 233 Philosophy was becoming more and more vacant and abstract.

b. Devoid of an occupant; not taken up by any one. Also *fig.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. i. 304 But now..that warre-thoughts Haue left their places vacant, in their rooms Come [etc.]. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. i. There's not a vacant corner of my heart, But all is filld with dead Antonios losse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vii. 190 Instead Of Spirits maligne a better Race to bring Into this vacant room. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* III. 220 Satan's accurs'd desertion to supply, And fill the vacant stations of the sky. 1780 BURKE (*Econ. Reform.* Wks. III. 279) The bleak winds..howling through the vacant lobbies, and clattering the doors of deserted guard-rooms. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xx. To see the vacant chair, and think 'How good! how kind! and he is gone'. 1887 RUSKIN *Praterita* II. 247 There was a spacious hall of seat vacant in my little hooded carriage.

c. Of land, houses, etc.: Uninhabited, unoccupied, untenanted. Also, of a room: Not in use, disengaged.

1518 *Siar Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 146 About viij c

howsholdes in the same Towne desolate, vacante, and decayed. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* III. Let the old souldiers..enter upon the vacant lands. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* (1818) II. 383 The new settlers will naturally convert their labour to the cultivation of the vacant soil. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* (1851) I. 2 A house which had long been vacant in our neighbourhood. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 140 There are at least a million and a-half acres likely to be vacant every autumn.

d. Marked or characterized by the absence of life, activity, or sound.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 68 Amid the stillness of the vacant night. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxiv. 16 To drop head-foremost in the jaws Of vacant darkness and to cease. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. iv. 136 Somewhere in the dead and vacant dawn Philip went to bed.

e. Of water: Free from ice; open.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 71 In the morning of the 7th, a large vacant sheet of water showed itself to the westward.

3. With of. Devoid or destitute of, entirely lacking or free from, something.

a1400-50 *Alexander* 5116 We at ere voide ay of vice & vacat of syn. a1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxii. 101 If be state of pe herte be vacant of a rist fundement. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* v. i. 125 My person, which I waigh not, Being of those Vertues [truth and honesty] vacant. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 718 That no corner might Be vacant of her [i.e. Nature's] plenty. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxii. (1687) 391 A company of select friends, vacant of business, and full of cheerfulness, met together at one table. 1751 FRANKLIN *Essays* Wks. 1840 II. 319 Was the face of the earth vacant of other plants, it might be sowed and overspread with one kind only. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 7 The hour being vacant of business, he got upon his legs. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 175, I, to herd with narrow foreheads, vacant of our glorious gains! 1910 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Rel. & Theol.* II. II. 292 How could men vacant of good have affinities with Him [etc.]? *ellipt.* 1828 N. T. (Rheims) 2 *Peter* i. 8 They shal make you not vacant [L. *vacuus*], nor without fruite.

† b. Empty-handed; destitute. *Obs. rare.*

1430-40 *LVGG. Bochas* IV. vi. (MS. Bodl. 263), They banished hym neuer to come agayne: And so this tyrant, vacant, wente in veyn Aboute the world as a fals Fugityff. 1576 in *Collier Illustr. E. E. Pop. Lit.* No. 16. 44 So that none of us went vacat away, But of one of the parties had honestly our paye.

4. Of time: Free from, unoccupied with, affairs, business, or customary work; leisure. Also *const.* *from* (an action or occupation).

Freq. from c1550 to c1750; now *Obs.* or *rare.* (a) 1531 ELVOT *Gov. I.* viii. Putting one to hym..in vacant times from other more serious lernynge. *Ibid.* xviii, Alexander, in tymes vacant from bataille, delyted in that maner huntinge. a1548 HALL *Chron.* Rich. III (1550) 34 Such euyl persones as wyl not leue one houre vacant from doying and excercysing crueltie. 1631 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 80 *Ferriarum*, that is, dayes vacant from pleuing and labour. (b) 1548 UDALL, *etc. Erasmi. Par. I.* luke xiv, He wil with good laisure at a vacant time sitte down [etc.]. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* To Rdr., Such scriblings are hardly worth the vacante howers. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 7 The most active or busy man that hath been or can be, hath..many vacant times of leisure. 1631 GOUGH *God's Arrows* v. § 9. 419 Vacant houres cannot better be spent then in the Artillery Garden. 1712 ANDISON *Spect.* No. 471 § 3 The Memory relieves the Mind in her vacant Moments. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 104 Chosroes..consumed his vacant hours in the rural sports of hunting and hawking. 1835 T. LINDLEY *Voy. Brasil* (1808) 34 The females, who fill up their vacant hours with this elegant amusement. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* I. iii. 35 Any vacant evening of his own blank solitude.

† b. Of persons: Not engaged or employed in (one's usual or regular) occupation or work; disengaged or free from labour or toil; at leisure; also, having nothing or little to do. *Obs.*

(a) 1600 PALFREYMAN *Bauldwin's Mor. Philos.* I. xlv. 28 When he was vacant from his labor, he wold write most eloquent..Comedies. a1628 PRESTON *New Court.* (1634) 152 Those that are vacant from such things are at rest. (b) 1631 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 154 They may be vacant as Christians. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 116 For Satan with slye ptease to return Had left him vacant. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. xxvi. (1715) 158 If he can produce any vacant Person richer than himself. a1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xix. 4 Another spring renews the soldier's toil, And finds me vacant in the rural cave. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 693/2 In such excursions those vacant people [Laplanners] find a luxurious and ready repast in these fish.

absol. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* Ded., To instruct the ignorant, and entertain the vacant.

c. Characterized by, arising or proceeding from, absence of occupation, leisure, or idleness; undisturbed by business or work.

1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 256 Here vacat Life, here Peace her empire keeps. 1630 WOTTON *Let.* (1607) II. 332 A great natural principle, that the vacante thoughts are everywhere the worst. 1662 GUNNING *Leit Fast* 202 A season of vacant attendance on fasting and prayer. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* v. Every morning waked us to a repetition of toil; but the evening repaid it with vacant hilarity. 1777 MACPHERSON *Ossian* Introd. 10 That poetical enthusiasm, which is better suited to a vacant and indolent state. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess. Fam. & Hum.* Ser. II. 89 An idle and vacant life..is not calculated to be a happy one.

d. At leisure to devote oneself to some object. Also of things, open or accessible to some influence, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1631 BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 151 How much more ought Christians to bee vacant to God alone on the Lords day? 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* v. xiv. 172 Grotius..who by reason of his Political employments could not be so entirely vacant to the searching into so abstruse a Mystery. 1685

BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* i Tim. v. 13 Those that are taken up with Family Business of their own are not so vacant and liable to these Crimes. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 111 § 5 When the heart is vacant to every fresh form of delight. 1763 *Let. to Boswell* 8 Dec., Vacant to every object, and sensible of every impulse. 1838 SIR J. STEPHEN *Ecol. Ess.* II. 184 So long as they shall be vacant to record..contrite reminiscences of a desire for roasted goose.

† e. At leisure for something. *Obs.*—1

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* viii. § 147 Sir John Berkely..who was the more vacant for that service by the reduction of Barnstable.

5. Of the mind or brain: Devoid of or unoccupied with thought or reflection. Chiefly *poet.*

1599 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 100 The vaulted verse a vacant head demaundes, He went with crabbed care the vacant dwell. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. i. 286 The wretched Slaue: Who with a body fill'd and vacant mind, Gets him to rest. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vild.* 122 The loud laugh that spoke the vacant mind. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 624 Absence of occupation is not rest, A mind quite vacant is a mind distress'd. 1818 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xv, The demon of ennui again took possession of her vacant mind. 1855 TENNYSON *Daisy* 106 Perchance, to lull the throbs of pain, Perchance, to charm a vacant brain.

† b. Abstracted or disengaged from (the body, etc.) in contemplation or reverie. *Obs.*—1

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 5, I was in the spirit on the Lord's day..my mind being vacant from this earthly body, and external senses.

† c. Free from care or anxiety. *Obs. rare.*

a1639 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1685) 171 The Duke..even in the midst of so many diversions, had continually a very pleasant and vacant face (as I may well call it) proceeding no doubt from a singular assurance in his temper. 1723 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* II. i. Why so much Care in thy Countenance?..You, who used to be so Gay, so Open, so Vacant!

6. Characterized by, exhibiting, or proceeding from, absence of intelligence or thought; expressionless, meaningless; inane.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 515 § 4 The vacant look of a fine Lady is not to be preserved, if she admits any thing to take up her thoughts but her own dear Person. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 205 Yet folly ever has a vacant stare. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 277 Let me mask Mine own [looks] in some inane and vacant smile. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylvia Brit.* 31 The loud laugh of the woodpecker, joyous and vacant. 1841 JAMES BRIGAND i, His eyes gazed upon the scene, but with somewhat of a vacant aspect. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* II. i. 56 Vacant are thine eyes, Cold thine insulted brow and mute thy lips.

b. Empty-headed, unthinking. *rare.*

1879 FROUDE *Caesar* xii. 162 Metellus was a vacant aristocrat, to be depended on for resisting popular demands, but without insight otherwise.

7. Comb., as vacant-looking, -minded adjs.; vacant-heartedness, -mindedness.

1796 MME. D'ARHAY *Camilla* III. 219 We all heard he was engaged to your beautiful vacant-looking cousin. 1846 Mrs. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 49 If they have formerly figured as beauties, the fickle voice of fashion now proclaims that they are 'pretty, certainly, but silly and vacant-looking'. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Arostook* xviii, Her frivolity—her not so much vacant-mindedness as vacant-heartedness. 1883 J. MACKENZIE *Day-dawn Dark* *Places* 272, I have been saddened by the vacant-minded pupil.

B. sb. † 1. Sc. A vacant estate. *Obs.*—1

c1475 *Rauf Coliager* 758 And als the nixt vacante..That hapnis in France, quhair sa euer it fall, Forfaltour or fre waird..I gif the heir heritabillie.

† 2. One who has held office but is for the time being unemployed or in retirement. *Obs. rare.*

1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* iv. xxi. [236 These diuers degrees were in the Imperial Court called Administrantes, Vacantes, and Honorarii. *Ibid.*] 237 Note likewise that the Officers whom we call Vacants are of two sorts.

† 3. pl. A vacation. *Obs.*—1

1647 *May Hist. Parl.* I. iii. 35 The next Terme, after the ordinary vacants, to be held at the Burgh of Dendie.

† 4. poet. A vacant space; a vacuum. *Obs. rare.*

1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* v. 248 Ready by Turns to rise or to descend, Nature against a Vacant to defend. *Ibid.* vii. 355 Thou in the Vacant diest the Earth suspend.

Hence **† Vacant v. a. trans.** To render vacant, in various senses; to vacate. **b. intr.** To take a vacation. *Obs. rare.*

1649 RAINBOW *Funeal Serm.* 29 May 30 She applied her self vigorously to the settling of all things, which concerned the secular affairs of her Family, that so she might totally and wholly be vacanted to God. 1674 [Z. CAWDREY] *Catholicism* 18 Which Sacredness they know may be presently vacanted by the Prevalency of a greater opposite Power. 1752 *Scotland's Glory* 57 For getting Yule kept up Our highest courts vacanted.

Vacantie, obs. var. VACANCY.

Vacantly (vā'kántli), *adv.* [*f.* VACANT *a.* + *-LY*.] In a vacant manner; **†** in freedom from business or work.

1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 288 Great is the difference between leading thy life vacantly and leading it slouthfully. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* v. 1915 Its sculptured walls vacantly to the stroke of footfalls answered. 1839 DICKENS *Nickelby* xv, The back parlour sat with her mouth wide open staring vacantly at the collector, in a stupor of dismay. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Armo* 322 Striding over to the place he laughed vacantly as he heard the story.

† Vacantry. *Obs.*—1 [*f.* as prec. + *-RY*.]

Vacancy, idleness, inoccupation. 1606 CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* vi. 132 So serious is his trifling companie In all his swelling ship of vacantry.

|| Vacat. *Obs.* [*L.*, 3rd sing. pres. ind. of *vacāre* to be vacant. Cf. *VACATUR*.] An annulment or abrogation.

1592 Child-Marriages 160 To tend that the Recognizance thereof may be Admilitated and voyd, and a vacat thereupon to be entred. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.*, Edw. II 145 The want of his fathers blessing, without which a Vacat is set upon the labours of men. **1672** TWYDEN in *Spelman's Hist. Sacrilege* (1698) Add. 21, Matt. Paris, having written that Marriage to have been *Contra Consilium Episc. Edmundi*, [he] did afterwards make a Vacat of it.

Vaca-table, a. [f. VACATE v. + -ABLE.] That may be vacated; capable of becoming vacant.

1895 Westminster 16 May 2/1 The number of Liberal seats vacatable in England and Scotland.

† Vacate, pa. pple. *Obs.*—[ad. L. *vacātus*, pa. pple. of *vacāre*: see next.] Annulled, made legally void.

1688 Vincl. Proc. H. M. Eccl. Comm. 54 The statute is Obsolete, and must be esteemed as if it had been vacate and null.

Vacate (vā'kē't, vākē't), v. [ad. L. *vacāt*, ppl. stem of *vacāre* to be empty, free, etc.]

1. trans. To make void in law; to deprive of legal authority or validity; to annul or cancel.

Very common in the 17-18th c. Now only in legal use. **1643 PRYNNE Sov. Power Parl.** II. (ed. 2) 53 The King calling a Parliament at Winchester, utterly repealed and vacated those former Ordinances. **1677 MARVELL Corr. Wks.** (Grosart) II. 538 If any one should spend before the day of election above ten pound, it shall be accounted bribery, and vacate his choice. **1709 Lond. Gaz.** No. 4538/r All Entries shall be vacated and cancelled. **1750 CARTER Hist. Eng. II.** 158 Her relations, incited him [Hen. VIII] to remove the obstacles to his happiness, by vacating his marriage with Anne of Cleves. **1790 in Dallas Amer. Law Rep.** I. 120 The court will confirm the judgment as to one, and vacate it as to the other. **1817 W. SELWYN Law Nisi Prius** (ed. 4) II. 1141 Such omission on the part of the officer will not vacate the contract. **1855 MACAULAY Hist. Eng. xliii.** V. 35 The opposition asked leave to bring in a bill vacating all grants of Crown property which had been made since the Revolution. **1883 Law Times Rep.** XLIX. 133/1, I. declare the deed to be void, and that it ought to be cancelled and the registration vacated.

b. transf. To deprive of force, efficacy, or value; to render inoperative, meaningless, or useless. Now *Obs.* or *rare*.

1655 GURNALL Chr. in Arm. (1669) 584/1 The Christians Creed doth not vacate the Ten Commandments. **1698 CHILCOT Evil Thoughts** i. (1851) 4 Endeavouring to vacate the obligation of the fifth commandment. **1711 in G. HICKES Tract. Chr. Priesth.** (1847) I. 323 A punctilio, as such it is vacated by the universal practice of the Church. **a 1791 WESLEY To Servants Wks.** 1811 IX. 103 The character of the master. Does not vacate the duty of the servant. **1802 FALEY Nat. Theol.** I. i. § 3. 6 These superfluous parts, would not vacate the reasoning which we had instituted concerning other parts. **1827 R. HALL Wks.** (1832) VI. 414 They inculcated the obligation of circumcision, thereby vacating and superseding the sacrifice of Christ.

c. To remove or withdraw (a record).

1769 BLACKSTONE Comm. IV. 128 Imbezbling or vacating records, is a felonious offence against public justice.

2. To make or render (a post or position) vacant;

to deprive of an occupant or holder.

1697 J. LEWIS Mem. Dr. Gloucester (1789) 80 As a Garter was vacated by the death of Lord Strafford. **1751 T. SHARP in Lett. Lit. Men** (Camden) 375 Some of the Bishopsricks vacated by the deprivation of the Nonjur. Bishops. **1765 BLACKSTONE Comm. I.** 152 Suppose, that the whole royal line should at any time fail, and become extinct, which would indisputably vacate the throne. **1828 LYTTON Pelham** I. xxv. One of the seats in your uncle's borough, is every day expected to be vacated. **1871 FREEMAN Norm. Cong.** (1876) IV. xxi. 678 Hadrian de Castello sought the death of Pope Leo in order to vacate the throne which, when it was vacated, was filled by Hadrian of Utrecht.

b. To leave (an office, position, etc.) vacant by death, resignation, or retirement; to give up, relinquish, or resign the holding or possession of.

1850 THACKERAY Pendennis lxxv, Pen. promised that he would give his election dinner there, when the Baronet should vacate his seat in the young man's favour. **1875 M. ARNOLD Ess. Crit.** (ed. 3) Pref. p. x note, When the above was written the author had still the Chair of Poetry at Oxford, which he has since vacated.

c. absol. To give up an office or position.

1812 in Examiner 30 Nov. 763/1 As soon as the forms of the House will admit of a Member vacating, in consequence of a double return. **1894 BOASE Exeter Coll.** (O.H.S.) p. lxxix, A Devonshire fellowship was given to Maurice Ley, but Ley soon vacated.

3. To leave or withdraw from (a place, seat, etc.); to quit or give up.

1797 Mrs. RADCLIFFE Rom. Forest iv. It was most probable that if the officers, found the abbey vacated, they would quit before morning. **1832 G. DOWNES Lett. Cont. Countries** I. 172 The English ladies, had caused their servant to insult one of the collegians, in the hope that they would vacate the premises. **1856 KANE Arch. Expl.** II. v. 61, I have determined, to remove him to the berth Riley has vacated.

b. absol. To give up possession or occupancy of a house, etc.

1854 THOREAU Walden 48, I to pay four dollars and twenty-five cents to-night, he to vacate at five to-morrow morning. **1856 Miss MULOCK J. Halifax** xiv, So we vacated; and all that long Sunday we sat in the parlour lately our neighbour's.

4. intr. † a. To devote one's time, to give oneself up, to something. *Obs. rare.*

1685 EVELYN Mrs. Golephin (1888) 7 Prescribing to herself a constant method of devotion, that she might the better vacate to holy duties. **a 1706 — Hist. Relig.** (1850) II. 260 There must be deacons and deaconesses, so that the preachers may wholly vacate to the Word.

† b. To withdraw oneself from (a task). *Obs.*—

1665 G. HARVEY Adv. agst. Plague 1, I might justly vacate from this task, having so lately amused myself about a Tract of the French Contagion.

c. U.S. To give up work for a time; to take a holiday or vacation.

1885 Advance (Chicago) 23 July 476 One thing he [a Chinaman] can never learn, and that is how to vacate.

Hence **Vacated** ppl. a.

1791 On Relig. Fashionable World 114 It is the very genius of christianity to extirpate all selfishness, on whose vacated ground benevolence, plants itself. **1831 I. TAYLOR Edwards' Freed. Will Prefat.** Essay p. xxxix, They find a deserted city and vacated palaces. **1863 DANA Man. Geol.** 727 Leaving the rock either side of the vacated space to be pressed together. **1903 W. BRIGHT Age of Fathers** II. xxx. 94 The priest Eugenius, was rewarded by promotion to the vacated see.

Vacating (vākā'tin), vbl. sb. [f. VACATE v.]

1. The action of annulling, making void, or depriving of legal authority or validity.

1648 (title), A Declaration of the Commons of England, expressing their reasons for the Adnulling and Vacating of these Ensuing Votes. **1691 T. HALE Acc. New Invent.** p. xcvi, How several Lord Mayors, prosecuted the vacating of Patents that they judged entrenching on the Conservacy. **1764 T. HUTCHINSON Hist. Mass.** ii. (1765) 229 From the restoration until the vacating the charter. **1818 CRUISE Digest** (ed. 2) V. 227 Such a method as the vacating a statute long before extinguished.

2. The action of giving up, leaving, or relinquishing.

1820 SOUTHEY Wesley I. 121 He therefore looked upon himself to be fully discharged from that cure by the vacating of his primary design. **1855 BREWSTER Newton** I. iv. 98 The expected vacating of his Fellowship. **1905 Sat. Rev.** 23 Sept. 397/2 The vacating of a Warden's residence.

Vacation (vākē'jon), sb. Forms: 4-5 *vacacioun*, 5 *vacacyone*, *-cion*, *-cyoun*, *wacacion* (e, 5-6 *vacacion* (6 -cyon), 6 *vacacione*, 5- *vacation*. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vacation* (= It. *vacazione*, Sp. *vacacion*, Pg. *vacação*), or ad. L. *vacatōm*, *vacatō* (med.L. also *vacatō*), f. *vacāre*: see VACATE v.]

1. Freedom, release, or rest from some occupation, business, or activity.

c 1386 CHAUCER Wife's Profl. 684 When he hadde leyser and vacacioun From other worldly occupacioun. **1531 ELVOR Gov. I. ii.** What vacation had they from the warres? **1575 LANKHAM Let.** (1871) 12 The forenoon occupied, in quiet and vacation from work. **1621 BRATHWAT Nat. Embassie** (1877) 156 Admit of no vacation, save only vacation from vice. **1690 R. LUCAS Humane Life** 245 The life of the sluggish is but a waking dream, a vacation from all business. **1865 W. G. PALGRAVE Arabia** II. 165 Especially during the days of vacation from ordinary business.

b. Without const. Freedom or respite from work, etc.; time of rest or leisure.

c 1425 WYNTOUN Cron. v. iv. 777 Bot pai war til Sancte Petyr ay Helparis in his lattyr day, Qwhen he gaf his vacacion Al hail til his deuocioun. **1548 UDALL, etc. Erasme. Par. John** viii. 58 A secrete place, or some vacation is convenient for preachers of the gospell. **1570 T. NORTON Novel's Catech.** (1853) 129 When, resting from worldly business, and as it were having a certain holy vacation. **1610 HEALEY St. Aug. Cite of God** xii. xvii. (1620) 435 His vacation is not idle, sloathfull nor sluggish. **1655 FULLER Ch. Hist.** I. iv. 20 The Primitive Confessours were so taken up with what they endured, they had no vacation largely to relate their own or others Sufferings.

transf. **1639 FULLER Holy War** II. xii. (1840) 66 After the tempest of a long war, king Baldwin had a five years vacation of peace in his old age.

† c. Leisure for, or devoted to, some special purpose; hence, occupation, business. *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. De Imitatione III. lvi. 135 Put be vacation of god [L. *De vacatione*] before all oþer þinges. **1549 Compl. Scot.** vi. 45 Ther principal vacacione was on the neuresing of bestialite. *Ibid.*, Ther is na faculte, stait, nor vacacione, that can be comparit til our stait. **1603 FLORIO Montaigne** II. xii. 308 She [Philosophy] ascribeth no other consultation [to the Gods], nor imputeth other vacation vnto them. **1627 W. SCLATER Exp. 2 Thess.** (1629) 2 Charity, which is the vtmost pretended aime of single life, and willfull poertie, whole Vacation to the Contemplation of the glorious Deitie. **1654 HAMMOND Fundam.** xi. Wks. 1674 I. 298 The inestimable benefit of peace, and quiet and vacation for piety.

† d. Absence from duty or from some usual post; also, a sum paid for absence or exemption.

1467-83 in Househ. Ord. (ed. 4) 32 Savynge the right of the countynghouse in chekking them for their vacations or for lak of records. **1472-3 Rolls of Parl.** VI. 57/1 Sommes of money, abated of the fees, of any of the said Souledeours, for the vacations and absence oute of the said Tounne. **1583 MELBANCKE Philotinus** Q ij b, Parmenio his tongue was very fine and voluble to run over his masters whole life this time of vacation from his mistris. **1591 SAVILE Tacitus, Hist.** I. lvi. 33 Vitellius, paies the vacations to the Centurions out of his cofers.

2. A period during which there is a formal suspension of activity; one or other part of the year during which law-courts, universities, or schools are suspended or closed; holidays.

c 1456 PROCOB Bk. of Faith (1909) 228 Hou myche labour is maad in ynnos of Court in London, bi tymes of vacacioun, aboute the reding, of the Kingis Statutes. **c 1460 FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mon.** xv. (1885) 143 How many owres off the day this counsell shall sytt, when that shall have any vacation. **1529 Sel. Cases Star Chamber** (Selden) II. 36 We dyd apoynte them there to mete ageyne at the vacation of Christmas last past. **1600 SHAKS. A. Y. L.** III. ii. 349 [Time stays] With Lawiers in the vacation: for they sleepe betwene Terme and Terme. **1617 MORVSON Itin.** III. 10, I

judge Lawyers and Officers more happy, who have their Termes to live in the City, and their Vacations to returne into the Countrey. **a 1668 DAVENANT Play-ho. to be Let** i. 3, We are standing Properties of the Play-house, which, in Vacation, lye in pawn for the Rent. **1722 DE FOE Plague** (Rildg.) 29 It being in the Time of the Vacation. **1771 Phil. Trans.** LXI. 324 The young nobleman, whom I accompanied to his seat from the university, during the Christmas-vacation. **1796 BURKE Let. Noble Lord Wks.** VIII. 35 Every honest father of a family, will pray that there may be a very long vacation in all such schools. **1818 CRUISE Digest** (ed. 2) V. 216 For no other reason, perhaps, but because the fine was levied in the vacation, and was dated as of the preceding term. **1829 LYTTON Disowned** vi, To this house Algernon was constantly consigned during his vacations from school. **1904 Mrs. CREIGHTON Life Bp. Creighton** I. x. 308 In the Easter Vacation we went for a short walking tour in Norfolk.

transf. **1642 FULLER Holy & Prof. St.** IV. i. 242 Wherefore in the midst of the Term of his business he makes himself a vacation to speak with them. **c 1656 USSHER Ann.** (1658) 814 The King of Kings forbore his hunting and feasting of the Nobles, which is a Kinde of Vacation among the Parthians.

b. Long Vacation (see LONG a. 18).

a 1601 SIR T. FANSHAWE Pract. Exch. (1658) 160 In every long vacation all the bills, and other pleadings are to be taken from the common files. **1631 T. ADAMS in Lett. Lit. Men** (Camden) 150 The arabick Lecture, to be entred upon after that long vacation following. **1693 [see LONG a. 18].** **1706 HEARNE Collect.** (O.H.S.) I. 215 In ye Long Vacation [he] made an Excursion. **1825 [see LONG a. 18].** **1882 H. C. MERIVALE Faucit of B. v.** When season, reading-party, and long vacation were all over, much distressed was the Oxford world [etc.].

c. A holiday. Chiefly U.S.

1878 Masque of Poets 177 At Saratoga, where you meet all grades of well-dressed people spending short vacations. **1888 A. K. GREEN (Mrs. Rohlf) Behind Closed Doors** vi, She went away for a short vacation a few days ago.

d. attrib., as vacation-exercise, -task, -time, etc.

1628 MILTON (title), At a Vacation Exercise in the Colledge, **a 1668 DAVENANT Play-ho. to be Let** Wks. (1673) 75 Good, Sir, no French translation till the Term; It is too precious for Vacation-ware. **1721 AMHERST Terra Fil.** No. 47 (1726) 251 Every monday throughout the year, in vacation-time as well as in term-time. **1797 in Fowler Hist. C. C. C. (O.H.S.)** 298 This Vacation exercise, the subject of which will be communicated to him at the usual time. **1828 LYTTON Pelham** II. xiii, It is now vacation time, and I have come to town with the idea of holding lectures on the state of education. **1844 TALFOURD (title), Vacation Rambles and Thoughts.** **1846 LD. COLERIDGE in Life** (1904) II. xii. 382, I am smitten once more with the fate of Vacation Judge. **1904 'M. Y. HALIDOM' Weirid Transform.** x. 84 What with his walks and his vacation tasks, small danger was apprehended.

3. † a. A state or period characterized by the intermission or absence of something. *Obs.*

1567 ALLEN Def. Priesth. Pref. In this pitifull vacation, and long lacke of the practise of priesthood. **1630 LENNARD tr. Charron's Wisd.** (1658) 31 Whereby followeth a kind of intermission and vacation of the actions. **1677 Temple Let. to Hyde** Wks. 1720 II. 474 We have had since Monday last, a perfect vacation of all Affairs. **a 1711 KEN Preparatives** Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 115 Sleep's a Vacation of our Pow'rs, And innocently wastes our Hours.

† b. A cessation from something.

1617 in Buccleuch MSS. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 184 This day is here Good Friday, and such a dead vacation from all kind of business, as I can now add little to this letter. **c 1770 ELIZ. CARTER Lett.** (1808) 96 That dead vacation from all present hopes and fears that stupifies the retirement of a convent.

c. A state or period of inactivity.

1644 BULWER Chiron. 116 The inconvenience of this cold vacation in the hand, gave being to that Axiome in Rhetorike [etc.]. **1666 BOYLE New Exp. Phys. Mech.** Pref. p. viii, The occasional vacations of the Press, by reason of Festivals, or the absence of the Corrector. **1862 STANLEY Jew. Ch.** (1877) I. iv. 75 The city was in a state of comparative desolation, a vacation of centuries had passed over it.

4. A time of freedom, release, or respite (from something).

1614 RALEIGH Hist. World III. xii. 125 The Mantineans, finding the war to be carried from their walls, would use the commodity of that vacation. **1639 FULLER Holy War** I. vi, The longest vacation from persecution they enjoyed was when Charles was Emperor of the West. **1670 COTTON Esperson** I. iv. 189 Giving himself a vacation from the hardships of War. **1714 R. FIDDES Pract. Disc.** II. 100 Such times should be vacations from the common business and affairs of human life. **1748 tr. Vegetius Renatus** 244 Let, a Vacation from Labour be given him.

II. † 5. The fact of an office or post becoming or being vacant; the time during which the vacancy lasts. *Obs.*

Chiefly in ecclesiastical use: see (a).

(a) **c 1425 WYNTOUN Cron.** VIII. xxxiii. 5897 In till a wacacione pai wald noucht mak electione Twys. **1454 Rolls of Parl.** V. 247/1 Of all voidance of Bishoppes, Abbeyes and Priories, tyme of vacacion [etc.]. **1533-4 Act 25 Hen. VIII.** c. 21 § 16 All licences, shall (during the vacation of the same see) be, graunted vnder the name and seale of the gardiane of the spiritualities. **1560 DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.** 366b, Bishoppes aboute lxxxvi, by the vacations whereof, as they terme it, is caried to Rome a wonderful some of gold. **1602 SEGAR Hon. Mil. & Civ.** IV. xxiv. 244 If it fall out that the Archbishop of Canterbury be not there, by the vacation of his See, then the Archbishop of Yorke is to take his place. **1655 FULLER Ch. Hist.** IX. 71 Certain lands assumed by the Queen from some Bishoppes during their vacation. **1709 STRYPER Ann. Ref.** I. vi. 98 All arrearsages of subsidies and tenths past in the days of their predecessors, and in times of vacation.

(b) **1542 HEN. VIII Decl. War Scots** D ij, All castels & holdes were surrendered to him as to the superior lord in the tyme of vacation. **1560 DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.** 16 That

he shall ratify that which was done in the vacation of the temple, by the countess Palatine. 1614 *Raleigh Hist. World* II. xlii. 475 But we are now arrived at a mere vacation, wherein the Crown of Juda lay voyd eleven whole years. 1632 *Lithgow Trav.* III. 89 This commonly they practise in every such like vacation, which otherwise, they durst neuer attempt.

† b. A vacant post; a vacancy. *Obs.*

1535 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 398, I hertely desire & pray you. . . to grant unto the said Robert the next vacation of one of the iii Clarke of that your court.

† 6. The fact of a house being unoccupied or untenanted; loss of rent due to this. *Obs.*

1479-81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 96 Vacations. In primys, syr Rafis chambyr, voyde by ij quarters, the quarter at ij s iij d. *Ibid.* 192 Item, for the vacation of the howse that Wylliam Raynsford dwellyd in, for ij quarters, xx s.

† 7. Empty space; vacuity. *Obs.*—1

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 211, I am of Opinion nothing less than four or five Feet high Vacation ought to be allowed. . . in order to break the Force of such an Ebullition, by thus giving it Room enough to expand.

III. † 8. The action of voiding or evacuating. 1607 *MARKHAM Covel.* VII. (1617) 33 From fulnes, as from surfeit of meate or drink, or the want of vacation of humors. 9. The action of vacating, of leaving (or being left) vacant or unoccupied.

1876 CLARK RUSSELL *Is he the Man?* II. 2 The servants were ignorant of the true reason of old Mrs. Ransome's sudden vacation of the house. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/2 The Viceroyalty of India. . . will then be on the point of vacation by the Marquis of Ripon. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Oct. 465/1 Seats chosen for vacation by the Gladstonians themselves.

Hence **Vacation** *v. intr.*, to take a vacation or holiday. **Vacationer**, (a) *U. S.*, a holiday-maker; (b) a vacation-student. **Vacationist**, = *prec.* (a). **Vacationless** *a.*, having no vacation or holidays.

1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 27 Aug. 273 Despite hard times, people will go *vacationing. 1890 *Ibid.* 28 Aug., The 'swallows homeward fly'; and so, by sea and land, do *vacationers and tourists. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 491/1 It did my vacationer's heart good to see men so cheerfully industrious. 1904 *Middle Temple Rec., Min. Parl.* I. 389 The following vacationers are fined 20s. each for absence from Mr. Daston's reading. 1885 *Field* 18 Apr. 511 The *vacationist in quest of bracing air. . . will find in Tyrol many places to suit him. 1892 *Ibid.* 2 July 25/2 Rivers . . . attractive to the summer vacationist. 1891 *Advance* (Chicago) 25 June, I dislike to go away leaving people *vacationless who deserve an outing more than I do.

† **Vacatur**. *Obs.* [*L. vacatur*, 3rd sing. pres. ind. pass. of *vacare*: cf. *VACAT.*] An annulment.

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1739/3 Whether Your Majesty will be pleased to order a *Vacatur* to be entered upon the Enrollment of the Charter now surrendered. 1811 in *Rep. Commis. Publ. Rec. Ire.* (1815) 71 For every *Vacatur*—(This seldom happens, not one having occurred these six years back), 62. 17. 11.

Vaccarage. *rare.* [See next and -AGE. Cf. also med.L. *vaccagium*.] = next.

1895 *Line. N. & Q.* IV. 131 The vaccaria, vaccarages, or cow-pastures attached to the Abbey.

Vaccary (væ'kəri). Now only *Hist.* Also 5-6 *vaccarie*, 6 *vacharie*, 7 *vacharie*. [*ad. med.L. vaccaria*, *f. L. vaccas* cow. Cf. *VACHERY*, and *Pg. vaccaria* herd of cows.] A place where cows are kept or pastured; a dairy-farm.

1471 in *Archaeol.* XLVII. 195 Th' issues, prouffites, and revenues coming. . . of the ferme of the vaccarie of Sleigh-holme. 1545 *Act 37 Hen. VIII.* c. 16 One parcell of lond called the Vaccarie, conveying by estimation threscore Acres. 1594 CROMPTON *Jurist.* 194 Without warrant no subject may haue within the forest a vaccarie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vaccary*, alias *vacharie*, seemes to be a house to keep kine or cowes in. [Hence in Phillips, etc.] 1815 DICKSON *Lancashire* 13 The Forest of Wyersdale. . . being distributed into twelve different tracts. . . which still retain the ancient title of *vaccaries* or cow-pastures. [1863 J. R. WALBRAN *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) 343 note, To render annually of the profits of the vaccary twenty six stones eight pounds of butter.]

Vacche (n, southern ME. var. *FETCH* v).

Vacci- (væ'ksi), combining form of *L. vacca* cow, as in **Vaccicide**, the killing of a cow; **Vaccimulgence**, milking of cows.

Also, in recent Dicts., *vaccigenous* (for **vaccinigenous*) *adj.*, 'producing vaccine'.

1796 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1845) II. 381 Will you try to look out for a fit servant for us. . . scientific in vaccinulgence? That last word is a new one. 1900 M. C. WILSON *Irene Petrie* xi. 249 In Kashmir vaccicide is a capital crime.

† **Vaccin**. *Obs.*—1 [*ad. L. vaccinum*.] (See **VACCINIUM**.)

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* x. 38 What then, if Amint bee Both blacke (and swart) so violets and vaccins too are blacke.

Vaccinable, *a.* [*f. VACCINATE* v.] Capable of being successfully vaccinated.

1899 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Vaccinal (væ'ksinål, væksinål), *a.* [*f. VACCINE* sb. + -AL, or *f. Vaccinal* (1812).] Of or pertaining to, connected with, vaccine or vaccination.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 262 The vaccinal eruption, especially on the scalp. *Ibid.* 27/1 Epidemics of vaccinal sore arms. 1899 *Daily News* 6 March 8/5 An inspector comes down to inquire into the vaccinal condition of the sufferers.

Vaccinate (væ'ksinēt), *v.* [*f. VACCINE* *a.* Cf. *F. vacciner* (a 1803), *It. vaccinare*, *Pg. vacinar*, *Sp. vacunar*.]

1. *trans.* To inoculate with the virus of cow-pox as a protection against small-pox.

1803 *Ring Treat. Cow-pox* II. 1206 A French physician. . . having vaccinated the son of the English Consul. *Ibid.* 1207 A number of those who were vaccinated in New England. c 1825 S. M. LLOYD *Tommy Sole* 2 When her only child, Tommy, was at a proper age, Mr. Howard proposed to vaccinate him. [*Foot-note*, To inoculate him with the cow-pox.] 1856 MISS MULLOCK *J. Halifax* xxv, Rather against Ursula's wish, I vaccinated the children.

Fig. 1809 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* I. 212 It might be supposed their abluitions at the cow's tail vaccinated them against the contagion of any other religion. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Break-ft.* x, There are teachers. . . who vaccinate the two childhoods with wholesome doctrine. 1892 ZANGWILL *Child. Ghetto* II. 3 Who will vaccinate him against free-thinking as I would have done?

b. *transf.* To inoculate with a virus.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 10 Sept. 574 By vaccinating animals . . . with a strongly neurotoxic poison.

2. *intr.* To perform or practise vaccination.

1837 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Ld. Bacon* (1897) 404 The Baconian takes out a lancet and begins to vaccinate. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xviii, As I have before mentioned, the Shoshones vaccinate. 1878 [see **VACCINE** sb. 2]

3. *trans.* To inject by or in vaccination.

1868 SEATON *Handbk. Vaccination* 22 When lymph raised in cows by retro-vaccination is vaccinated back to the human subject.

Hence **Vaccinated** *ppl. a.*, **Vaccinating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1808 REECE *Med. Dict.* s.v. *Cow-pox*, The proportion of *vaccinated persons. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 177 Sometimes a roseolous rash spreads over the vaccinated limb. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 29/1 Do the vaccinated escape in an epidemic? 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 688/2 The method of *vaccinating and the phenomena of cow-pox. 1868 BALLARD *Vaccination* 355 The puncture of the vaccinating lancet. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 715 An active vaccinating material.

Vaccination (væksin'fan). [*f. VACCINE* *a.* Cf. *F. vaccination* (a 1803), *It. vaccinazione* (1809), *Pg. vacinação*, *Sp. vacunación*.]

1. The action or practice of inoculating with vaccine matter as a preventative of small-pox.

1800 R. DUNNING (*title*), Some observations on vaccination, and the inoculated cow-pox. 1802 *Rep. Committees, Ho. Commons* XIV. 187 Vaccination has justly called forth their particular attention. 1813 *Examiner* 26 April 264/2 Prior to the introduction of vaccination, several hundreds annually died of the small pox. 1846 BRITTAN *tr. Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 60 Vaccination comprises the modes of collecting the vaccine, and of inoculating. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 178 Small-pox has died out. . . in exact proportion as efficient vaccination has been generalised.

b. Inoculation with a virus.

1891 *Nature* 3 Sept., To the old dangerous method. . . Pasteur had added the less dangerous one of preventive inoculation by means of an attenuated virus, to which he had applied the term vaccination. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 711 The vaccination [with anti-rabic fluid] is usually made into the subcutaneous connective tissues of the sheep.

2. *attrib.*, as *vaccination act*, *defaulters*, *law*, *officer*, *scar*, etc.

1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 630/1 In 1841, the Vaccination Act was passed. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 28 To make the vaccination law more stringent. *Ibid.* 30 To certify to the vaccination officer the fact of vaccination. 1897 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 3/3 Inflicting repeated penalties on vaccination defaulters. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 627 Any case of cancer affecting the vaccination scar.

Hence **Vaccinationist**, a believer in the efficacy of vaccination.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 2/1 This and similar allegations form the sheet-anchor of the vaccinationist.

Vaccinator (væ'ksin'tor). [*f. VACCINATE* v. Cf. *F. vaccinateur*, *It. vaccinatore*, *Pg. vaccinador*, *Sp. vacunador*.]

1. One who performs, practises, or advocates vaccination.

1808 REECE *Med. Dict.* s.v. *Cow-pox*, How the vaccinators account for this, I am at a loss to conjecture. 1863 *Times* 25 Apr., Many public vaccinators, it is said, are wholly incompetent to perform their duty. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 590 In another case the vaccinator. . . died of erysipelas.

2. An instrument used in performing vaccination.

1875 in *Knight Dict. Mech.* 2686/1. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 633 Cases of . . . septic infection have been known to follow the use of some mechanical vaccinator.

Comb. 1885 HARRIES *tr. Warlomont's Anim. Vaccination* 124 [An] apparatus which we have called the vaccinator-trepine.

Vaccinatory, *a. rare.* [*f. VACCINATE* v.] Used for, connected with, vaccination; vaccine.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 834 Quassia might be distributed gratis at Apothecary's Hall, as vaccinatory matter is at the Cow-pox Hospital. 1880 *Daily News* 25 May 5/7 Pus just as efficacious for vaccinatory purposes as the lymph habitually used.

Vaccine (væ'ksin, -in), *sb.* [*f. as next*, or *a. F. vaccine* (1800) cow-pox, vaccination, *vaccin* (1812) vaccine matter, = *It.* and *Pg. vaccina*, *Sp. vacuna*.]

† 1. Vaccination. *Obs.*—1

1803 *tr. P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* III. 110 Is it to them the world owes inoculation, which they so long opposed; or the vaccine, which they still oppose?

2. Vaccine matter used in vaccination.

1846 [see **VACCINATION** 1]. 1851 LEADAM *Homoeopathy* 361 A child. . . totally insusceptible of the influence of vaccine. 1864 *Spectator* 375 As ordinary Englishmen say, the vaccine took. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 94 It would be also

well, for the purpose of keeping up a good supply of vaccine, occasionally to vaccinate direct from the heifer.

Fig. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Aud. Alt.* cliv. III. 155 Impressing the advantages of industry, with the chance of acting as a vaccine to the habits of thieves.

attrib. 1889 *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 518 Une's vaccine-scarificator consists of four blades fixed upon a horizontal axis.

b. A preparation of some virus used for the purpose of inoculation.

1894 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 3/1 Graduated solutions of what for want of a better word may be called the vaccine.

Vaccine (væ'ksin, -in), *a.* [*ad. L. vaccin-us* (*f. vacca* cow), esp. in *variola vaccina* cow-pox (Dr. Jenner, 1798). Cf. *It. vaccino*.]

1. Vaccine disease, *pock*, = *COW-POX*.

1799 *Med. Jnl.* I. 281 The certainty that the having suffered the vaccine disease, will prove a preservative from the infection of the small-pox. 1802 *Ibid.* VIII. 169, I found the Vaccine-pock so safe and mild a disease. . . that I became a convert. 1851 LEADAM *Homoeopathy* 360 When the system has been satisfactorily infected by the vaccine disease.

b. Appearing in, characteristic of, the disease of cow-pox.

1800 *Med. Jnl.* V. 28 Matter taken from a vaccine pustule. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVI. 383 It might be supposed that, like the vaccine infection, it secured the system against a stronger poison. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 755/1 The vaccine cicatrix is round, deep, radiated, and puckered. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 26/2 Ulceration of the vaccine vesicle. . . is one of the commoner forms of 'bad arm'.

2. Vaccine lymph, matter, virus, the characteristic virus of cow-pox (obtained directly or from human subjects) which is employed in vaccination.

1799 *Med. Jnl.* II. 25 Manifestly arising from absorption of vaccine matter into the system. 1799 JENNER *Further Obs. Var. Vaccinae* (Crookshank, 1889) II. 188 Mr. Henry Jenner. . . inserted the vaccine virus into the arm of a child. 1813 D. MILNE in *Home Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 159, I gave his phial of vaccine matter to a Dr. Staunton. 1880 A. Flint's *Princ. Med.* 1043 The vesicles. . . contain a transparent, viscid liquid called the vaccine lymph. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 644 Essential constituents of vaccine lymph.

3. Vaccine inoculation, = **VACCINATION** 1.

1799 *Med. Jnl.* II. 310 Extracts of Letters on the Vaccine Inoculation. 1802 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Europe* 182/2 Dr. Jenner, the discoverer of the vaccine inoculation. 1806 R. WILLAN (*title*), On Vaccine Inoculation.

b. Connected with vaccination.

1812 *Examiner* 21 Sept. 597/2 The National Vaccine Establishment has. . . published its report. 1816 J. RING (*title*), A caution against vaccine swindlers and impostors.

4. Derived from, pertaining or relating to, cows. 1804 *Med. Jnl.* XII. 242 We have milk. . . butter. . . cheese. All this is vaccine matter. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 10 June, Cows . . . executed a kind of comic vaccine war dance. 1881 S. R. MACPHAIL *Relig. House of Pluscarnyn* ii. 51 When any animal about the farm became ill, there was generally to be found some skilled person who professed vaccine medical knowledge.

Vaccine, *v. rare*—1. = **VACCINATE** v. 1.

1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *To-morrow* Wks. 1832 V. 355, I think we had better have him vaccinated.

Vaccinee (væksin'), *rare.* [*Cf. prec.* and -EE 1.] One who is, or has been, vaccinated.

1889 *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 518 Vaccinees of twelve or more years. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 594 The three groups of vaccinees (vaccinated on the same day) to which these children belonged.

† **Vaccinia** (væksin'), *Path.* [*mod. L.*, *f. L. vaccin-us* **VACCINE** *a.*] Cow-pox.

Recent Dicts. also give *vaccinella* and *vaccinola* as names of spurious or secondary eruptions sometimes following upon vaccination.

1803 *Med. Jnl.* IX. 357 The Small-pox will never be extirpated till every parent is in the habit of inserting the vaccinia in the arm of his child. 1842 BURGESS *Dis. Skin* 129 Genuine vaccinia is sometimes developed on the hands of ostlers. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 52 In other cases it precedes an attack of smallpox, attends vaccinia, and is common in children.

Hence **Vaccinial** *a.*

1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 572 A generalized vaccinal eruption has been produced in children who had sucked their vaccination pocks.

Vaccinide (væksinoid). *Path.* [*a. F. vaccinide*, *f. vaccine* **VACCINE** *a.*] (See quot. 1889.)

1889 CROOKSHANK *Hist. Vaccination* II. 552 The Lyons Commission is unwilling to admit the existence of generalized vaccinal eruptions, or vaccinides. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* II. 571 The only decisive test whether an eruption following vaccination be a true 'vaccinide' or not.

Vaccinifer (væksinifēr). [*f. VACCINE* *sb.*] A person (esp. a child) acting as the transmitter of vaccine virus.

1868 BALLARD *Vaccination* 355 The admixture of blood from the vessels of the syphilitic vaccinifer. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 94 When the blood of a syphilitic vaccinifer is transferred. . . to a non-syphilitic subject. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 24/2 The circumstance that the calf. . . becomes the vaccinifer, instead of the child.

Hence **Vacciniferous** *a.*

1885 HARRIES *tr. Warlomont's Anim. Vaccination* 23 The vacciniferous property of 'the grease'.

Vacciniform, *a. Path.* [*f. VACCINIA*.] Resembling cow-pox. (In recent Dicts.)

Vaccinine. Also -in. [*Cf. VACCINE* *sb.* and *a.*, **VACCINIA**.] 'The specific contagion of cow-pox.' (In recent Dicts.)

Vacciniola: see note to **VACCINIA**.

Vaccinist (væ'ksinist). [*f. VACCINE sb. or a. + IST.* Cf. *anti-vaccinist* (1822).] A vaccinator; a supporter or advocate of vaccination.

1847 WEBSTER, *Vaccinist*, one who inoculates with the cow-pox. 1883 *Vaccination Inquirer* IV. 189 The most insolent and fanatical vaccinist on the Metropolitan bench. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Apr. 4 From the point of view of the strict vaccinists and from that of the anti-vaccinists.

|| **Vaccinium** (væksin'izim). *Bot.* [*L. vaccinium* bilberry (?).] *a.* A large genus of plants, chiefly belonging to the northern hemisphere, many species of which bear edible berries. *b.* One or other species of this genus; *spec.* a bilberry.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vaccinium*, a Black-berry, a Bilberry, or Hurtle-berry; also a Violet-flower. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Vaccinium*, in botany, a name by which some authors have called the great bilberry, or *vitis idæa magna* of other writers. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 372 In structure [this is] certainly different from the other Vacciniums. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 269 It feeds upon the berries... of the vaccinium. 1882 *Garden* 29 Apr. 292/2 Vacciniums mix well with American plants. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* III. 36 The dense mass of tender leaved vaccinium.

Vaccinization (væksin'izə'sjən). [*a. f. vaccinisation, f. vaccine VACCINE sb.*] Vaccination continued or repeated until the vaccine virus has no effect.

1889 *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 515 In Holland, a modified vaccination has been practised for a long time, ten insertions being made upon each subject.

Vaccino-, combining form of *VACCINE sb.* or *a.*, or of *VACCINIA*, as in *vaccinophobia* (1899), *vaccino-syphilis*, *vaccino-syphilitic adj.*

1868 BALLARD *Vaccination* 362 The dread of performing a vaccino-syphilitic inoculation. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 94 Vaccino-syphilis may be transferred by means of vaccination. 1885 HARRIES tr. *Warlomont's Anim. Vaccination* 78 The most pronounced case of vaccino-syphilis.

Vaccinogenic, a. rare. [*f. VACCINE sb.*] Producing vaccine; vaccinal.

1889 CROOKSHANK *Hist. Vaccination* II. 585 According to some, the vaccinogenic eruption is never spontaneous in the cow.

So **Vaccinogenous a.** (1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

Vaccinoid, sb. or a. Path. [*f. VACCINE sb. or a.*, or *VACCINIA*. Cf. *f. vaccinoide vaccinide.*] (See *quots.*)

1880 A. Flint's *Princ. Med.* [1044 Incomplete vaccinia, *vaccinoid*, as it was termed by Trousseau. *Ibid.* 1045 Partial success, as shown by imperfect or vaccinoid vesicles, is still more common.

|| **Vacciola, Obs.** [*mod.L. (Stokes), f. vacca cow.*] Cow-pox; vaccinia.

1801 *Med. Frl.* V. 454 The incised part bore the characteristic marks of pure Vacciola. 1804 *Ibid.* XII. 440 Small-pox inoculation after vacciola.

† **Vacciolate, v. Obs.** [*f. prec.*] *trans.* To vaccinate. So **Vacciolation, Vacciolator.**

1804 *Med. Frl.* XII. 242 The French inaccuracy, which many of our most eminent vaccinators so complaisantly adopt. *Ibid.* 440, I know many who... have by design vaccinated themselves after the small-pox. *Ibid.* 441 The effect of vaccination (inoculation of vacciolous matter).

† **Vacciolous, a. Obs.** [*f. as prec.*] = *VACCINE a.* 2.

1804 *Med. Frl.* XII. 242 Vacciolous matter is matter of vacciola or cow-pock.

Vach, obs. Sc. f. WATCH. Vache, obs. f. VETCH.

† **Vachery, Obs.** Also 4 *vacherie*, 5 *-erye*, *-yre*. [*a. OF. (also mod.F.) vacherie, f. vache cow.*] = *VACCARY*. Also *ATTRIB.*

a 1325 *MS. Raul. B.* 520 fol. 28 Recouerer... boru forme pat him is i-graunted boru acheson of wind mulle, bercherie, vacherie, auoiting of his curt. 14. Voc. in Wr.-Wulker 618 *Vaccarium*, a vacherye. c 1400 *Pronp. Parv.* 507/2 Vacherye, or dayrye, vacharia, armentarium. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 191/1 Of the two Vacheries called Brenand and Whytledale. 1650 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1871) XXIII. 296 The vachery lands... are not included in the valluacoon. *Ibid.*, [The] little stone gate below the vachery.

Vacht, obs. Sc. form of WAUGHT v.

Vacillancy (væ'silāns). Now *rare*. [*f. next.* See *-ANCY* and cf. *It. vacillanza.*] *Vacillation.*

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* i. xviii, That Vacillancy in humane Souls, and such Mutations as are found in corporeal matter. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Law* Scot. i. l. 5 v. (1699) 8 The committing these Crimes may be occasioned by levity and vacillancy of judgment in minors. a 1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* i. 95 That the weakness and vacillancy of this Method may yet more clearly appear. 1821 CHALMERS in *Hanna Mem.* (1849) I. x. 253 My mind was in a state of vacillancy and discomfort.

Vacillant (væ'silānt), *a.* [*ad. L. vacillant-, vacillans, pres. pple. of vacillare; see next.* So *f. vacillant* (14th c.).] 1. Uncertain, hesitating, wavering.

1521 Bradshaw's *St. Werburge, Ball.* 10 *St. Werburge* 2 With hert cortice accepte my supplication, Aydyng my fraylete and lyfe vacillaunt. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) p. v, Because the reason of Universal Nature, and of Man, ought to stand firm on all sides, and to be no where vacillant. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 715/1 The vacillant, magnanimous, simple-hearted Levin.

2. *Ent.* Unsteady; swaying readily.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1319/1 *Vacillans*, applied to anthers when they are oblong, attached by the middle of their length, and mobile; vacillant.

Vacillate, ppl. a. [*Cf. next and -ATE².*] Vacillating, unsteady.

1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mt. Sinai* i. 74 With purpose vacillate, and changed resolve, He follow'd Israel.

Vacillate (væ'silāt), *v.* [*f. L. vacillāt-, ppl. stem of vacillāre* to sway, stagger, totter, etc., whence also *f. vaciller* (1314), *It. vacillare*, *Pg. vacillar*, *Sp. vacilar.*] 1. *intr.* To swing or sway unsteadily; to be in unstable equilibrium; to stagger.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* cjb, Those which are too longe doe vacillate, and turne this way and that way in the hand. 1721 BAILEY, *To Vacillate*, to... stagger, waggle, or shake. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 505 Whether the earth, during the agitation of the waters, does rock and vacillate... is what I shall leave to future inquiry. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxii, When a spheroid... turns upon an axis which is not permanent... it is always liable to shift and vacillate from one axis to another. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 175 Lawless, vacillating on his feet, and still shouting the chorus of sea-balls, took the long tiller in his hands.

b. To vary; to hover doubtfully.

1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 231 The fate of books vacillates with the fancies of book-lovers. 1873 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 186 Among the words which still vacillate between the two sounds of EA, is the word *break*.

c. To fluctuate; to produce varying results.

1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xv. 235 In the course of these attempts at discovering and maintaining the best temperature, it [an apparatus for condensing the vapour] was found to vacillate.

2. To alternate or waver between different opinions or courses of action.

1623 COCKERAM i, *Vacillate*, to wauer, to be inconstant. 1661 R. BURNET *K. Chas. presented* 9 His Majesties wrath... causes the spirit of the ill-affected to vacillate. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* III. ii. 19 In his last years he stood alone, and never less vacillated in his conduct. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* I. iii. iii. § 2. 179 note, He may pause, but he must not hesitate,—and tremble, but he must not vacillate. 1891 BR. CREIGHTON in *Mrs. Creighton Life* (1904) II. i. 22 You can judge if you look within; you vacillate if you look without.

b. *Freq. const. between.*

1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie II.* xiii. 217 His looks appeared to be strangely vacillating between hope and fear. 1850 McCOSH *Div. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 212 The superstitious man vacillates... between hope and fear, between self-confidence and despondency.

Vacillating, ppl. a. [*f. prec.*]

1. Of persons: Given to vacillation.

a 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 309 The bad Have fairly earned a victory o'er. The vacillating, inconsistent good. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princ.* II. 57 This vacillating man... wrote a second time. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 86 The vacillating sinner... impelled by his sufferings, yet presenting a passive resistance. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 232 The vacillating monarch restored the fishing privilege.

2. Of conduct, etc.: Marked by vacillation.

1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* II. v. 132 [The] address... throws a clear and steady light on the vacillating conduct of Charles the First. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 255 Very unwillingly... he was compelled to act his vacillating part to England. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xli, The vacillating expression of a mind unable to concentrate itself strongly.

3. Of things: *a.* Varying, changeful. *b.* Unsteady, swaying.

1822 SCOTT *Peveril* i, Following the vacillating and unhappy fortunes of his master. a 1827 M'ARTHUR in *Good Study Med.* (1829) II. 180 Pulse quick, generally full and strong, in some cases quick, low, and vacillating. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* iv. v, He... rushed with swift but vacillating steps down the starlit streets.

Hence **Vacillatingly adv.**

a 1849 *FOR Marginalia Wks.* 1864 III. 565 He has made successful and frequent incursions, although vacillatingly, into the domain of the true Imagination.

Vacillation (væ'silā'sjən). Also 5 *-acion*. [*ad. L. vacillatio*, noun of action *f. vacillāre* *VACILLATE v.* So *f. vacillation* (1512), *It. vacillazione*, *Pg. vacillação*, *Sp. vacilacion.*]

1. The action or quality of alternating or wavering in respect of opinion or conduct; hesitation, uncertainty.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxx. 80 Tho that ben naturelle of the same countre withouten vacillation wille done theyr deuoyte. 1623 COCKERAM i, *Vacillation*, inconstancy, wauering. a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. I.* Wks. (1711) 40 That the friendship begun might continue without all vacillation. 1697 BURGHOF *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 101 This vacillation of thoughts is in some the consequent of their very constitution. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (Oxf. ed.) I. 204 Christopher Smart, with whose unhappy vacillation of mind he sincerely sympathised. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* I. iii. 34 In the vacillation of the disputants, victory hung on the subtility of an argument. a 1853 F. ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. iv. vii. (1876) 49 There is such an indecision, such a vacillation about the man. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 365 Elizabeth... screened her... statesmanship under the natural timidity and vacillation of her sex.

b. An instance of this.

1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* I. v. 176 The agents on both sides were shocked at the vacillations of their own Cabinets. 1879 CHURCH *Spenser* 22 When all about her [Elizabeth] were dismayed both at the plan itself and at her vacillations. 2. The action, or an act, of swaying or swinging unsteadily to and fro.

Quot. 1633 is a rendering of *St. Augustine De Rect. Cath. Conv.* § 5, where the reading *vacillationes* is doubtful. 1633 PAVNE *1st Pt. Histrio-m.* 27 To prohibit the vse of all diabolically Enterludes, Vacillations, and songs of the

Gentiles. 1635 H. VALENTINE *Sea-Serm.* 57 The second effect of a tempest is the vacillation, staggering, and trepidation of their bodies. 1711-2 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. ii. (1730) II. 667 To keep the Body upright, and prevent its falling, by readily assisting against every Vacillation thereof. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xi. § 5. 220 The bones of the feet... are put in action by every slip or vacillation of the body, and seem to assist in restoring its balance. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 233 For this cause did the intelligent creature repose (though not indeed without vacillation) on the lower perch.

3. Variation between extremes. *rare*—1.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 160 We shall then have... the double menstrual parallax, or vacillation, arising from the whole diameter of the epicycle, 14'.

Vacillator (væ'silātōr), *a.* [*f. VACILLATE v.*] One who vacillates or wavers.

1890 *Spectator* 30 July, If we win... the vacillators will flock over to the Unionist standard. 1902 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Nov. 590/2 He... is now but a querulous vacillator.

Vacillatory (væ'silātōrī), *a.* [*f. VACILLATE v.*] 1. Marked by vacillation.

a 1734 *NORTH Examen* i. i. (1740) 25 If ever such vacillatory Accounts of Affairs of State, Kings and Monarchies, were given in Print before, I am mistaken. a 1835 McCULLOCH *Attributes* (1837) xlii. III. 89 The details are far too numerous or obscure or vacillatory to admit of a place here. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* II. viii. 118 My political course, I must acknowledge, has been rather vacillatory.

2. Of persons: Tending to vacillate.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* vii. iii. III. 183 Hildebrand... for the first time... is vacillatory, hesitating, doubtful. 1876 TROLLOPE *Amer. Senator* xxxiv, The Postmaster, half vacillatory, in his desire to oblige a neighbour produced the letter.

Vacive, a. rare—0. [*ad. L. vacivus*]. 'Empty, void' (1656 Blount *Glossogr.*). Hence *Vaciv-ity*, 'emptiness' (1721 Bailey).

† **Vacuante, pa. pple.** *Obs.*—1 [*ad. L. vacuāt-*, *pa. pple. of vacuare*: see next.] Made empty.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 339 Philippus... scholde destroye some the cite if that hit were vacuate and voide of discrete men.

† **Vacuante, v. Obs.** [*f. L. vacuāt-*, *ppl. stem of vacuare* (hence *It. vacuare*) to empty, clear, free, *f. vacuus*: see *VACUUM*.]

1. *trans. a.* To clear out; = *EVACUATE v.* 5.

1572 J. JONES *Buckstones Bathes Benefyte* 15 b, Galen willesh to vacuat, cleanse, or empty, that which is euill. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 49 That so the superfluous humidity of his stomach may be vacuated. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 165 Senny, Khabarb... vacuate flegm also. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* i. 158/2 We have... portable ventilators which are continually employed in vacuating the foul air from our hold.

b. To empty; = *EVACUATE v.* 1.

1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* iv. v. 239 If he that hath been once abundantly vacuated, must necessarily relapse into the same disease. 1684 Bonet's *Merc. Compit.* III. 84 When the Heart-burn is violent, we must not vacuate the whole Body. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 84 Its so well vacuated by boiling the quicksilver in the tube, that I depend on its being luminous after being carried so far.

2. To annul, cancel, abrogate, set aside; =

EVACUATE v. 4.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. x. 129 Toboso too was flesh and blood; and how If some great Prince should vacuate her vow? 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* xiii. Wks. 1716 II. 104 Which Law vacuates and makes null and void all Laws of Man, ipso facto, that are made to the contrary. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) II. 234 There can be no Laws contrived... but what they can vacuate.

Hence † **Vacuating vbl. sb. Obs.**

1684 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 125 They may act Eregularly, to y^e Vacuating and Insecurity of such acts and judgments of y^e said Courts.

† **Vacuation, Obs.** [*ad. med.L. vacuatio*, *f. L. vacuare* *VACUATE v.* So *It. vacuazione*, *Pg. vacuação*.]

1. A vacancy or hollow part.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D 2 [Of bones] They that haue the embossynges and vacuacions be they that make the ioyntes.

2. = *EVACUATION* 1 a, 1 b.

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* 54 Through abundant sweats, and all other immoderate vacuations. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 284 The vacuation of blood & seede, is a dubble cause to nature. 1635 A. READ *Tumors & Vicers* 197 The vacuation of the humor impacted in the part. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 45 Which distinction is taken from the manner of excretion or vacuation. 1721 BAILEY, *Vacuation*, an emptying.

3. Emptiness. *rare.*

1611 FLORIO, *Vacuazione*, emptinesse, vacuation, vacuity, voidnesse. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 103 They very joyfully handling the same [a trunk], found it promising noe vacuation, but verie heavy.

† **Vacuative, Obs. rare**—1. [*f. VACUATE v.*] = *EVACUATIVE sb.*

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 318 The vital spirits... are consumed by heat, malignity, vacuatives, grief.

Vacuety, v. [*f. VACUUM*, after *L. vacuifacere* to make empty.] To produce a vacuum.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *To Vacuety*, to make void or empty. 1828 D. CRAIGIE *Path. Anat.* 175 Vacuefying apparatus... found in the upper surface of the head of the sucking fish.

† **Vacuist, Obs.** [*ad. mod.L. vacuista*, *f. vacu-um* *VACUUM*. So *It. and Sp. vacuista*, *f. vacuiste*.] One who maintains the possibility of a vacuum in nature.

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xvii. 122 Those spaces which the Vacuists would have to be empty, because they are manifestly devoid of Air, and all the grosser bodies.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 132 The second Hypothesis 's of the Vacuists. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* (1683) Notes 14 Mr. Hobs adds another Argument, which is of no force against the Vacuists.

† **Vacuities**, *a. Obs.*—[f. next.] Having the nature of a vacuum; empty of matter.

1766 G. CANNING *Anti-Lucretius* III. 172 Where'er a spot vacuitous is found, There you must own that Matter feels a bound.

Vacuity (væ'kui-ti). Also 6 *vacuities*, 6-7 *vacuities*, 7 *vacuities*. [ad. L. *vacuitas* empty space, vacancy, freedom, etc., f. *vacuus*: see VACUUM. So F. *vacuité* (1314), It. *vacuità*, Sp. *vacuidad*, Pg. *vacuidade*.]

1. Absolute emptiness of space; complete absence of matter.

1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* i. ii. 4 b, Epicurus . . . putteth two Causes Atoms or Motes and Vacuities or emptiness. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisdom* Solomon i. 2 For him . . . The Horizons and hemispheres obey, And winds the fillers of vacuity. 1626 DONNE *Serm.* Wks. 1839 IV. 20 Water will clamber up hills and Air will sink down into Vaults rather than admit Vacuity. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* iii. (1659) 24 Aristotle . . . hath demonstrated that there can be no motion in vacuity. . . a 1700 KEN *Hymn to the Poet* Wks. 1721 III. 294 Some Dotards dream'd . . . That Atoms . . . Should rise from nothing in Vacuity. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vacuum*. But mere Space, or Vacuity, is supposed to be extended; therefore it is material. 1820 CHAPMAN *Phys. Sci.* 231 A large portion of interspersed vacuity is sufficient for all purposes. 1861 G. OUTRAM *Lavoisier's* *The Annuity* viii. She beats the taets that live in stanes An' fatten in vacuity.

b. With *a*, *no*, etc. (Passing into 8.) 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1021 There is no voidness or vacuity in nature. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 54 So the laws of nature will admit of many things contrary to nature, rather than endure a vacuity. 1704 RAY *Creation* i. 83 Nature's abhorrence of a Vacuity.

transf. a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 244 In the first vacuity, when thou wast nothing he sought thee so early as in Adam. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* (1840) 237 To prevent a vacuity, (the detestation of nature,) a new plantation was soon substituted in their room.

2. Emptiness consisting in the absence of solid or liquid matter.

1579 G. BAKER *Guydo's Quest.* 12 Some [bones] are embossed for to enter, and other have vacuity that receiveth. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 156 The vacuity of the depleted veins doth attract the blood beneath. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 10 This vacuity of the arteries upon death, was one of the objections urged very forcibly by the ancients against the circulation of the blood.

b. Absence of any of the visible objects usually occupying certain spaces; complete emptiness in respect of things or persons.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 268 Leading him to a dark deep well, . . . but terrified with the vacuity and darkness, he retired. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xv. The princess and her maid, . . . seeing nothing to bound their prospect, considered themselves as in danger of being lost in a dreary vacuity. 1775 — in *Boswell* (1816) II. 424 Madam, I do not like to come down to vacuity. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xx. Such sunbeams as forced their way through the narrow Gothic lattices . . . and lost themselves in the vacuity of the vaults behind. 1842 H. ROGERS *Introd. Burke's Wks.* 67 The grim spectres . . . who stalk from desolation to desolation, through the dreary vacuity . . . of chill and comfortless chambers. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 139/1 As he gazed, a moving spot intruded on the white vacuity of its perspective.

c. The fact of being unfilled or unoccupied.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 41 But 'tis cheaper to supply the vacuity of such accidental decays by a new plantation. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 168 To fill the vacant thrones of me and mine, Which affront Heaven with their vacuity.

3. The quality or fact of being empty, in various fig. senses.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 247 To make them feel the emptiness, vacuity, and no worth of man. 1640 Bp. REYNOLDS *Passions* xvi. 169 The most general [cause of desire] . . . is a Vacuity, Indigence, and self-insufficiency of the Soule. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. Myst. O. & N. T.* I. 289 They have the most light to discover to themselves their own vacuity and nothingness. 1806 A. KNOX *Rem.* I. 21 It would follow that . . . the great central appetite of intellectual man . . . was abandoned to the self-torture of irremediable vacuity. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* v. (1872) 202 Here is an abyss of vacuity in our much-admired opulence. 1885 PATER *Marius* II. 144 It was an experience which came in the midst of a deep sense of vacuity in things.

b. Emptiness (in fig. senses) as a condition or state having a kind of real existence.

a 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 429 Thou all-sufficient art, and I am nothing but vacuity. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 141 ¶ 9 Think on the misery of him who is condemned to cultivate barrenness and ransack vacuity. 1776 — *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 30 Mar. I know that a whole system of hopes, and designs, and expectations, is swept away at once, and nothing left but bottomless vacuity. 1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (1820) 25 The dreary Vacuity of sorrow on thee lay. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes vi.* (1904) 245 Having once parted with Reality, he tumbles helpless in Vacuity. 1888 P. FITZGERALD *Fatal Zero* iv. In my lonely blue chamber, there is a sort of vacuity for thought, the world is shut out.

4. Complete absence of ideas; vacancy of mind or thought.

1594 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* i. vi. § 1 Men . . . are at the first without understanding or knowledge at all. Nevertheless from this utter vacuity they grow by degrees. 1661 K. W. Conf. *Charac.*, *Mere Politician* (1860) 27 Which will avail him little; but to be an indicium of his own vacuity and emptiness of all solidity. 1907 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 363 The Pulse, . . . if it be weak, . . . indicates Vacuity

and Fear. 1773 HAN. MORE *Search after Happ.* ii. Though more to folly than to guilt inclined, A dreary vacuity possess'd my mind. 1828 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xv. Imputing to fatigue of body, what in fact was the consequence of mental vacuity, he proposed returning home. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* xvii. She heard and saw all that passed; but in place of heart and sense, was a dead vacuity. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* i. 1. 9 We cannot so far dull our faculty of thought as to realise the mental vacuity of the savage.

b. Const. of (eye, mind, thought).

1760 STERNE tr. *Shady* III. i. That perplexed vacuity of eye which puzzled souls generally stare with. 1784 COWPER *Tash* iv. 297 'Tis thus the understanding takes repose In indolent vacancy of thought. 1829 COBBETT *Adv. Young Man* v. 247 A great fondness for music is a mark of . . . great vacuity of mind. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xx. 507 He frequents low dissolute haunts from no graver cause than idleness and vacancy of mind. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 183 We may be sure that the vacuity of thought in which most men live was for Saul a thing impossible.

5. Complete absence or lack of something.

1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xiv. (1631) 251 Which vacuity of virtue at that time will breed more terror to him than darkness to children. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 172 Christ is a sufficient store to a poor soul in the vacuity of other things. 1698 J. COCKBURN *Bourgeoisism Detected* i. 7 She . . . was in an admirable vacuity of all Desire of knowing. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* iv. vi. When he is quite tired of his existence, from a total vacuity of ideas, he must affect a look of absence. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 118 There is as much character in his air and manner as there is vacuity of it in the countenance of . . . St. Etienne. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 46 To contemplate the body and mind . . . at birth . . . as consisting equally of a blank or vacuity of impressions.

† 6. Complete freedom or exemption from something. *Obs.*

a 1659 FOTHERBY *Atheism* i. xii. § 1 The soul cannot have in it, any true joy, . . . unless the same be founded, both in security, and in confidence, and in tranquillity. All which do imply a vacuity from feare. 1648 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 246 By the Evenness of the Mind and the Vacuity from those secret lashes . . . that haunt a guilty Conscience. a 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 429 A well-grounded vacuity or freedom from all troublesome, distracting, and tormenting fears and cares.

7. † a. Leisure for some pursuit. *Obs.*—1

1607 SCHOLAST. *Disc. agst. Antichrist* i. xii. 137 From this preposterousness of the Croise setting the sense before the spirite, come wee to his Vacuitie for his inward Devotion.

b. Lack of occupation; idleness.

1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. ii. ix. 389 A whole race of men . . . whom the pain of vacuity forced upon some application of mind. 1875 A. R. HOPE *My Schoolboy F.* 72 The hours of thoughtful vacuity I had spent.

II. 8. A hollow or enclosed space empty of matter; esp. a small internal cavity or interstice of this kind in a solid body.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Dij, Some [bones] are embossed for to entre, and other have vacuities that receiveth. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 330 That so those places being emptied . . . the vacuity may be replenished with better blood. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxxv. 10 The earth . . . sinks down and fills up the vacuities. 1677 GREW *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 300 There are Vacuities in Water. That is to say, that all the parts of Water are not contiguous. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 95 Those pieces become as hard as flints, and altogether as smooth and solid; not the least vacuity or interstice being to be seen. 1770 PHIL. *Trans.* LX. 422 Every particle of light that issues from the sun, must leave a spherical vacuity of one millionth of one millionth of an inch diameter. 1800 *Ibid.* XC. 235 A wad was placed over the powder, dry sand superadded, to fill all vacuities. 1840 *Jrnl. Engl. Agric. Soc.* i. iii. 355 Water in descending seeks the nearest vacuity. 1872 DANA *Coral* i. 38 The polyp has . . . no blood-vessels but the vacuities among the tissues.

b. A cosmic space empty of matter.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* i. § 49 When this sensible world shall be destroyed, all shall then be here as it is now there, an Emptireall Heaven, a quasi vacuity. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 932 That seat soon failing, [he] meets A vast vacuity. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 75 Whilst their numberless Atoms wildly rovd in their infinite Vacuity. 1795 W. BLAKE *Bk. Los* iv. The Deep fled away On all sides, and left an uniform'd Dark Vacuity.

9. An empty space left or contrived in something, esp. in some composite work or structure.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* (1672) 26 To place the Columns precisely one over another, that so the solid may answer to the solid, and the vacuities to the vacuities. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Waltham Abbey* (1840) 257 The great pillars thereof are wreathed with indentings; which vacuities, if formerly filled up with brass, . . . added much to the beauty of the building. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 55/2 The vacuities which are left between the back . . . of the Arch, and the upright of the Wall. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* Wks. 509 Round which there are narrow cavities or recesses formed by small vacuities or by a double wall. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 425 Rooms are the interior vacuities or habitable parts of a building. 1845 FLORIST *Jrnl.* 67 An ingeniously contrived trap for earwigs, . . . leaving a vacuity for the reception of the insects. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 8 By a vacuity in the skull walls for the blood to pass out from the lateral sinus.

b. An open space, gap, or interval left between or among things. *rare.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* II. ¶ 12 Whereby the Elephants passing the vacuities of the *Hasstati*, might have run upon them. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* i. iv. The Scots and Picts . . . rushed with redoubled violence into this vacuity. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 152 The market-place . . . of the town is a rather spacious and irregularly shaped vacuity.

c. An empty space due to the disappearance or absence of some special thing.

1822-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 227 He has also seen others . . . reproduce a smaller or larger number of teeth to supply vacuities progressively produced in earlier life. 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvii. 415 Those dark vacuities called 'coal sacks' by the ancient navigators, which are so numerous between a Centauri and a Antaris. 1867-77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* vi. iv. 519 The central vacuity is not quite dark.

10. An emptiness, an empty space, a blank, in various fig. uses.

a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 5 A filling of all former vacuities, a supplying of all emptinesses in our souls. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 325 In this age, when men may say any thing if they have but Rhetoric to fill up the Vacuities. 1682 W. OWTRAM *Serm.* 342 Our Saviour, . . . filled up the vacuities that Moses had left in moral duties. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 286 Each want of happiness by hope supply'd, And each vacuity of sense by pride. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. ii. (1869) 303 Whatever vacuities this excessive circulation occasioned in the necessary coin of the kingdom. 1841 EMERSON *Ess. Ser.* i. x. But yesterday I saw a dreary vacuity in this direction in which now I see so much. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* i. Oh those Sabbaths . . . when there was nothing to fill up the long vacuity but books of which I did not understand a word.

11. An empty or inane thing.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xi. lxxviii. That with those huge adord' Vacuities, Which puff the World up with their frothy flood, Ev'n massy Gold must counted be. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 511 The Prince, by the Concessions of these Honorary Vacuities, redeeming the War from delay. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* i. iv. Thou for one wilt not again vote for any quack, do honour to any edge-gilt vacuity in man's shape.

|| **Vacu**o (in the phrase *in vacuo*): see IN (Latin prep.) 20.

Vacuolar (væ'kui-lâr), *a.* [ad. F. *vacuolaire*, f. *vacuole* VACUOLE.] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, a vacuole or vacuoles.

1852 ZOOLOGIST X. 3406 He [Huxley] next mentioned appearances which he terms vacuolar thickenings. 1859 J. R. GREENE *Protozoa* 45 In some specimens the central cavity is replaced by an aggregation of large vacuolar spaces. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 141 The interior of these frequently contains vacuolar spaces.

So **Vacuolary** *a.*

1897 ALBUTT *Syst. Med.* II. 907 Ehrlich says that changes are to be found in the hepatic cells—a 'vacuolary' degeneration.

Vacuolate, *a.* = next.

1890 Q. *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXX. 6 In some cases the stalk has a vacuolate structure.

Vacuolated (væ'kui-lâ-têd), *pph. a.* [f. VACUOLATE: cf. next.] Rendered vacuolar; modified or altered by vacuolation.

1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 84 The cavity of the base of the involucre appears to become filled up by vacuolated tissue. 1878 F. J. BELL *Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.* 24 There are often vacuolated spaces in the cells, which are filled with a fluid. 1896 ALBUTT *Syst. Med.* I. 211 Cell invaginations, the protoplasm of which is highly vacuolated.

Vacuolation (væ'kui-lâ-tî-jôn), [f. next: cf. prec. and -ATION.] The formation of vacuoles; change to a vacuolar state.

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 318 In other cases it would appear that a number of cells are formed by a process of vacuolation. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 329 Vacuolation—denoting the spontaneous resolution of part of a more or less dense structure in such a way as to give rise to a cavity or cavities within it. 1899 ALBUTT *Syst. Med.* VI. 508 Vacuolation of the nerve-cell is peculiarly frequent in senile brain atrophy.

Vacuole (væ'kui-ül), [a. F. *vacuole* (Dujardin), f. L. *vacuus* empty.]

1. A small cavity or vesicle in organic tissue or protoplasm, freq. containing some fluid.

a. *Zool.* and *Anat.* 1853 RAY *Soc. Bot. & Physiol. Mem.* 534 All these properties had already been observed by Dujardin; . . . the aqueous spaces or hollows he named 'Vacuoles', regarding them as the most characteristic feature of the substance. 1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 10 The structure of the villi and vacuoles in *Athyria*. 1897 ALBUTT *Syst. Med.* II. 224 Into the vacuoles or loculi of this net-work the serum exudes.

b. *Bot.* 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Plants* xv. 351 Two or three vacuoles or small spheres appeared within some of the larger globules. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 280 In numerous succulents the vacuoles of the assimilating cells frequently contain a thin mucus.

attrib. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 585 The centre of the sac is filled in the unripe seed with a clear vacuole-fluid.

2. An empty or open space (in a comet).

1881 SCIENCE II. 317 In this envelope was a curious oval vacuole, behind the nucleus, but on the preceding side of the axis of the tail.

Vacuolization. [f. prec.] = VACUOLATION. Cf. *vacuolized* = vacuolated. (In recent use.)

1882 *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 4 What is the nature of the vacuolisation? 1897 ALBUTT *Syst. Med.* VII. 168 Small and large neuroglia cells, . . . in a state of vacuolisation and progressive liquefaction.

Vacuuous (væ'kui-us), *a.* [f. L. *vacuus* empty, void, free, clear, etc. (cf. VACUUM) + -OUS.]

† 1. Not properly filled out or developed. *Obs.*—1

1651 SMALLWOOD *Commend. Verses to W. Cartwright's Wks.*, False Vacuous Births in every street we see: But seldom, true and ripen'd, such as He.

2. Empty of matter; not occupied or filled with anything solid or tangible.

1655-60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 374/1 It were impossible for one body to make another to recede, if the triple dimension . . . were vacuous. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* iv. 226 Will they say that these Atomes were introduced or produced in this vacuous space in time? 1794 R. J. SULLIVAN

View Nat. IV. 3 He contended, that thunder or sound would not be able to pass through walls, unless there were some vacuum spaces in those bodies. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. vi. Comm. p. xxiii. He notices many natural circumstances which demonstrate the vacuum nature of all substances. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxiv. 356 The water, is not able to fill it, hence a vacuum space must be formed in the cell.

b. Empty of air or gas; in which a vacuum has been produced.

1869 BOYLE *Contin. New Exp.* II. (1682) 158, I put Pears bruised into a vacuum Receiver. 1842 E. A. PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 490 The difference between its weight when containing the gas, and when vacuum. 1862 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 4) 59 No air is given off from the bubbles, so they seem to be vacuum. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 233 In incandescent lamps the electric current heats up a carbon filament inclosed in a vacuum globe.

c. Bot. Not containing some part or feature usually present.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1199/2 Bracts which usually support flowers are said to be vacuum when they have no flower in their axils.

d. Empty of any visible object.

1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 255 As the flies of a summer day dart from point to point in the vacuum air.

3. Empty of ideas; unintelligent; expressionless. Cf. VACANT a. 5.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* x. A vacuum, solemn. Snob. 1883 *Standard* 2 Jan. 5/2 The absence of anxiety. leaves their minds vacuum. 1890 *Times* 26 Oct. 9/1 That gift of oppressive familiarity which by some vacuum people is taken to indicate. sterling sense.

Comb. 1895 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Grey Lady* I. iii. (1899) 28 He was rather a vacuum-looking young man.

b. Indicative of mental vacancy.

1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 25 With that vacuum leer which distinguishes his lordship. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.* I. vi. 55 These negative faces with their vacuum eyes and stony lineaments. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xx. 320 There was a cheery, vacuum, smiling expression on his round face.

Comb. 1879 McCARTHY *Own Times* v. I. 116 A huge white-headed, vacuum-eyed man was to be seen.

4. Devoid of content or substance.

1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 56 The vacuum monotonous desire and discontent, the fitful and febrile beauty of Alfred de Musset. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Arostook* (1883) I. 45 Mrs. Erwin wrote an epistolary style exasperatingly vacuum and diffuse.

5. Unoccupied, idle, indolent; not filled up with any (profitable) employment or activity.

1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 334 It cannot for ever be tolerable that the mass should wear away their lives in unbroken toil without hope or aim, in order that the few may live selfish and vacuum days. 1897 *Review of Rev.* 37 There are many rich people who lead such mean and vacuum lives.

Hence VACUOUSLY adv.; VACUOUSNESS.

1848 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* I. 352 In that vacuumness the winds and vapors of tediousness and dispendence rise. 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 226 The mistiness and vacuumness of abstract expression. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 88. 283 He had... a broad fair face, rather vacuumously good natured in its ordinary expression. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 14 Feb. So there he stood, with his hands in his pockets, gazing vacuumously at the fighting and rough play.

|| **Vacuum** (væ'kju:m). Pl. **vacua** and **vacuums**. [L. *vacuum*, neut. of *vacuus* empty: cf. VACUOUS a. So F. *vacuum*, It., Sp., Pg. *vacuo*.]

1. Emptiness of space; space unoccupied by matter. Now rare or Obs.

1550 CRANMER *Lord's Supper* 21 Natural reason abhorreth vacuum, that is to say, that there should be any empty place, wherein no substance should be. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 35 This Arte is very profitable: to prove, that Vacuum, or Emptiness is not in the world. 1626 BACON *Sylva* 83 The more gross of the Tangible Parts do contract and serve themselves together, to avoid Vacuum. 1657 TRAPP *Erra* ix. 6 For beyond the moveable Heavens, Aristotle... saith there is neither body, nor time, nor place, nor vacuum. 1676 POOR *Robin's Intell.* 30 May-6 June 1/1 Having his head as full of Vacuum as his small proportion of brains was capable of. 1795 W. BLAKE *Bk. Los* I, Round the flames roll, mounting on high Into Vacuum, into nonentity, Where nothing was. 1843 PENNY *Cycl.* XXVI. 76/1 The astronomical argument, therefore, in favour of absolute vacuum has fallen.

2. A space entirely empty of matter.

1609 A. BREWER *Lingua* IV. I. H i b, First shall the whole Machin of the world... returne to Chaos, then the least vacuum be found in the vniuers. 1638 WILKINS *New World* I. (1684) 23 To dispute against Democritus, who thought, that the World was made by the casual concourse of Atoms in a great Vacuum. 1714 *Let. from Layman* (ed. 2) 7 A Government can't rightfully restrain a Man's professing the Belief of a Vacuum, or a Plenum. 1763 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 21 July, There are objections against a plenum, and objections against a vacuum; yet one of them must... be true. 1865 J. GROTE *Plato* I. 1. 80 Proceeding upon his hypothesis of atoms and vacua as the only objective existences. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* I. (1885) 8 The reasons why... Nature abhors a vacuum were discovered.

b. A space empty of air, esp. one from which the air has been artificially withdrawn.

sing. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spæ* II. 7 So much air being spent, there would of necessity follow a vacuum. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 2 The Interest of the Air, in hindring the descent of the Quick-silver, in the famous Experiment touching a Vacuum. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* 8 note, The Ear-wig... and some other Insects would seem unconcerned at the Vacuum a good while, and lie as dead; but revive in the Air. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 299 The air contained therein is condensed, and leaves a vacuum, which the external air... tends to occupy. 1829 *Nat. Philos.*, Heat I. ii. 2 (L.U.K.), Count Rumford proved the passage of heat through a Torricellian vacuum,

that is, the space left at the top of a barometer by the mercury falling. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* I. § 6 At the height of 80 or 90 miles there is a vacuum far more complete than any which we can produce by any air-pump. 1872 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* 17 Alcohol expands more slowly into the aqueous vapor than it would into a vacuum. pl. 1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 679 That the vacua be as nearly as possible compleat. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* x. 262 The plates, being raised or depressed by the voluntary muscles, form so many vacua.

3. An empty space; a portion of space (left) unoccupied or unfilled with the usual or natural contents.

1589 NASHE in *Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 12 The Scythians, who, swaddle themselves straighter, to the intent no vacuum beeing left in their intrayles [etc.]. a 1635 T. RANDOLPH *Poems*, Parley with his Empty Purse (1640) 113 Unnatural vacuum, can your empiness Answer to some slight questions? 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Freshy's Amusem.* viii. He made a Dive into my Pocket, but encountering a Disappointment, Rub'd off, Cursing the Vacuum. 1758 J. S. Le Dran's *Observ. Surg.* (1771) 141, I discovered a Vacuum upon the intercostal Muscles, from whence about a Spoonful of... Matter was discharged. 1791 H. WALPOLE in *Miss Berry's Jmnl.* I. 328, I shall fill my vacuum with some lines that General Conway has sent me. a 1838 C. MORRIS *Lyra Urban.* (1840) II. 97 The Dandy's head, A vacuum dead, Ne'er tries for thought to seek!

b. In various fig. uses.

1617 MIDDLETON *Fair Quar.* II. D iij b, I cannot see that vacuum in your blood. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* vii. 33 It were a vacuum, a defect, a deformity too absurd in nature... that betwixt two extremes... there should be no middle. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 10 Commonly they misspent that triennial probation, and left upon that place a vacuum of doing little or nothing. 1710 PALMER *Prov.* 384 'Tis infinitely pleasing to observe there has been no Vacuum in our Life. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 317 It should therefore seem that the larks from the more adjacent parts crowd in to supply the vacuum occasioned by the London Epicures. 1829 MARRIAT *F. Mildmay* ix. The vacuum occasioned by my mother's death. 1846 GROTE *Greece* (1862) I. xvi. 294 They filled up the vacuum of the unrecorded past. 1879 R. H. ELLIOT *Written on Foreh.* I. 140 So Martin Kerr... was left with a sheer, hopeless vacuum to fill up as best he could.

4. attrib. and Comb., as vacuum-brake, cleaner, cleanser, disk, distillation, engine, -made, -pan, -pump, -vessel.

Also vacuum-apparatus, -cylinder, -filter, -gauge, -shunt, -valve (Knight, 1875-84).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2686/1 *Vacuum-brake, a form of steam-operated car-brake. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Rail-way* 168 The train is fitted throughout with vacuum brakes. 1903 *Hardwardman* 23 May 395 A decision of... serious import as regards the operations of the 'Vacuum Cleaner Co. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 5/3 There is a machine at work, called the 'vacuum cleaner', which gives them all, in turn, a thorough 'spring cleaning'. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 163 Sometimes the 'vacuum disks were parallel to the veins [of the glacier]. 1899 tr. R. von Jaksch's *Clin. Diag.* v. (ed. 4) 170 Still better for this purpose is the method of 'vacuum distillation. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 670 The application of Mr. Brown's pneumatic, or 'vacuum engine. 1853 *Ure Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 879 'Vacuum-made liqueurs. 1839 *Ibid.* 1208 An apparatus inserted air-tight into the cover of the 'vacuum-pan. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. 66 The syrup... is boiled down again in the vacuum pan, and is obtained in the form of... crushed sugar. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Vacuum-pump, a pump attached to a marine steam-engine. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 323 Professor Dewar's coils and 'vacuum-vessels.

Vad, southern ME. var. FADE a.2; obs. Sc. f. WED sb., WOAD.

+Vadable, a. Obs. rare. Also vadeable. [ad. med. L. *vadabilis* (f. *vadere* to wade through) or a. Sp. *vadeable* (Pg. *vadeavel*, OF. *vadable*.)] Fordable.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 11 To the ende thei [sc. the rivers] might not only be vadable, but passed also with drie foote. 1578 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. India* 65 After hee had dourneyed three leagues, hee came to a faire vadeable River. 1611 FLORIO, *Vadoso*, vadable, or fordable.

Vadam, southern ME. var. FATHOM.

Vaddah, obs. form of VEDDAH.

+Vade, sb. Obs.-1 [ad. L. *vadium*.] A shallow place in a river.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 94 Irwel is not navigable but in sum Places for Vadyes and Rokkes.

+Vade, v.1 Obs. [var. of FADE v.1, chiefly used in fig. senses (very common c 1530-1630) and app. to some extent associated with L. *vadere* to go: see next, to which some of the quotations placed under 3-3 c may really belong.

This association may be the real explanation of the form, but see the note to FADE a.2.]

1. intr. Of colour: = FADE v.1 4.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref. in Ashm. (1652) 127 Colour whych wyl not vade. c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 956 To vade, ternir. a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* (1622) 578 How doth the colour vade of those vermilion dyes. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 45 As soone as the beautiful hew of the leaves begin to vade. 1613 *Answe. Uncasing Machiav.* E. iv b, Whose colours never vade. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* xvii. 4 The stains of sin I see are Vaded all, or di'd in graine.

2. Of flowers, etc.: = FADE v.1 1.

1492 [see 3 b]. c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 894 Rose that can nat vade, rose inmarcescible. 1578 LYTE *Doctoens* 1 Small grayish leaves... the whiche do perish and vade in winter. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* I. ii. 20 One flourishing branch of his most Royall roote... Is hackt downe, and his summer leaves all vaded. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 22 Do not the flowers vade, and grasse die for their departure?

3. To pass away, disappear, vanish; to decay or perish; = FADE v.1 6.

1495 Trevisa's *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxxvi. 564 Aege that passyth & vadyth chunghyly tymes of thynges. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, Hen. IV (1550) 4 When he de-parted, the only shelde, defence and comfort of the common people was vaded and gone. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amittie* (1879) 19 For me is most frayle... it vadt as grasse doth growe. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* I. i, I know how soon their love vade. 1641 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* 324 Where... beauty never fadeth, love never faileth, health never vade. a 1678 MARVELL *Poems, Clorinda & Damon* (1681) 12 Grass withers; and the Flowrs too fade. Seize the short Ioyes then, ere they vade.

b. Const. from, into, to.

1492 RYMAN *Poems* lxxxix. in in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 253 As medows floures... Vadt to erthe... Likewise riches and grete honours Shall vade fro euery creature. c 1537 *Thersites* Dij, The cowerd of Comer-towne, with his croked spade, Cause frome the the wormes soone to vade. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q. v.* II. 40 How euer gay their blossome or their blade Doe flourish now, they into dust shall vade. 1663 CANE *Ep. to Author of Animad.* *Fiat Lux* 66 All your talk in this your eighteenth chapter vades into nothing.

c. With away.

1530 *Proper Dyaloge in Roy's Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 133 Aftermyng that oure loue shuld a-way vade Without any memory of them at all. 1587 M. GROVE *Felops & Hipp.* (1878) 38 The time thus doth consume & wear, the night doth vade away. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1761 The bankes of sand doe fleet and vade away out of the river.

+Vade, v.2 Obs. [ad. L. *vadere* to go; cf. prec.]

1. To go away, depart. rare.

1569 ELVIDEN *Pesistratus & Calanea* (Bynneman), Then proclamation made that Pisistrate to proper soile should vade. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabes Jmnl.* II. (1818) 67 Beauty feedeth, beauty fadeth, Beauty lost, her lover vadeth.

2. To proceed, advance.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 5 You are too yonge to vade into these archæ matters.

Vade, obs. Sc. form of WADE v.

+Vadelect. Obs. Also 6-licet. [ad. Anglo-L. *vadelectus*, *vadlectus* (13th c.), ad. AF. *vadlet*, var. OF. *vaslet*, *vallet*, *varlet*: see VALET sb. and VARLET.] A servant, serving-man.

1586 FERNE *Blas. Genirie* 161 The same French king, for want of a Herald... was constrained to subornate a vadelect, or common serving-man. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 156 But if the sherie be a Vadelect of the crowne or other meniall seruant of the King, there the challenge is good. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Vadelect* or *Vadelect*... signifies a servant, and is used in the accounts of the Inner Temple, for a Benchers Clerk or Servant.

So Vadelect, Vadlet, arch.

1661 [see prec.]. 1813 WILLIAMS *Law of Clergy* 398 The King as founder of... many religious houses had a corrody for his vadelects, and a pension for a chaplain. 1865 RILEY tr. *Carpenter's Liber Altus* 40 As soon as the Sheriffs are sworn, all the Servants of their office—clerks, sergeants and their vadelects... shall also be sworn.

|| **Vade-mecum** (væ'dē mē'kōm). Also vade mecum. [L. *vade* imper. sing. of *vadere* to go + *mecum* with me. So F., Sp., Pg. *vademecum* (Pg. also *meco*).]

1. A book or manual suitable for carrying about with one for ready reference. (Sometimes used as the title of such a work.)

1629 (title), *Vade Mecum: A Manual of Essayes* Morral, Theological. 1649 F. ROBERTS *Lavis Bibli.* 405 Among the very Ethiopians this book was in such repute, that the Ethiopian Eunuch made it his (Vade mecum) his companion in his journey. 1679 (title), *A Vade-mecum for the Lovers of Musick*. 1731 FIELDING *Grub St. Op.* Introd. It is a sort of family Opera. The husband's vade-mecum; and is very necessary for all married men to have in their houses. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* 111. 128 The Odeon shall possess a literary journal... to be a valuable vade-mecum for such persons as are not in the habit of deciding on the merits of theatrical performances. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cci, Aristotle's rules, The *Vade Mecum* of the true sublime, Which makes so many poets, and some fools. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* Introd. p. xv, It is the remains... of a handbook for the practitioner; a *vade mecum*, as modern law-writers would call it.

fig. a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 51 His *vade mecum*, the abridgment of all nature, and all law, his own heart, and conscience.

2. A thing commonly carried about by a person as being of some service to him.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 355 Gold... was my continuall vade Mecum. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 71 Whose Vade mecum is an Aqua vitæ Bottle. 1678 Yng. *Man's Call*. 50 You may safely take it [a maxim] as your vade mecum along with you, in reference to the things of this life. 1774 'J. COLLIER' *Mus. Trav.* App. 23 To write a pamphlet against the use of a medicine which had been his *vade mecum* in all his journeys.

Vader, southern ME. variant of FATHER.

Vadiation (væ'di-ā-jōn). Law. rare. [ad. med. L. *vadiatio*, f. *vadiare* to give security.] The action of requiring or giving surety or pledges.

1753 Chambers' *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., *Vadiation*, *Vadiatio*, in the civil law. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 557 note, Remedy against... sequestration, or vadiation in this or that shape.

+Vadimony. Obs. Also 6 vady-, 7 vade-mony. [ad. L. *vadimōnium*, f. *vad-*, *vas* bail, surety.] A pledge or recognisance.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 2 That they haue ther vady-monies [printed-memes] and weddes: the xliiii. article. c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 22 The accent in the fourth syllab from the end; as in *mātrimonie*, *pātrimonie*,

vadimonie. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 48 His Obligation was arbitrary and voluntary; not arising from the guilt of sin, but by way of vadiemony, and susception. 1699 J. BARRY *Reviv. Cordial* (1802) 80 In this work, which he himself, as vademony and surety for God's elect, hath undertaken to perform.

† **Vading**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. — [f. VADE *v.* 1.] The action or process of disappearing, declining, etc.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 254/2 Y^e lyke vadyng of water happened also in the flood of Medewaye.

† **Vading**, *ppl. a.* Obs. Also 7 *vaid-*. [f. as prec.] Fading, passing away, fleeting, transitory.

1566 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* Ep. Ded., The vaine and soone vadyng beaute of the worlde. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. R], My Lady fayre whose shape doth shine And gyster in my vading sighte. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. lxx. (1612) 279 What els is Forme but vading aire? 1615 BRATHWAT *Strappado* (1878) 53 Thy form's Diuine, no fading, vading flower. 1661 Sir A. Haslerig's *Last Will & Test.* 2 What a vading breath, or light blast is this flash of Honour.

Vadlet: see VADELET.

Vadmal, -mel, *varr.* (after mod. Scand. forms) of WADMAL.

1799 *Stat. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 326 The old men and women... continue to wear good strong black clothes without dyeing, called by the ancient Norse, Vadmel]. 1851 THORPE *Northern Myth.* I. 112, I am Kraka, Coal-black in vadmel! 1881 DU CHAILLU *Laud Midnight Sun* II. 78 The tent was made of coarse heavy vadmal.

Vadome, southern ME. variant of FATHOM *sb.*

† **Vado'sity**, *Obs.* — [f. *L. vadōs-us*, f. *vadum* *ford*.] The fact of being fordable.

1658 BURTON *Comm. Itin. Antoinius* 224 The word Ford, by reason of the vadosity of the River there, being added.

Vady, *a. south-w. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Damp, moist.

1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* xiii. 188 The grass was too 'vady' for him to sit down upon.

|| **Væ**, *Obs.* Also 6 *ve*. [*L. væ* alas!] A denunciation or threatening of woe.

1559 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 79 We should... deserve the wrathful *væ* and vengeance of God. 1584 LODGE *Alarm agst. Usurers* Fijij, The Lord shall place you among the goates, and pronounce his *Ve* against you. 1602 W. WATSON *Quodl. Relig. & State* 9 With how many *væes* and woes to you Scribes and Pharisees did he come vpon them? 1636 WESTCOTE *View Devonsh.* 1845/61 There was a *væ* or woe pronounced against them in these words, — 'Woe unto you Pilatians, that make cloth without wool'.

Væder, **Væie**, **Vælde**, **Væle**, **Væren**, **Værne**, **Væx**, **Væjer**, southern ME. *varr.* FATHER, FRY *a.*, FIELD *sb.*, FELE *a.*, FERRE *v.*, FERN *sb.*, FAX, FAIR *a.*

Vafand, **Vaffand**, *obs. Sc. ff. waving* WAVE *v.*

Vafroun, *var. WAFROUN* *Sc. Obs.*

† **Vafrouns**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 *vaffrouns*. [f. *L. vafra*, *vafra* + *ous*.] Sly, cunning, crafty, shifty.

1548 HALL *Chron.* *Hen. VII.* 11 Thinkyng surely that they, would neuer longe agree with the Englishmen, according to their olde vafrouns [1550 crafty] varietie. 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commu.* 17 Divine providence... adjudged it best...not to bestow...upon subtle and vafroun people, Courage, and Strength of body. 1650 B. DISCOLLIMINIUM 17 These are subtle, and vafroun Men, who are never solidly, nor honestly Wise. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 106 This vafroun and bloudy Treason against the holy Majesty of Christ. 1721 in BAILEY.

Vag, *sb. Devon. dial.* [Cf. FAG *sb.* 2.] Dried turf or peat used as fuel; a piece of this.

1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. England* II. 6 Towards the Mountains, Turf (provincially 'Vags') and Peat (provincially 'Turf'). 1889 *Portfolio* Jan. 11/2 In the winter he may turn many an honest penny by the sale of 'vags'. 1895 G. MORTIMER *Tales Moors* 221 You can cut as much *vag* — or peat, as you calls it up country — as you'm a mind to.

Vag, *v. U.S. slang.* [f. *vag*, abbrev. of VAGABOND.] *trans.* To treat or deal with (one) as a vagabond or vagrant.

1891 C. ROBERTS *Airist Amer.* 169, I was arrested as a vagrant. As the popular expression went, I got 'vagged'.

Vag, *dial. var. FAG* *v.* 2; *obs. Sc. f. WAGE* *sb.*

Vagabond (vægäbnd), *a. and sb.* Forms: 5-6 *vagabound* (e, -bunde, 5-6, 8 -bund, 5-7 -bonde, 7- *vagabond*; 6 *Sc. wagabund*, -bond; 7, 9 *dial.*, *vagabone*, 9 *dial.* -bon. [a. OF. *vagabond* (14th c.) or ad. *L. vagabund-us*, f. *vagari* to wander. Cf. mod. F. *vagabond*, It. *vagabondo*, Sp. and Pg. *vagabundo*, *vagamundo*; also G. *vagabund*, -bond, Sw. *vagabond*, Du. *vagebond*. As a *sb.* the form finally takes the place of the earlier VACABOND.]

A. adj. 1. Of persons, etc.: Roaming or wandering from place to place without settled habitation or home; leading a wandering life; nomadic.

a. In predicative use.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16842 O thou blyssed Lady, hyde hem that fien vnto the for helpe, and they that be vagabonde, dyscoure hem nat. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 71 Many of hir pepill vagabound and ouresett with pouerte tuke wagus of be sabyms. 1578 LINDSEY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 322 He staw away, and zaid wagabund dissagysit are lang quhill. 1838 STEPHENS *Irav. in Russia* 96/1 Dispersed and vagabond, exiled from their native soil and air, they wander over the face of the earth.

fig. c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 256 My look, myn eyen, unswre and vagabonde. 1667 MILTON *P. L.*

xi. 16 To Heav'n thir prayers Flew up, nor missed the way, by envious windes Blown vagabond or frustrate.

b. In attrib. use (occas. hyphenated).

1555 EDEN *Decades* I. ix. (Arb.) 97 Owre men suppose them to bee a vagabunde and wanderinge nacion lyke vnto the Scythians. 1602 MOUNTJOY *Letter in Moryson Itin.* (1617) II. 233 How, as a Vagabond Woodkerne hee may preserve his life, I know not. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* III. 31, I have for my brother and Sovereign, the Prince of Greece, whom but even now I beheld to be a vagabond Grlr. 1691 tr. *Emilian's Observ. Journ. Naples* 226 They become soon weary of it and then turn Vagabond-Hermits. 1726 AVLIFFE *Parergon* 181 A vagabond Debtor may be cited in whatever Place or Jurisdiction he is found. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 559 A vagabond and useless tribe there eat their miserable meal. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, Those ballads which vagabond minstrels sing to drunken churls. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. We are a vagabond nation now. *transf.* 1666 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 45 This common bodie, Like to a Vagabond Flagge vpon the Streame, Goes too, and backe. 1638 WILKINS *New World* xii. (1707) 98 The Concourse of many little Vagabond Stars, by the union of their Beams. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 299 Those vagabond bodies, the comets.

† **c. spec.** Of soldiers or sailors. *Obs.*

1748 LIND *Lett. Rel. Navy* (1757) II. 85 If they are to be set at liberty, who are accused of perjury, how is a vagabond seaman to be found, when he comes to England? 1813 WELLINGTON in GURW. *Desp.* (1838) X. 519, I do not know what measures to take about our vagabond soldiers.

† **2.** (See quot. and cf. EXTRA VAGANT *a.* 2.) *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 258 3it is thare other lawis callit lawis extravaganis, that is for to say l.wis vagabondis, that ar nocht incorporit in othir bukis of lawis of Lombardy.

3. Inclined to stray or gad about without proper occupation; leading an unsettled, irregular, or disreputable life; good-for-nothing, rascally, worthless.

1630 GREENE'S *Pr. Bacon* II. i. (Q. 2), Where be these vagabond [1594 vagabond] knaues, that they attend no better on their Master? 1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* II. 66 Some idle vagabond Clerks that had procured themselves to be put in Orders. 1742-3 WESLEY *Jrnl.* (1749) 9 A clergyman came into the room, and ask'd aloud, with a tone unusually sharp, 'Where those vagabond fellows were?' 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* civ, A most vagabond crew! 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 123 He took a ceremonious leave of the Crow chieftain, and his vagabond warriors. c 1870 B. HARTE *Coyotte Poems* (1886) 16 Lop-eared and large-jointed, but ever alway A thoroughly vagabond outcast in gray.

4. Of or pertaining to, characteristic or distinctive of, a homeless wanderer.

1825 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* III. xviii. 104 By suchie vagabonde beggerie, they make...beleue, that they canne foresay and deueine. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 89 Let them pronounce the steepe Tarpeian death, Vagabond exile, I would not buy Their mercie. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 40 Voyages by Sea and Land, and a vagabond life. 1698 CROWNE *Caligula* IV. Dram. Wks. 1874 IV. 406 Rise from thy memory my sinful hours, And all my little vagabond amours. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* I. vi. (1840) 73 Satan being confined to a vagabond, wandering, unsettled condition. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 27 They have the true vagabond abhorrence of all useful...employments. 1842 BYRON *Zincali* I. i. l. 7 Abandoning his vagabond propensities and becoming stationary. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* Intro. 13 This book is well-suited for your migratory needs, and vagabond habits.

5. fig. Roving, straying; not subject to control or restraint.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* IV. i. My heart is a vain heart, a vagabond and unstable heart. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Intro. d., The brood of Belial, to whom no liberty is pleasing but unbridld and vagabond lust without pale or partition. 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 455 The Inconstant has a vagabond Soul, without any settled Place of Abode. 1878 MORLEY *Carlyle* 195 In that house are many mansions, the boisterous sanctuary of a vagabond polytheism.

B. sb. 1. One who has no fixed abode or home, and who wanders about from place to place; *spec.* one who does this without regular occupation or obvious means of support; an itinerant beggar, idle loafer, or tramp; a vagrant.

a. c 1485 Digby *Myst.* (1882) IV. 653 Now shall all the cursings of your lawe, Opon yow [i.e. the Jews] fall most myschevous, & be knawen of vagabundes our awe. 1496 LD BOTHWELL in ELLIS *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 24 Every day throw jam pir vagabunds escapis, cummynto Perkin. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 And yett these wretched vagabunds hard destenye scourgeth.

b. 1495 Act 11 *Hen. VII.* c. 2 Every vagabonde, heremyte, or beggar able to labre, or clerk, pilgryme, or shipman.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 69 Gif þai suld pas as vagaboundis and vncertaine pepill throw bare howis. 1576 FLEMING *Panop. Epist.* 354 The dogge... defend[s] our houses from thees, vagaboundes, lewde fellows. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 60 b, Some of them hauing bin vagabounds and beggers. 1635 Reg. *Privy Coun. Scotl.* Ser. II. VI. 5 Having corrupted all the equipage of the ship, who are bot vagabounds. 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.*, *Vagabundear*, to play the vagabond, to strole about.

y. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xvii. 5 The iewes. toke vnto them evyll men which were vagabonds and gadered a company. 1575 in *Maitland Club Misc.* I. 120 All vagabondis and idill persons that hec nocht quhairpurpnt to sustene theme selfis.

1577 HOLINSHED *D. v. Brit.* III. v. 106 b, The third [sort] consisteth of thriftlesse poore, as... the vagabond that will abide no wheres, but runneth vp and downe from place to place (as it were seeking worke and finding none). 1605 London *Prodigal* v. i. For shame, betake you to some honest Trade And lue not thus so like a Vagabond. 1629 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxx. (1641) 94 Such assemblies are... a very randonous of all rogues, and va-abonds. 1684 BURNET tr. *Mor's Utopia* 22 If they do this, they are put in Pri-on as idle Vagabonds. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 718/1 A Bill...for the

more effectual punishing Rogues and Vagabonds. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 376 His relations, dishonoured in the public estimation, abandon their home, and become vagabonds. 1833 H. R. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* III. 95 Issuing forth as a vagabond to spread the infection of idleness and vice. 1849 JAMES WOODMAN xviii, We have more vagabonds in the forest than I like. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* II. III. i. 8 He was a stroller and a vagabond, so far as social status went, an idle rogue. *transf.* 1602 and Pt. *Return Parnass.* III. iv. 1352 You grandsyre Phœbus with your lovely eye, The firmaments eternall vagabond.

Comb. 1599-80 North *Plutarch* (1657) 233 They were loose people and abjects...who vagabondlike wandered up and down the Countrey. 1816 LUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* I. (1818) 16 This corps being composed of the most ragged, bare-legged, sans-culotte vagabond-looking wretches. 18567 HARMAN (title), A Cæueat...for Common Cursetors Vulgarly called Vagabones. 1602 Narcissus (1893) 124 Wee ar noe vagabones, wee ar no arrant Rogues that doe runne with plaies about the countrey. [1842 (see 2 b).] 1901 TROTTER *Gall. Gossip* 188 Rogues an vagabons.

b. A nomad. *rare.*

1756 NUGENT *Montesquieu* xx. II. (1758) II. 3 Hospitality...is found in the most admirable perfection among nations of vagabonds. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 108 They claimed...to be thorough mountaineers, and first-rate hunters—the common boast of these vagabonds of the wilderness.

c. *Vagabond's discoloration, disease, skin* (see QUOTS.).

1876 GREENHOW in *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 46 These cases...have received the special name of 'Vogt's Vagabonden-Krankheit', which I have rendered into English as 'Vagabond's Discoloration'; because this discoloration of skin...is brought on by long-continued exposure, dirty habits and the irritation of vermin. 1890 F. TAYLOR *Man. Fract. Med.* (1891) 893 The disease has then been called *prurigo senilis*, and also *vagabond's disease*. 1899 ALBUTT'S *Syst. Med.* VIII. 707 The vagabond's disease, or *Morbus errorum* of Greenhow. *Ibid.* 866 Excoriations, wheals and pustules are produced by scratching which, if long continued, may produce a brown, leather-like condition—the so-called vagabond's skin seen in tramps.

2. A disreputable or worthless person; an idle, good-for-nothing fellow; a rascal or rogue (sometimes without serious implication of bad qualities).

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 178, I spoke in the mildest Terms imaginable: which nothing mov'd this Vagabond. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, No young vagabond could be brought to bear its contemplation for a moment. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. iii, I couldn't be such a vagabond of a husband. 1890 'R. BOLDBREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 316 The dishonest, scheming vagabonds!

b. Used as a term of reproof or abuse.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* x, Mind, on your peril, you old vagabone, don't let them fight that badger without me. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chas.* iv, You were eaves-dropping at that door, you vagabond! 1884 PAR *Eustace* 667 What are you lying there for, you lazy vagabond? roared Randolph.

Vagabond (vægäbnd), *v.* Also 7 *vagabound*, -bund. [f. VAGABOND *sb.* Cf. F. *vagabonder* (1526).] *intr.* To roam or wander (about) as or like a vagabond or vagrant; to vagabondize. Also with *it*.

1786 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 414 In this sort vagabonding in those vntroden places, they were guided [etc.]. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Rodé*, That hath roamed, wandered, vagabonded it all the countrey over. c 1614 Sir W. MURK *Dido & Æneas* III. 27 [Dido] vagabounding in a neavy case Through fields vnkowne, accompanied by none. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 357 Vagabonding about from inn to inn. 1861 READE *Clotter & F.* lvi, Why is he not in my counting house at Amsterdam, instead of vagabonding it out yonder? 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Oct. 2/1 The said son went vagabonding about the world.

Hence *Vagabonding* *vbl. sb.*

a 1628 F. GREVILLE *Calice* xii, Cupid, thou naughty Boy, when thou wert loathed, Naked and blind, for Vagabonding noted.

Vagabondage (vægäbnddʒ), [f. VAGABOND *sb.* + *-AGE*, or a. F. *vagabondage* (1798).]

1. The state, condition, or character of a vagabond; life or conduct characteristic of or resembling that of a vagabond; idle or unconventional wandering or travelling; vagabondism.

1813 [implied in *Vagabondager*: see below]. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 336 That love of...bird-nesting and vagabondage, which...is inherent in all boys. 1858 *Times* 4 Nov. 6/2 [The Ionians] have been elevated from the lowest grade of Mediterranean vagabondage. 1871 HOLME *Lee Miss Barrington* I. vii. 102 Spring arrived and he grew restless again and betook himself to vagabondage and the streets.

fig. 1863 LECKY in *Mem.* (1900) II. 34, I have been indulging in an enormous amount of literary vagabondage. 1871 MISS BRADDON *Lovels of Arden* xxii. 171 Her random sketches—some of them mere vagabondage of the pencil, jotted down half unconsciously.

2. Vagabonds collectively; persons of a vagabond class or order.

1855 [J. D. BURN] *Autobiogr. Beggar Boy* (1859) 137 One of the immediate consequences of their conduct would be, to let loose the whole vagabondage of the country. 1903 *Times* 14 Feb. 11/5 They are already bringing a good deal of rural vagabondage to London.

Hence *Vagabondager*, one who practises vagabondage.

1813 Sir R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 52 At midnight I entered my carriage, and found myself in solitude with a cheerless imagination...Thus vagabondagers pay for their temporary pleasures.

† **Vagabondial**, *a. Obs.* — In 7 -bundial. [f. as prec. + *-IAL*.] = next.

1635 J. H. *Worlds Folly* C b, The recollection of the vagabondial Jewes into the sheepe-fold of Iesus Christ.

Vagabondical, *a. rare*. Also 6-7 **vagabund-**. [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] Roaming, wandering; vagabondish.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Cain's Dogs* (1880) 35 Dogges.. which are taught and exercised to daunce in measure.. and sundry such properties, which they learne of theyr vagabondical masters. 1658 COKAINE *Obs.* *Lady* ii. 1. He.. vaticinated future Occurents by the mysterious influences of the sublime Stars, and vagabondical Planets.

1854 G. DANIEL *Merric* Eng. xiv, Joe Haynes.. was the hero of a variety of vagabondical adventures.

Vagabonding (vægəbɒndɪŋ), *pp. a.* [f. VAGABOND *v.*]

1. That roams or wanders as, or in the manner of, a vagabond. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1586 SIDNEY *Songs in Astr. & Stella* v. xii. (Grosart) I. 86. I now then staine thy white with vagabonding shame. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* iii. xiii. 610 Even vagabonding roagues.. have their magnificences and voluptuousnesse. 1614 DRUMM. of HAWTH. *Wks.* (1913) I. 13. 1.. On euery part my vagabonding Sight Did cast. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* iii. 111 A vagabonding Guest, Transported here and there. *Ibid.* 118 Concerning vagabonding Greekes, and their counterfeit Testimonials. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* May 571 The sword.. went fairly straight along its vagabonding road.

2. Characterized by roaming or wandering; vagabondish.

Not clearly distinct from the *vbl. sb.* used *attrib.*

1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 472 These Jewels certainly with their disguising sleights, they have pilfered in their vagabonding race. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 283 Some would spend our prime's best age In vagabonding pilgrimage. 1904 A. B. PATERSON *Poems* 92 And through our blood there runs The vagabonding love of change.

† **Vagabondious**, *a. Obs.* -1 [f. VAGABOND *sb.*] Vagabond, vagrant.

1661 in *MSS. Ho. Loris* (Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.) VII. 153 [The whole trade of cardmaking and wire drawing was nearly spoiled by] vagabondious persons.

Vagabondish (vægəbɒndɪʃ), *a.* [f. as prec.] 1. Pertaining or appropriate to, characteristic of, a vagabond or vagabonds.

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 97 All this has a shew of business, though of a light vagabondish kind. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Birds of Prey* ii. 1. There was a vagabondish kind of foppery in his costume. 1834 *Harper's Mag.* May 871 The vagabondish spirit engendered by their long.. Journey.

2. Of the nature of a vagabond; somewhat like a vagabond in conduct or life.

1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 105 By far the larger number of those who apply to the traveller for charity are vagabondish in their instincts and indolent in their habits. 1881 *Times* 5 July 9 This vain and vagabondish mendicant.

Vagabondism (vægəbɒndɪz'm), [f. as prec.] 1. = VAGABONDAGE 1.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 139 Who, after forty years of indigence and vagabondism, is admitted into the first societies. 1859 *Hist. Cant. in Slang Dict.* p. ix, The Gypsies were not long in the country before they found native imitators. Vagabondism is peculiarly catching. 1888 *Charity Organist. Rev.* April 145 Vagabondism as a licit mode of life.

b. A rascally or knavish act. *rare*.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes v.* (1904) 188 All errors and perversities of his, even those stealings of ribbons, aimless confused miseries and vagabondisms.

2. = VAGABONDAGE 2. *rare* -1.

1872 BREWER *Eng. Studies* (1881) iv. 196 All the vagabondism of the kingdom had scented the fry.

Vagabondize (vægəbɒndaɪz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To live, wander, or go about as, or in the manner of, a vagabond; to roam or travel in a free, idle, unconstrained, or unconventional manner; to play the vagabond.

a. With indefinite *it*.

1611 COTGR., *Router*, to roam, wander, vagabondize it. 1776 *Ann. Reg.*, *Charact.* 35/2 After thus vagabondizing it for some time, he was discovered by the consul. 1861 READE *Cloister & L.* iii. How much earlier he would have found her by staying quietly at Tergou, than by vagabondizing it all over Holland.

b. In ordinary use. Freq. with *advs.* and *preps.* 1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellin* III. 39 No modest woman would go vagabondizing about the country. 1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* II. 223 The streets would be filled with wretches, vagabondizing round the palaces of sloth. 1832 *Westm. Rev.* July 38 Peoples among whom his fortunes cast him while vagabondizing in the remotest corners of the globe. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Geoffrey* xxvi, That.. scapegrace.. had vagabondised all over Europe as a newspaper correspondent. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelists* 87, I.. acquired a taste for vagabondising about among the poor.

fig. 1864 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* iii. The surgeon's thoughts went vagabondizing away from the little coffee-room. 1868 — *Birds of Prey* v. iii, My thoughts went vagabondising off to Charlotte.

Hence **Vagabondizer**.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 42. 362 The itinerant traveller and poetical or artistic vagabondizer.

Vagabondizing (vægəbɒndaɪzɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb; idle or unconventional wandering; an occasion of this.

1829 SIR A. W. CALCOTT *Lett. to Chantrey* 18 Aug., A note we have had from the Phillips to join you in a vagabondizing to Hampstead. 1849 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xviii. 203 The Continental tour.. had, with poor Goldsmith, been little better than a course of literary vagabondizing. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxi, Then, vagabondising came natural to you, from the beginning?

Vagabondizing, *pp. a.* [-ING 2.]

1. That vagabondizes; vagabond.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 200 We have a pretty considerable.. idea of how those vagabondising ragamuffins spend the hours of the day. 1855 *Household Wds.* XII. 168 Her wicked, vagabondising, brandy-drinking.. husband.

2. Characterized by, devoted or inclined to, wandering or vagabondage.

1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 349 [They] would prefer labour to a vagabondising life. 1859 SALA *Two round Clock* (1861) 175 They fade away with the dawn.. and are not belied any more till vagabondising time begins again. 1883 MISS C. F. WOOLSON *Anne* 377 July.. already felt a strong affection in his capacious vagabondising heart for the stranger.

Vagabondry. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [i. VAGABOND *sb.* + -RY.] = VAGABONDAGE 1.

1547 *Act 1 Edu. VI. c. 3* Preamble, Idleness and Vagabondrye is the mother and roote of all theftes. 1611 COTGR., *Marandise*, beggerie, roguerie, idle knauerie, base vagabondrie. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasel. Gen.* (1693) 1257 A base vagabondry, mendicantism. 1869 W. CORY *Lett. & Jnls.* (1897) 257 We went through Dropmore with unusual vagabondry.

† **Vagabuncy**, later *f.* VACUNCY. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess. Ded.*, To banysh.. ryot, idleness, ruffianynge vagabuncie [etc.].

† **Vagabundo**. *nonce-word*. [f. *vagabund* VAGABOND *sb.*] ? A roguish trick.

1631 SHIRLEY *School of Complement* v. iii, Gorgon has had his deuces and vagabunduloes as well as the best on yee.

Vagal (vægəl), *a. Anat. and Path.* [f. VAG-US + -AL.] a. **Vagal nerve**, the vagus or pneumogastric nerve.

b. *Of*, pertaining to, or affecting this.

1854 ORR's *Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 205 The excopticall.. are perforated to give exit to the vagal and hypoglossal nerves. 1885 McWILLIAM in *Jnrl. Physiol.* VI. 223 The effects of vagal stimulation were frequently investigated. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 816 The upper vagal roots are more concerned in inspiration than the lower ones.

† **Vagancy**. *Obs. rare*. [f. VAGANT *a.*: see -ANCY.] A wandering or strolling. Also *fig.*

1601 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. i, That our happiness may orbe it selfe into a thousand vagancies of glory and delight. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* v. *Springtime*, My humble suit is that you will be pleas'd To let me walk upon my known occasions this Sommer. *Lawyer*. Fie! Canst not yet leave off those Vagancies?

† **Vagant**, *a.* (and *pres. pp.*). *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 *vagaunt*, 5-6 *aunte*, 5-6, 8 *vagant*, 5-*ante*.

[*a.* OF. *vagant*, *vagaunt*, or *L. vagant-*, *vagans*, *pres. pp.* of *vagari* to wander.]

1. Wandering, roaming, roving; travelling or moving from place to place; having no settled home or abiding-place. Cf. VAGRANT *a.* 3.

1382a WYCLIF *Gen.* iv. 12 Vagaunt and fr fugitif thou shalt be vpon the erthe alle the daies of thi lijf. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 135 In the tyme of Hinguar and Hubba, Adulphus the bishop was vagante longe with þe body of Seynte Cuthbert. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xiv. x, For al we haue be dispartib & longe haue be vagant on the see. 1483 — *Gold.* *Leg.* 407 b/1 Thus Josaphat was two yere vagaunte & erryd in deserte. 1517 WATSON *Shyppe of Fools* A ij, I am the fyrste in the shyppe vagaunte with the other foolles. 1578 *Sc. Poems* 163 c. (1801) II. 170 Thocht vagant freirs faine wald lie, The trutheth will furth.

2. Devious, erratic. *rare*.

1382a WYCLIF *Prov.* v. 6 Bi the path of lif thei gon not; vagaunt ben the goings of hir, and vnserchable. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 50. 1/1 By so Vagant a Proceedure, it is a Chance but he must hear some points of Duty.. repeated.

3. Of thoughts: Wandering.

c 1450 *Myrr.* our *Ladye* 42 Yt can not sturre vp yt selfe from wandring and vagant thoughtes that yt is accustomyd in. *Ibid.* 165 Also the harte oughte fulle besyly to be kepte from all vagaunte thoughtes.

Vagara (unt-, ent-, obs. forms of VAGRANT.

Vagare, obs. form of VAGARY.

Vagarian. *rare* -o. [f. as next + -AN.] One given to vagaries or whims.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Vagarious (vægəˈriəs), *a.* [f. VAGARY *sb.*]

† 1. Variable, inconstant, changing. *Obs.* -1

1798 R. P. *Tour in Wales* (MS.) 36 Thus life's vagarious tenure passes on! And thus, the scenic vision glows with change!

2. Marked or characterized by, full of, subject to, vagaries; erratic.

1827 *Examiner* 70/1 The Travels of Wilhelm Meister, wild, vagarious, and disconnected as it is. a 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Parod.* (1872) 153 Mr. Wirgman's mind was somewhat attuned to psychology; but he was cracky and vagarious. 1897 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXIX. 134 The work.. is free from the vagarious theorizing.

3. Wandering, roaming, roving.

1882a *Harper's Mag.* April 661 Sharp interruption from the vagarious horned enemy. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Sept. 363/2 The history of the vagarious canary, Kiki.

Hence **Vagariouly** *adv.*

1892 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 17 Nov., An idly planned and vagariouly disposed though always picturesque college retreat.

Vagarish, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec.]

1. Of the eyes: Disposed to wander; wandering. 1801 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 40 His eyes were oft vagarish. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 230 My people's eyes were all vagarish While striving your hard phrases to conjecture.

2. Somewhat vagarious or whimsical.

1819 KRATS in *Ld. Houghton Life* (1848) II. 26 But you knowing my unsteady and vagarish disposition will [etc.].

Vagarisome, *a.* [f. as prec. + -SOME.] Vagarious, capricious.

1883 *Bazaar* 5 Sept. 259 Early autumn clothing is slightly vagari-some, and steady observation is necessary in order to determine what is 'worn' from what is 'put on'.

Vagarist. *rare*. [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who is subject to vagaries; a vagarious person.

1888 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 24 May, The Prohibition party are now free from.. suspicion of being vagarists.

Vagarity (vægəˈrɪti), *rare* -1. [f. as prec. + -ITY.] Capricious irregularity or variability.

1886 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. II. 89/1 Instances of vagarity are noticeable with each Prince of Wales, many of whom seem to have ignored.. the title [of Duke of Cornwall].

Vagary (vægəˈri), *sb.* Also 6-7 *vagare*, 6-*arie*. [prob. ad. *L. vagari* (It. *vagare*) to wander. Cf. *FEARY*.]

† 1. A wandering or devious journey or tour; a roaming about or abroad; an excursion, ramble, stroll. *Obs.*

Freq. in the 17th c., chiefly in verbal phrases as *to fetch, make, or take a vagary*.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshead* (1808) VI. 24 The Irish enimie speing that the citizens were accustomed to fetch such od vagaries.. they.. laid in sundrie places for their comming. 1582 — *Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 44 Thee gates vn-closed they skud with a liuely vagare. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* i. 19 These haue often vagaries ouer the deserts vnto the prouince of Tedgear. c 1613 *Soc. Cont. People Anglesy* (1860) 40 To entice his neighbours wives.. to leave their husbands.. and to follow him by turns, into other countreys, and after a long vagare, to return again. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Poly. Flying Ins.* i. v. 12 A hot Sun-shine.. will quickly prompt them out of their Hives to take a short vagary. 1677 CILPIN *Denomol.* (1867) 320 The like did Dinah, when she made a needless vagary to see the daughters of the land. 1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Crit. Rev. Fox's Bk. Mart.* II. 413 Whether.. it is likely that such a person should be permitted to make a walking vagary throughout all London.

transf. and *fig.* c 1630 RUSDON *Surt. Devon* § 225 (1810) 237 Torridge, after a long vagary, making many meanders, emptieth itself in the.. sea. 1655 GURALL *Chr. in Arm.* xvi. (1665) 359 Our hearts are soon gone away from the duty in hand, and taken a vagary to the furthest part of the world. 1759 STERNE tr. *Shandy* i. xxii, My aunt Dinah and the coachman.. led us a vagary some millions of miles into the very heart of the planetary system.

† b. *To play his vagary*, of a horse, to leave or refuse to follow the proper or desired course. *Obs.* -1

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Art of Riding* i. 11 If he will then play his vagarie, beate him forthwith with your wand.

† 2. A wandering in speech or writing; a rambling from the subject under consideration; a digression or divagation. *Obs.* (passing into sense 5).

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 67 Countenancing oute the matter ether with tunge or penne withoute the same discoursing vagaries. 1596 R. H. tr. *Lavaterus's Ghostes & Sp.* To Rdr. a ij, His histories seeme not idle tales, or impertinent vagaries, but very truths. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 15 When ever he was at a loss, that the people might not perceive it, he presently would fall into a wordy vagary. 1681 — *Ansu. Dodwell* iv. 54 You must talk at other rates than you have done in your tedious fallacious Vagaries. 1762 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* ser. II. IV. 451 Mr. Beckford.. had his vagaries as usual, and gave the House a little prelude of what they were to expect.

3. A departure or straying from the ordered, regular, or usual course of conduct, decorum, or propriety; a frolic or prank, esp. one of a freakish nature. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (passing into sense 4).

1588 BABINGTON *Prof. Exp. Lord's Pr.* (1596) 274 A short vagare.. layde a grinding griepe vpon his conscience during life. 1593 B. BARNES *Parth. & Parth.* vi, I will be His bail for this offence; and if he make Another such vagary, take of me a pawn. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moon* (1849) 21 Hee that might doe well and would not, when hee wanteth shal be unpittied..; then shall you hear of your olde vagaries. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* vi. 614 Strait they chang'd thir minds, Flew off, and into strange vagaries fell, As they would dance. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 96 Would your Son engage in some Frolic, or take a Vagary, were it not.. better he should do it with, than without your Knowledge? 1714 GAY *What d'ye call it* i. iv, Ye Goblins and Fairies, With Frisks and Vagaries. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Vagaries*, frolics, wild rambles. a 1845 BAKHAM *Ingol. Leg.* ser. III. *House-Warming*, 'I hat should she incline to play such a vagary.. She could turn a knight into a waggon of hay. 1862 C. STRETTON *Chequer'd Life* II. 100, I could not sleep: I was too much amused at the vagaries of my new acquaintances [sc. rats], and kept watching them.

fig. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, Let us hear what vagaries fancy has been playing in your mind.

† b. Without article: Frolic, gambolling. *Obs.*

1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* Wks. 1812 II. 401 Here—there, Up, down, she dances it; now far, now near, In mad and riotous vagary.

4. A capricious, fantastic, or eccentric action or piece of conduct.

1629 MASSINGER *Picture* v. iii, An old bachelor, as I am, .. is not troubled With these fine vagaries. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 260 ¶ 1 The Vagaries of a Child are not more ridiculous than the Circumstances which are heaped up in my Memory. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) IV. xxi. 162 She.., not having so great a fortune to support vagaries, would have shone.. in Italy. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. vi, A noble natural Courtesy shines through him, beautifying his vagaries. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Pnrit.* iv. 409 Ignorance and vanity once unbridled knew no limit to the vagaries.. into which they ran. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxxvi. 150 The sentiment of the nation at large.. acts but slowly in restraining the vagaries.. of one particular State.

b. A caprice or trick of fortune, fancy, the brain, a malady, etc.

1717 DENNIS *Remarks Pope's Homer* Pref. A, A vagary of fortune who is sometimes pleased to be frolicsome. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 27 The vagaries of the perspective, originating in such an arrangement, were rather amusing. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1853) 17, I must yet notice another and a peculiar vagary of his malady. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* i. iv. 123 To follow the vagaries of fashion.

5. An erratic play of fancy; a fantastic, eccentric, or extravagant idea or notion. (Cf. 2.)

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VI. xxxii. 218 These ideal vagaries, which, for the time, realize pain or pleasure to us. 1771 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 137 But by all means curb these vagaries and wandering imaginations. 1806 H. K. WHITE *To Contemplation* Rem. (1825) 384, I alone, A wayward youth, misled by Fancy's vagaries, Remain'd unsettled. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* i. § 2. 77 Every system that would land in such a conclusion is a mere logical vagary. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 270 note, But it is worse than useless to record the vagaries of Apocalyptic interpretation.

† **Vagary, v. Obs.** [Cf. prec.] *intr.* To wander or roam. Also *transf.*

1598 FLORIO *Vagare*, to vagarie, or range, to straiten abroad. 1599 NASHE *Leiten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 224 The marshes and lower grounds lying upon the three rivers that vagary vp to her. 1611 COTGR. *Vancrer*, to range, roame, vagarie, wander, idle it vp and downe. 1656 S. H. GOLD *Law* 60 Though he might decline Law, yet he vagari'd not therefrom. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* (1693) 1257 To vagary, *vagari, palari*.

† **Vagation, Obs.** Also 4 *vagacyone*, 5-6 *-cion*, 6 *-cyon*, *-tione*. [ad. L. *vagatiō*, *vagatio*, n. of action f. *vagari* to wander. Cf. OF. *vagation* (Godef.), Pg. *vagação*.] The action of wandering, straying, or departing from the proper or regular course; an instance or occasion of this; a wandering, rambling, roaming; an aberration. In *lit.* and *fig.* use.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* (1866) 14 Whene he mynde es stablede sadyly with owtten chanyngne and vagacyone in Godd. c 1540 MYRR. *our Ladye* 42 For this vagacion is caused of dulnes, and of heuyness of harte. 1502 ATKYNSON *tr. De Imitatione* III. xxvii. 219 Chase for myn hert all maner darkenes, stablysshe the great vagacions of my mynde that I suffre. 1549 COMPT. *Scot.* xiii. 111 Ane of his familiar frendis inquitit hym of the cause of his inconstant vagacione. 1597 HARVEY *Trimming T. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 53 Neuertheless can I accuse you of laziness; for all this time of your vagation, with you I thinke the Signe hath been in Pisces. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom*. 291 Socrates, offended at the bold and blind vagations of men, in their disputations about the measures of the sunne. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* iv. ii. 100 By this so curious and exact a Libration, unseemly Contortions and Vagations of the Eye are prevented. 1714 — *Astro-Theol.* iv. v. (1769) 118 But I have myself observed a greater vagation in the third satellite.

† **Vage, a. Obs. rare-1.** [app. ad. *it. vago*. Cf. VAGISNESS.] Fine, handsome.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 198 The finer gold, the richer stones, the more vage and beautifull iewel.

Vage, southern dial. var. *VAGE v.*; obs. f. *VAGUE sb.* and *v.*; obs. or dial. f. *VOYAGE*; obs. Sc. f. *WAGE v.*, *WEDGE sb.* **Vageit**, obs. Sc. f. *WAGED ppl. a.* **Vageowr**, obs. Sc. f. *WAGER* (soldier). **Vager**, obs. Sc. f. *VAGUER* (wanderer), *WAGER* (soldier). **Vagging**, dial. var. *FAGGING vbl. sb.*

Vagi- (vā dʒai), comb. form of *L. vagus* **VAGUE a.**, occurring in a few botanical terms, as *vagiform*, *vagine rose* adjs. (see quotes.).

1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* *Vaginiformis*, applied by de Candolle to leaves of cellular plants when their false nerves are dispersed without order or regularity; *vaginiform*. 1866 TREAS. *Bot.* 1109 *Vaginervose*, having the veins arranged without any order.

† **Vagient, a. Obs.** [ad. L. *vāgient-em*, pres. pple. of *vāgīre* to cry, squall.] Of infants, infancy, etc.: Crying, squalling, wailing.

1628 GAULE *Pract. Theo.* (1629) 417 There shall be nor vagient Youngling, nor decrepit Aegling. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* iv. iii. xlii. But for the cradle of the Cretian Jove, And guardians of his vagient Infancy, What sober man but sagely will approve? 1659 — *Immort. Soul* (1662) 142 The vagient cries of the Infant Jupiter amidst the dancing of the Cretick Corybantes.

|| **Vagina** (vādʒai'nā). Pl. *vaginæ* (-ai'nā), **vaginas**. [L. *vagina* sheath, scabbard. Cf. F. *vagin* (1762), † *vagina*, Pg. *vagina*.]

1. *Anat.* and *Med.* The membranous canal leading from the vulva to the uterus in women and female mammals.

1682 GIBSON *Anat.* 20 It has passages for the neck of the Bladder, and in Women for the vagina of the Womb. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 95 The upper end of the vagina is joined to the circumference of the lips of the os uteri. 1805 MED. *Jrnl.* XIV. 21 Neither could we discover by the touch any communication between the rectum and vagina. 1847 YOUATT *Horse* viii. 174 The true polypus is usually found in the nostrils, the pharynx, the uterus, or the vagina. 1896 tr. *Bon's Text-bk. Zool.* 490 In the Marsupials, the two vaginæ open separately on the floor of the urogenital sinus.

b. A canal or organ having similar form or function in other animals; a genital passage.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 146 This vessel, which consists of a double tunic, in the cabbage-butterfly terminates the vagina. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 358 Female generative organs of the Queen Bee:—vagina, or common excretory duct.

2. A part or formation serving as or suggestive of a sheath; a sheath-like covering, organ, or part; a theca.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. iv. (1727) 363 note, The Female hath vaginæ prettily furrow'd; the Male smooth. *Ibid.* 365 Many of them provided with the finest Articulations, and Foldings, for the Wings to be withdrawn, and neatly laid up in their Vaginæ, and Cases. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 191/1 The fibres [of the muscles] are... distinguished by membranous, cellular, or adipose septa, as by so many particular vaginæ. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 361 *Vagina* (the Vagina), the jointed sheath of the *Promiscus*, representing the *Labium* in a perfect mouth.

b. *Bot.* = SHEATH sb. 1 2 b.

1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* I. 28 Sometimes they are covered with a Vagina or Sheath at the top. 1731 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Narcissus*, The Empalement, which commonly rises out of a membranous Vagina. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* i. ii. 95 Occasionally the petiole embraces the branch from which it springs, and in such cases is said to be sheathing; and is even called a sheath or vagina, as in grasses. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 75 The sheathing portion... or vagina.

c. *Sculpture.* The lower part of a terminus, out of which the bust or figure appears to rise. (So F. *gaine*.) *rare-1.*

1723 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, The Vagina is that long Part between the Base and the Capital; and is found in divers Manners, and with divers Ornaments.

Hence **Vagina-less a.**

1807 ALLBUTT's *Syst. Med.* II. 1061, I have recently pointed out... the process by which the embryo dracunculi quit the body of the vaginales parent worm.

Vaginal (vādʒai'nāl, vādʒai'nāl), a. and sb. [f. prec. + -AL. Cf. F. *vaginal* (1762), Pg. *vaginal*.]

a. *adj.* 1. *Anat.* and *Med.* Of the nature of, having the form or function of, a sheath; serving as a sheath. *Vaginal process*, a process or apophysis of the lower portion of the temporal bone, partially enclosing the styloid process.

1726 MONRO *Anatomy* 164 The Cavity between the Zygomatic, Auditory and vaginal Process. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 205 The vaginal coat of the testicle. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 55 A bony lamina, called the vaginal process... which forms the posterior limit of the glenoid cavity. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 80 A sharp ridge runs inwards and forwards from the root of the styloid process. This ridge is termed the vaginal process. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., Vaginal coat of the eye, capsule of Tenon. *Ibid.*, Vaginal tunic.

b. *Bot.* = VAGINANT a.

1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 75 The vaginal petiolar region is more or less distinctly evident in many Monocotyledonous leaves.

2. Of, pertaining to, or affecting the vagina.

1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 156 *marg.*, The vaginal polypus sometimes dispersed by stimulants and astringents. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 314 The Uterine and Vaginal arteries of the female are derived from the internal iliac, or Ischiatic arteries. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstet. Med. & Surg.* 36 The vaginal canal becomes much contracted in advanced life. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 683 Vaginal and labial hernia may be mistaken for the mucous cysts of those parts.

b. Of instruments; Used in dealing with, or operating on, the vagina.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2687/2 Vaginal speculum. *Ibid.*, Vaginal syringe. 1895 ARNOLD & SONS' *Surg. Instr. Catal.* 411 Vaginal and uterine instruments.

b. *sb.* A vaginal artery or muscle.

1872 F. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 52 Sim's instrument, on the other hand, elevates the posterior vaginal.

Vaginalitis (vādʒai'nālītis). *Path.* [f. prec. + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the vaginal coat or tunic of the testicles.

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 134 Vaginalitis, although a very frequent, is not a constant symptom, and is always consecutive to the inflammation of the epididymis.

Vaginant, a. Bot. [ad. mod. L. *vāginant-*, *vāginans*, f. *vāgina* sheath. So F. *vāginant*.] = SHEATHING ppl. a. b.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. vii. (1765) 191 *Vaginant*, forming a Vagina or Sheath; when the Base of the Leaf forms a cylindric Tube that invests the Branch. 1851 G. F. RICHARDSON *Geol.* vii. 203 Sessile leaves are sometimes vaginant, that is, sheathing, as in grasses.

Vaginate, a. rare. [ad. mod. L. *vāginat-us*, f. as prec.: cf. next and VAGINATED ppl. a.] Enclosed in a sheath or vagina; invaginate.

1849 CRAIG *Vaginate*, *Vaginated*, in Botany, sheathed, invested by the tubular base of the leaf, as a stem. 1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 190 Penis vaginate simple, with a small posterior accessory part. *Ibid.* 300 Mouth... composed of a rostellum, retractile, vaginate at the base. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1320 *Vaginatous*, cased, sheathed, vaginate.

† **Vaginate, v. Obs.-1** [f. L. *vāgina*: cf. prec.] To sheathe (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Phillips (1658) substitutes 'Vagination, a sheathing'.

† **Vaginated, ppl. a. Obs. rare.** [f. as prec. + -ED 1.] = VAGINATE a.

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 402 Those above are wholly vaginated (or sheathed) and come trifoliate at every Joint. 1776 EVELYN's *Silva* viii. 445 The rest of the vaginated stem touches no other part of the whole cavity. 1849 [see VAGINATE a.]

Vagine, Obs.-1 [ad. L. *vāgina* VAGINA.] A scabbard (Cockeram, 1623).

Vagini-, comb. f. of *L. vāgina* sheath (see VAGINO-) in a few scientific terms, as *vaginiform* adj.; *vaginigluteus*, a muscle acting upon the sheath of the thigh; also *vaginigluteal* adj.; † *vaginipennous a.*, of beetles, having the wings covered with a sheath; coleopterous.

A few other instances of scientific or technical usage are given in some recent Dicts., as *vaginicoline*, *vaginiculous*, *vaginiferous*, *vaginipennate* adjs.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. l.p.* III. xv. (1686) 141 All vaginipennous or sheath-winged insects, as Beetles and Dorrs. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Vaginipennous*, pertaining to such flies, which have their wings closed as it were in sheaths or cases, as the Beetle hath. Dr. Bifowne. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1320 *Vaginiformis*, ..vaginiform.

|| **Vaginismus** (vādʒi'niz'ms). *Path.* [mod. L. (Sims), f. *vāgina*.] Painful spasmodic contraction of the vagina; vulvismus.

1866 J. M. SIMS *Uterine Surg.* 326 By the term vaginismus I mean an excessive hyperæsthesia of the hymen and vulvar outlet. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 443 The patient then left for two months, but was readmitted as the vaginismus still persisted.

Vaginitis (vādʒi'nītis). *Path.* [f. as prec. + -ITIS. Cf. F. *vaginite*.] Inflammation of the vagina.

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 66 He found other forms of infusoria in the pus from syphilitic vaginitis. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 187 Vaginitis is more common than any other form of gonorrhœa in women. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 443 Spasm of sphincter vaginæ marked, with some vaginitis and endocervicitis.

Vagino- (vādʒi'no), used as a comb. form of *L. vāgina* in some scientific terms, as † *vaginopennous*, = *vaginipennous*; *vaginoscope*, an instrument for examining the vagina; *vagino-vesical*, pertaining to the vagina and the bladder. Recent Dicts. give a number of others in *Med.*, *Path.*, or *Surg.*, as *vagino-fixation*, *vaginitomy*; *vagino-abdominal*, *labial*, *vulvar* adjs. (Cf. F. *vaginolabial*, *périvaginal*, *vésical*, etc.)

1755 JOHNSON, *Ladybird*, a small red insect vaginopennous. 1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 154 Vagino-vesical prolapse. Prolapse of the vagina dragging the bladder along with it. 1866 J. M. SIMS *Uterine Surg.* 33 Dr. Routh... has detected pregnancy... by means of his vaginoscope.

|| **Vaginula** (vādʒi'nulā). Pl. *vaginulæ*. *Zool.* and *Bot.* [L. *vāginula*, dim. of *vāgina* VAGINA.] A little sheath or vagina; esp. in *Bot.* the capsule or theca enclosing the base of the seta in certain mosses.

a. 1843 WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 18 The external... membrane of the mouth forms a number of pyramidal and globular pouches or vaginule.

b. 1849 BALFOUR *Nat. Bot.* § 1114 Urn-shaped pistillidia... enclosed at first within a calyptra... which is ultimately carried up with them... leaving often a sheath (vaginula) round the bottom of the fruit-stalk. 1863 M. J. BEKKEBY *Brit. Mosses* iii. 20 In *Sphagnum* the vaginula is lifted up on a cylindrical hyaline stalk. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 360 The basal portion of the growing archegonium becomes swollen out and penetrates down into the tissue of the stem, being nourished and firmly enclosed by it (the vaginula).

Vaginule. Bot. [Anglicizing of prec. or a. F. *vaginule*.] = prec.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 380 In *Jungfermannia* the sporangia are elevated upon stalks arising out of the vaginule.

† **Vagisness. Obs.-1** [f. *it. vaghezza*, i. *vago* VAGE a.] Handsomeness, elegance.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 197 All these [parts of the world]... are inameled with a most gracious vagisnesse, lustre, and beautie.

† **Vagit. Obs.-1** [ad. L. *vāgit-us*, f. *vāgīre* to cry, squall.] A cry, lamentation, wail.

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 294 His cruell altars with sad vagits sounde.

† **Vagitate, v. Obs.-1** [ad. med. L. *vagitāre*, f. *L. vagari* to wander.] *intr.* To roam or travel.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* i. viii. (1654) 103 Before the use of the compass was known it was impossible to vagitate a-thwart the Ocean.

Vago- (vā'go), used as comb. f. of VAGUS in a few terms of *Anat.* or *Med.* in the sense of 'or pertaining to, denoting, the vagus or pneumogastric nerve (and some other nerve or part)'; as *vago-accessory*, *-glossopharyngeal*, *-sympathetic* adjs.

1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. i. (1878) 392 In the mixed vago-sympathetic trunk. 1897 ALLBUTT's *Syst. Med.* IV. 860 Among bulbar nerves the vago-accessory is by far the most frequently attacked. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 811 The hypoglossal root fibres lie in close proximity to those of the vago-glossopharyngeal nerve.

† **Vagous, a. Obs.** [ad. L. *vagus*: see VAGUE a.] Vagrant or vague, in various senses; departing from or exceeding just or ordinary bounds; irregular, inordinate; unsettled, wandering.

1660 tr. *Amynaldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* i. i. 15 We have no other assurance of it then so wild and vagous a tradition. *Ibid.* iii. 32, I know not what natural vagous and indeterminate notion. 1684 N. S. tr. *Crit. Eng. Edit. Bible* ix. 67 The first is only a Vagous way of Disputation, propounding now one thing, now another. 1770 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 78 The whole throng of Physicians... crieth it up... to... cure vagous Pains. 1786 AVILFFE *Parergon* 107 Such as were born and begot of a single woman, through a vagous Lust... were called *Spiris*. 1737 BRACKEN *Fairyry Impr.* (1757) 1. 319 [They] were no doubt liable to vagous and wandering Pains.

Vagrance. rare. [f. as next: see -ANCE.] Vagrancy.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 85 ¶ 9 The understanding may be restrained from that vagrance and dissipation by which it relieves itself after a long intenseness of thought. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xxii. 107 You'll never mount the airy steep With all your tripping vagrance.

Vagrancy (vā'grānsi). [f. VAGRANT a.: see -ANCE.]

1. *fig.* The action or fact of wandering or digressing in mind, opinion, thought, etc.; an instance of this. (Cf. 3.)

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* n. iii. III. Ixxiii. Curious men will judge't a vagrancy To start thus from my scope. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) IV. 176 Of this vacillation and vagrancy of mind, I impute a great part to a fortuitous and unsettled life. 1808 HAN. MORE *Calebs* II. 200 Poetry... has of late too much degenerated into personal satire... and caricature... it has exhibited the vagrancies of genius, without the inspiration. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 236 We can all of us apprehend the pretty vagrancy of the fancy. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Parit.* II. 211 The workings of conscience helped to check the vagrancies of the heart.

2. The state, condition, or action of roaming abroad or wandering about from place to place.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* iv. Wks. 1666 III. 42 Therefore did he spend his days in continual labour, in restless travel, in endless vagrancy, going about doing good. *Ibid.* v. 57 Moses did not lose his affection towards his countrymen, because he was by one of them threatened away into banishment and vagrancy. 1776 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (Oxf. ed.) II. 40 As a shepherd... he is answerable for those that stray... But no man can be answerable... for vagrancy which he has no authority to restrain. 1822-6 D. QUINCY *Conf. Wks.* 1862 I. 131 Happier life I cannot imagine than this vagrancy, if the weather were but tolerable, through endless successions of changing beauty. 1829 LYTON *Deveraux* I. i. Before terminating for ever his vagrancies. 1889 B. HARTE *Cressy* I. It had been the habit of the master to utilize these preliminary vagrancies of his little flock.

transf. 1834 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 76/2, I was struck by the wild untutored vagrancy of every growing thing.

b. *spec.* Idle wandering with no settled habitation, occupation, or obvious means of support; conduct, life, or practices characteristic of vagrants or idle beggars.

1705 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vagrancy*, a vagrant, disorderly, or ill course of life. a 1792 BURKE *St. Negro Code* Wks. (Bohn) V. 544 He shall by law prosecute them for the offences of idleness... gaming, or vagrancy. 1857 TOLMIN SMITH *Parish* 145 Vagrancy had thus everywhere a colourable excuse given to it, and soon largely increased. 1876 J. WEISS *Wit, Hum., & Shaks.* iv. 141 He out to be taken up for vagrancy as having no visible means of support. *attrib.* 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* April 46/1 The sleepy unway are lucky if they escape the Island on a vagrancy commitment.

3. An instance or occasion of wandering or roaming; a rambling journey; a straying.

1763 LD. HARDWICKE in *Life* (1847) III. xv. 381 The run-aways need not shorten their vagrancy on that account. 1799 STRUTT *Dress & Habit* II. 318 It was evidently his intention to hold up these idle vagrancies to ridicule.

Vagrant (vā-grānt), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 5-6 *vagaraunt*, 6-7 *vagarant*, 6-ent. *β.* 6-*vagrant*, 7 *vagrānt*. [Late ME. *vagraunt*, *vaga- raunt*, perh. an alteration of earlier AF. *wakerant* (*wacrant*, *walerant*), through association with L. *vagari*; cf. VAGABOND. The AF. word is employed in the sense of 'vagrant' in enactments of the 14th cent.]

A. sb. 1. One of a class of persons who having no settled home or regular work wander from place to place, and maintain themselves by begging or in some other disreputable or dishonest way; an itinerant beggar, idle loafer, or tramp.

Vagrants have been the subject of many legal enactments, and by the Act 5 Geo. IV. c. 83 (the Vagrancy Act), now in force, they are divided into 'idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues and other vagrants'.

a. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 113/1 Alle Statutes of Laborers, Vitalliers, Servauntz and Vagauntz, afore this tyme made. 1583 STUBBERS *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 75 They runne rogiſh like vagrants vp and downe the countries like maisterlesse men. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Mau* (1631) 378 [Seamen] are alwaies as vagrants and in continual exile.

b. 1432 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 201 All manere vagrants, vacabonds and beggers begging oute of the hundred wheras they duelle. 1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI.* c. 3 § 6 Yf it shall appear... suchie man... to have been a vagraunte and vacabound or ydle parson. 1606 WARNER *Ab. Eng.* xiv. xci. 367 Lest his Bagpipe, Shephooke, Scrip, and Bottell... By Vagrants (more then many now) might suffer of their stealth. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 302 These then are Vagrants, while the Husbandman fixes himself in the Villages. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xi. 452 Vagrants who on falsehood live, Skill'd in smooth tales, and artful to deceive. 1781 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* xvii. (1787) II. 34 The prefect, who seemed to have been designed as a terror only to slaves and vagrants. 1832 H.T. MARTINEAU *Ireland* 119 The listless or b.d. expression which characterises vagrants. 1855 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 75 For the able-bodied vagrant, it is well known that the old English laws had no mercy. 1834 PAR *Justice* 57 If you dare to trespass on my grounds... you will be treated as a vagrant or a beggar.

2. One who wanders or roams about; a person who leads a wandering life; a rover.

a 1590 GRENE *Fr. Bacon* xi. Vagrant, go roam and range about the world, and perish as a vagabond on earth! 1718 POPE *Odys.* II. 212 Unnumber'd birds glide through the aerial way, Vagrants of air, and unforeboding stray. 1779 DE FOE *Crus.* v. II. (Globe) 361 In about five Days Time the three Vagrants, tir'd with Wandering... came back. a 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) V. ix. 194 He chose the Israelites, poor Vagrants who had not a foot of ground of their own. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 191 Why... if ages past Led the b.d. vagrants to so mild a waste... Why the wild woods for ever must they rove?

a. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 We shal not neede trumell faire to seeke instances of such vagrants out of the wayes of God.

3. A wandering or non-sedentary spider (see first quot.).

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xiii. (1816) I. 423 The former Walckenaer, in his admirable work on spiders, has designated by the name of *Vagrants*. 1835 KIRBY *Lib. & Inst. Anim.* II. xix. 218 There is a very common black and white spider amongst the *vagrants*.

B. adj. 1. Wandering about without proper means of livelihood; living in vagrancy or idle vagabondage; of or belonging to the class of vagrants or itinerant beggars.

a. 1461 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 127 Many... of the Kynges liege people... gothe vagaraunt and unoccupied and may not haue ther labour to ther levying. 1530 *Act 22 Hen. VIII.* c. 12 § 2 Yf anye suchie ymptent person after the sayde Feast of Seynt Iohn, be vagaraunt & goe abegging. *Ibid.* § 9 Whipped for a vagrant srong beggar. 1608 BACON *Comment. Sol.* I. Wks. 1663 IV. 91 The Indited re-
c-ant, the Non Communicant, the Vagrant person. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 383 Sturdy Rogues and vagrant tow-
s-ent beggars.

b. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 160 In all which places they mustred soldiery... entertaining also strangers, and other vagrant and masterlesse men. 1641 BLOME *Joviall Croce* II. Current and vagrant—Stockant, whippant Beggars! 1722 DE FOE *Plague* 122 Every vagrant person may, by the laws of England, be taken up. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 149 His house was known to all the vagrant train. 1814-28 SOMERVILLE *Life & Times* (1861) 370 Before the general establishment of poor-rates, the country was over-run with vagrant beggars. 1854 *Act 17 & 18 Vict.* c. 74 An Act to render Reformatory and Industrial Schools in Scotland more available for the Benefit of Vagrant Children. *fig.* 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 252 If once Right Reason... be put by its office, our inward house will soon lie... free for every vile and vagrant Opinion to take up and dwell therein.

2. *fig.* Wandering, straying, roving; inconstant, unsettled, wayward, etc.

1522 MORE *De quatuor Noviss.* Wks. 76/1 It often happeth, yf the very face sheweth y^e mind walking a pilgrimage, in such wise yf not without some note & reproch of suche vagaraunte mind [etc.]. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 We have a wandring and vagrant vaine euen after our calling, and therefore much more before. 1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1662) 48 His causality is more vagrant, more lax and general, then to be brought in here. 1684 BURNET *Tr. Utopia* 141 They think that if they were not so strictly restrained from all vagrant Appetites, very few would engage in a married state. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 143 ¶ 4 Ambition, Envy, vagrant Desire, or impertinent Mirth will take up our Minds. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. Pref. 26 Men daily, hourly sacrifice the greatest known interest, to... any vagrant inclination. 1755 J. SHEBBEAR *Lycia* (1769) I. 116 Pleasure skin-deep and vagrant, pain heart-felt and long-lasting! 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 154 We wander by forest side or fountain... following our vagrant fancies. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 542 The offspring of a vagrant and ignoble love. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* I. xxiii. 234 A child... with a violent and vagrant temper.

3. Leading a wandering or nomadic life; ranging or roaming from place to place; straying, straggling. Cf. VAGANT *a.* 1.

pred. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Sum.* (Surtees) 201 They shulde here and se lernyng in the sayd college, and not to be vagrant abroad in the sayd towne. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poetrie* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 The people remained in the woods and mountains, vagrant and di-perised like the wild beasts. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* 889 [They] became vagrant through most parts of the Romaine Empire. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* Hen. IV. lxxvii, Vagrant as a Rout Possesst with fear, led by unskillful guides. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 232 Ye shall not beg... Sent with a Pass, and vagrant thro' the land.

attrib. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Travel* (ed. 2) 60 Fearing his vagrant sonne might grow too potent... he rowses himselfe. 1745 FRANCIS *Tr. Horace, Epist.* I. xv. 37 A vagrant Zany, of no certain Mauger, Who knew not, ere he din'd, or Friend or Stranger. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxxvii, I amused myself with observing the manners of the vagrant nations. 1781 GIBSON *Decl. & F.* xxv. (1787) II. 532 The vagrant soldiers were recalled to their standard. 1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 68 Without the path of the vagrant savage to guide us. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 630 It might well be... that... regents would continue to administer the government in the name of vagrant and mendicant kings. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Fawn* I. x. 100 They proved to be a vagrant band, such as... all Italy abounds with.

b. Of animals, birds, etc.

1743 FRANCIS *Tr. Horace, Odes* iv. iv. 4 To whom the monarch of the gods assign'd Dominion o'er the vagrant, feather'd race. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 306 It becomes a resting place to vagrant birds. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 53 [The goat is] lively, capricious, and vagrant; it is not easily confined to its flock... and loves to stray remote from the rest. 1817 WORDSW. *Vernal Ode* 90 The soft murmur of the vagrant Bee. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 562 In one case two swarms, both of them vagrant swarms, took possession of the same hive.

c. Of plants: Rambling or straggling in growth or habit; straying. Also of hair.

1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* xlix, And sometimes we enrich gray stems, with twined And vagrant ivy. 1851 LONGE. *Gild. Leg.* II. *A Farm.* The vagrant Vines that wander'd, Seeking the sun-hine, round and found. 1852 SALA *Seven Sons* I. xi. 265 She had... a quantity of vagrant brown hair.

4. Of or belonging to a vagrant or wanderer; characterized by, peculiar to, devoted or given up to, vagrancy or wandering.

1583 STUBBERS *Anat. Abus.* II. M 4 b, Doe you allow of that vagrant ministerie, which is in manie Countries, sprong vp of late, to the discredit of the Gospell of Jesus Christ? 1598 HACKLUYT *Voy. I.* 400 The worde Turk signifieth a Shepherd or one that followeth a vagrant and wilde kinde of life. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 665 The Ethiop-

ians... lived before a vagrant life, like the *Nomades* of olde. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lvi. 8 Thou knowest the dayes of my exile, and vagrant condition. 1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 304 That Beauteous Emma vagrant Courses took; Her Father's House and civil life forsook. 1775 JOHNSON *Let.* 27 May in *Boswell*, Because it will be inconvenient to send them after me in my vagrant state. — *Tax.* no *Tyr.* 22 But the age being now past of vagrant excursion. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. i. 212 Persons whose life has been passed in vagrant diplomacy. 1867 MORRIS *Tacon* xiv. 410 Keeping but vagrant life for thine own part Of what thou boastest with the Gods to share.

5. Of things: Not fixed or stationary; moving hither and thither; *spec.* in *fath.* of certain blood-cells.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, Ere he march in Asia, or display His vagrant Ensigne in the Persian fields. 1622 WOODALL *Surg. Master Wks.* (1653) 226 Mercurie... is in truth a fugitive vagrant substance. 1743 FRANCIS *Tr. Horace, Odes* I. xvi. 3 Icar them, ye vagrant winds, away *Ibid.* xxxiv. 14 The ponderous earth, and vagrant stream. 1794 R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 417 When we consider the motion of those vagrant worlds, the comets... 1806 MOORE *Anacron* lviii, no Then I loose all such clinging cares, And cast them to the vagrant airts. 1841 DICKENS *Barn Rudge* xv, A vagrant ray of sunlight patching the shade of the tall houses. 1857 LUFFEY *Leit. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 203 The lofty ice mountains that wander like vagrant islands along the coast of America. 1899 ALLIBUTT *Syst. Med.* VI. 497 The fixed cells of the tissue to a great extent appear to supplant in its office the vagrant leucocyte.

† b. Of a disease or pain: Not local or confined to one particular part. *Obs.*

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 24 Arthritis that is vagrant is scorbutical, and a pain of divers parts. 1684 *Tr. Lancel's Merc. Comput.* iv. 126 M. N. was suddenly taken with most sharp vagrant pains.

Vagrant, v. rare—1. [*f. prec.*] *intr.* To behave like a vagrant; to ramble or roam.

1886 MISS BROUGHTON *Doctor Cupid* I. ix. 156 The boy is out—... vagranting after his kind.

Vagrantism. [*f. VAGRANT sb. or a.*] Inclination to, love of, vagrancy.

1908 G. S. HALL *Adolescence* I. 266 The erratic acts of these cases... passionate vagrantism and vagabondage, solitude and soliloquy.

Vagrantize, v. rare—2. [*f. VAGRANT sb. + -IZE*] *trans.* To attest as a vagrant. *Obs.*

b. To reduce to the condition of a vagrant. In quot. *absol.*

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1815) I. 21 Set off to the next justice of the peace, for the purpose of getting the whole set vagrantized. 1863 *Liverpool Daily Post* 22 Dec. 4 to 7 The result is rather to permanently vagrantize—if one may coin a verb for the occasion—instead of inculcating independent effort.

Vagrant-like, adv. [*f. VAGRANT sb.*] In or after the manner of a vagrant.

1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. iv. (1713) 97 He vagrant-like wandered on in a course of dissoluteness.

Vagrantly (vā-grāntli), *adv.* Also 6 *vagrauntlie*. [*i.* as *prec.* + *-LY* 2.] As a vagrant; in a vagrant or wandering manner; †irrelevantly.

1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI.* c. 3 § 6 We have taken this beaer I. K. vagrantlie, going loytering idelle about. a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 634 The contrary... being barely and nakedly affirmed of the Jesuites, and that most vagrantly, and from the purpose. 1604 N. D. 3rd Pt. *Three Conversations of Eng.* 93 Who would neither have lands... nor any certain seats or habitation, but went abroad vagrantly. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* Vage, wandringly, scatter'dly, vagrantly. 1847 WEBSTER *Vagrantly*, in a wandering, un-settled manner. 1893 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 20 April, Come with me then, vagrantly, into a few of these lovely old home-spots of rural England.

† **Vagrarious, a. nonce-word.** [*Cf. next and -ARIOUS.*] Vagrant, wandering.

1795 WILBEFORCE in *Life* (1830) II. 105 My health is not equal to this vagrarious kind of life.

† **Vagrate, v. nonce-word.** [*f. VAGRANT sb.*: see -ATE.] *intr.* To range or wander.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* ix. 314 In this unbounded range, Where error vagrates and illusions change.

† **Vagring, ppl. a. Obs.**—1 [*f. as prec.*] Vagrant, wandering; † nomadic.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1606) 310 There are risen vp a scattered and vagring company, vnder color of deuotion.

Vagrom (vā-grōm), *a.* [Illiterate alteration of VAGRANT *a.*: cf. INGRAM *a.* In mod. use only after Shakspeare.]

1. Vagrant, vagabond, wandering.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 26 Dogberry. You shall comprehend all vagrom men. 1663 G. A. SALA *Cat. Dangerous* I. x. 235 Sheep-stealers, footpads, vagrom men and women. 1874 M. COLLINS *Transmigr.* II. ii. 40 With him came the vagrom guest... a boy almost. 1882 BESANT *All Serts* 164 Born of a poor vagrom woman.

2. Eccentric, erratic

1882 *Sat. Rev.* LIV. 457 Words lose their character and have their history obscured by being spelled after the vagrom devices of the phonetic people.

Vagt, southern ME. var. *fast*, pa. t. *fight* v. [*f. Vague sb.* 1. *Obs.* Also 6 *vage*. [Of obscure origin.] A prank or trick. Only in pl.

Freq. in the second quarter of the 16th c., esp. in the phrase to play on's vagues, with which to take on's vagues appears to be synonymous.

(a) 1523 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* VI. 200 Thei thought that Columba had... taken so his vages against the said Cardinall de Medeyes... that the said Columba dorst never have