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# The Oxford English Dictionary

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VOLUME III

D-E

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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*

VOLUME III

D-E



AT THE CLARENDON PRESS



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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* (gōu).  
h ... *ho!* (hōu).  
r ... *run* (rən), *terrier* (te'riər).  
ɹ ... *her* (hər), *farther* (fā'ɹðər).  
s ... *see* (sē), *cess* (ses).  
w ... *wen* (wen).  
hw ... *when* (hwen).  
y ... *yes* (yes).

þ as in *thin* (pin), *bath* (bap).  
ð ... *then* (ðen), *bath* (bap).  
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃɒp), *dish* (diʃ).  
tʃ ... *chop* (tʃɒp), *ditch* (diʃ).  
ʒ ... *vision* (vi'ʒən), *déjeuner* (de'ʒɔne).  
dʒ ... *judge* (dʒɒdʒ).  
ŋ ... *singing* (si'ŋɪŋ), *think* (piŋk).  
ŋɡ ... *finger* (fiŋɡər).

### (FOREIGN.)

ñ as in *French nasal, environ* (aɪnvə'roŋ).  
lʲ ... It. *seraglio* (se'ra·li·o).  
nʲ ... It. *signore* (si'ni·o·re).  
χ ... Ger. *ach* (ax), Sc. *loch* (lox, loxʷ).  
xʲ ... Ger. *ich* (ixʲ), Sc. *nicht* (nēxʲt).  
ʎ ... Ger. *sagen* (zā·ʎən).  
ʎʲ ... Ger. *legen, regnen* (lē·ʎən, rē·ʎ·nən).

## II. VOWELS.

### ORDINARY.

a as in *Fr. à la mode* (a la modʰ).  
ai ... *aye=yes* (ai), *Isaiah* (əizai·ă).  
æ ... *man* (mæn).  
ɑ ... *pass* (pas), *chant* (tʃant).  
au ... *loud* (laud), *now* (nau).  
ɒ ... *cut* (kɒt), *son* (sɒn).  
e ... *yet* (yet), *ten* (ten).  
ɛ ... *survey sb.* (sə·vɛ), *Fr. attaché* (ataʃe).  
ɛ̃ ... *Fr. chef* (ʃɛ̃).  
ɛv ... *ever* (evər), *nation* (nə·ʃən).  
ɔi ... *I, eye* (əi), *bind* (baɪnd).  
ɔ̃ ... *Fr. eau de vie* (ɔ̃ də vi).  
i ... *sit* (sit), *mystic* (mistik).  
ɪ ... *Psyche* (sai·kɪ), *react* (ri·ækt).  
o ... *achor* (ə·kɔr), *moralité* (mɔ·rə·li·ti).  
oi ... *oil* (oil), *boy* (boi).  
o ... *hero* (hi·rɔ), *zoology* (zo·lɔdʒi).  
ɔ ... *what* (hwɒt), *watch* (wɒtʃ).  
ɒ, ɒ\* ... *got* (gɒt), *soft* (sɒft).  
|| ɔ̃ ... Ger. *Köln* (kɔ̃ln).  
|| ɔ̃ ... *Fr. peu* (pɔ̃).  
u ... *full* (ful), *book* (buk).  
iu ... *duration* (di·u·rɛ·ʃən).  
u ... *unto* (vntu), *frugality* (fru·).  
iu ... *Matthew* (mæ·piu), *virtue* (vɜ·ti·u).  
|| ü ... Ger. *Müller* (mü·lɛr).  
|| ü ... *Fr. dune* (dün).  
o (see iə, ēə, ɔə, ūə) } see Vol. I, p. xxxiv, note 3.  
u (see ɛ̃, ɔ̃) }  
ʰ as in *able* (ə·bʰl), *eaten* (i·tʰn) = voice-glide.

### LONG.

ā as in *alms* (āmz), *bar* (bār).  
ā ... *curl* (kūrl), *fur* (fūr).  
ē (ēə) ... *there* (ðēər), *pear, pare* (pēər).  
ē (ēʰ) ... *rein, rain* (rēʰn), *they* (ðēʰ).  
ē̃ ... *Fr. faire* (fē̃).  
ō ... *fir* (fār), *fern* (fār), *earth* (ə̃rθ).  
ī (īə) ... *bier* (biər), *clear* (kliər).  
ī̃ ... *thief* (ðĩf), *see* (sē̃).  
ō (ōə) ... *bear, bore* (bōər), *glory* (glō·ri).  
ō̃ (ō̃ə) ... *so, sow* (sō̃), *soul* (sō̃l).  
ō̃ ... *walk* (wō̃k), *wart* (wō̃t).  
ō̃ ... *short* (ʃō̃t), *thorn* (pō̃n).  
|| ȝ ... *Fr. cœur* (kȝr).  
|| ȝ ... Ger. *Göthe* (gȝtē), *Fr. jeûne* (ʒȝn).  
ū (ūə) ... *poor* (pūər), *moorish* (mū·riʃ).  
iū, iū ... *pure* (piūər), *lure* (liūər).  
ū ... *two moons* (tū mūnz).  
iū, iū ... *few* (fiū), *lute* (liūt).  
|| ū ... Ger. *grün* (grūn), *Fr. jus* (ʒū).

### OBSCURE.

ǣ as in *amoeba* (ām·fē·bā).  
ǣ ... *accept* (ækse·pt), *maniac* (mā·ni·æk).  
ð̃ ... *datum* (dā·tūm).  
č ... *moment* (mō·mēnt), *several* (se·vē·rəl).  
š ... *separate* (adʒi·) (se·pā·rēt).  
è ... *added* (æ·déd), *estate* (estē·t).  
ĩ ... *vanity* (væ·niti).  
ĩ̃ ... *remain* (ri·mē·n), *believe* (bi·li·v).  
ō̃ ... *theory* (p̃r·ōri).  
ø ... *violet* (vəi·lēt), *parody* (pæ·rɔdi).  
ø̃ ... *authority* (ɔ̃·pɔ·riti).  
ø̃ ... *connect* (kə·nēkt), *amazon* (æ·māzən).  
iū, iū̃ ... *verdure* (vɜ·diū), *measure* (me·ʒiū).  
iū̃ ... *altogether* (ɔ̃lti·ʒe·vɔr).  
iū̃ ... *circular* (sə·iklɪ·lār).

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

|| Only in foreign (or earlier English) words

## In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. *e*, *o*, representing an earlier *a*, are distinguished as *ɛ*, *ɒ* (having the phonetic value of *ɛ* and *ɒ*, or *ɔ*, above); as in *ende* from *andē* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *menn* from *mann*, *on* 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.  
 apheet. ... = apheetic, apheetized.  
 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 (Supp. 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 (= Mæso-Gothic).  
 Gr. ... = Greek.  
 Gram. ... = in Grammar.  
 Heb. ... = Hebrew.  
 Her. ... = in Heraldry.  
 Herb. ... = with herbalists.  
 Hort. ... = in Horticulture.  
 imp. ... = Imperative.  
 impers. ... = impersonal.  
 impf. ... = 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.  
 NF., 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.  
 OTent. ... = 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.

Before a word or sense.  
 † = 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.



# D.

**D** (dā), the fourth letter of the Roman alphabet, corresponding in position and power to the Phœnician and Hebrew *Daleth*, and Greek *Delta*, Δ, whence also its form was derived by rounding one angle of the triangular form. It represents the sonant dental mute, or point-voice stop consonant, which in English is alveolar rather than dental. The plural has been written D's, Ds, de's.

The phonetic value of D in English is constant, except that in past participles the earlier full spelling *-ed* is retained where the pronunciation after a breath-consonant is now *t*, as in *looked, dipped, fished, passed*. The spelling *-ed* is now even extended to words in which OE. had *t*, as in *wished, puffed, kissed*, OE. *wyscte, fyfte, cyste*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* iii. (L.) 6 B, c, d, g, p, t, zeendiað on e. 1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Dancing-Master* v. i. His desperate deadly daunting dagger:—there are your d's for you! 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 67 b, The Walls... of Memphis [were] built in the shape of a D. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Vixen* III. 168 This... must end in darkness, desolation, despair—everything dreadful beginning with d.

2. Used in reference to the shape of the letter, as *D-shaped*; so *D block, D trap, D valve*, etc. See also **DEE**.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 156 *D-Blocks* are lumps of oak in the shape of a D... bolted to the ship's side, in the channels. 1827 FAREY *Steam Eng.* 707 Sliding valves... called D valves. 1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* I. 161 The saddle... should be abundantly studded... with iron loops: or as they are—from their shape—termed in Colonial phraseology, D's. [See **DEE**.] *Ibid.* 163 Append to one of the D's of the said saddle, a leathern bottle. 1892 T. B. F. EMERSON *Epid. Pneumonia* 11 The catch-pit was covered in by a D trap.

3. Used euphemistically for *damn* (often printed d—), etc. Cf. **DEE** v.

1861 DICKENS *Gl. Expect.* xi. He flung out in his violent way, and said, with a D, 'Then do as you like'. 1877 GILBERT *Com. Opera, H.M.S. Pinafore* 1, Though 'bother it' I may occasionally say, I never use a big, big D—.

II. 1. Used like the other letters of the alphabet to denote serial order, with the value of *fourth*; applied, e.g., to the fourth quire or sheet of a book, a group or section in classification, etc.

1886 *Oxford Univ. Statutes* (1890) 109 The examination in the above-mentioned Group D shall be under the direction of the Board of the Faculty of Theology.

b. In typical or hypothetical examples of any argumentation, D is put for a fourth person or thing. (Cf. A, II. 4.)

1858 KINGSLEY *Let. to F. Ludlow in Life* xvii. (1879) II. 78 How worthless opinions of the Press are. For if A, B, C, D, flatly contradict each other, one or more must be wrong, eh? 1864 BOWEN *Logic* 208 If A is B, C is D. 1887 *Times* (Weekly Ed.) 21 Oct. 3/2 This or that understanding between Mr. A, Mr. B, Mr. C, and Mr. D.

2. *spec. in Music*. The name of the second note of the 'natural' major scale. (In Italy and France called *re*.) Also, the scale or key which has that note for its tonic.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. i. 77 *D sol re*, one Cliffe, two notes have I. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* II. 269/2 A Concerto of Bach in D minor.

3. In *Algebra*: see A, II. 5. In the higher mathematics, *d* is the sign of differentiation, and *D* of derivation; *D* is also used to denote the deficiency of a curve.

1824 SALMON *Higher Plane Curves* ii. (1879) 30 We call the deficiency of a curve the number D, by which its number of double points is short of the maximum. 1873 B. WILLIAMSON *Diff. Calc.* (ed. 2) § 5 When the increment is supposed infinitely small, it is called a *differential*, and represented by *dx*.

III. Abbreviations, etc.

1. d stands for *L. denarius* and so for 'penny', 'pence'; as *1d.* = one penny, *£. s. d.* = pounds,

shillings and pence. † Formerly also, *d.* = one half (*L. dimidium*, also contracted *di., dim.*); *D.* = dollar (in *U. S.*; now \$).

1387 *E. E. Wills* 2 Y be-queethe to the werkes of poulys vj s. viij d. 1488 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 269 For d. a quarter of pepur. c 1500 *Debate Carpenter's Tools* in Halliwell *Nugae Poet.* 15 Fore some dey he wyll vij. d. drynke. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. III. i.* 140 What's the price of this yncle? i. d. 1791 JEFFERSON in *Harper's Mag.* (1885) Mar. 535/1 A pound of tea... costs 2 D. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* 233 Pence or half-pence are not legal tender for more than 12d., or farthings for more than 6d.

2. D, the sign for 500 in Roman numerals, as MDCCCXIII = 1893. [Understood to be the half of CIO, earlier form of M = 1,000.]

(Formerly occasionally written De.) 1459 *Inv. in Paston Lett.* I. 469 Summa, DCCCC lxxv. unces. *Ibid.* 471 Summa, D<sup>o</sup> unces. 1569 GRAFTON *Chron.* 16 This Thurston obteyned the rule of the Abbey againe for the price of D. pound.

3. D = various proper names, as Daniel, David; † D = Duke; d, d. (usually before a date) = died; † d. = degree (of angular measure); d (in dental formulæ) = deciduous, as *dc.*, deciduous canine, *di.*, deciduous incisor; d or D (*Anat.*) = dorsal; D, 'in the *Complete Book*, means dead or deserted' (Adm. Smyth); d. (in a ship's log) = drizzling. In *Academical degrees* D. = Doctor (as a Lat. word following, and as English preceding, other initials), as D.D. (*Divinitatis Doctor*), Doctor of Divinity, LL.D. (*Legum Doctor*), Doctor of Laws, M.D., Doctor of Medicine, Ph.D., Doctor of Philosophy, D.C.L., Doctor of Civil Law, D.Lit., Lit.D., Doctor of Literature, D.Sc., Doctor of Science. D.C. (*Music*) = *Da Capo* (q.v.). D.G. = *L. Dei gratia*, by the grace of God, *Deo gratias*, thanks to God. D.L., Deputy Lieutenant. D.T., vulgar abbrev. of *delirium tremens*. D.V. = *L. Deo volente*, God willing.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 75 Betwixt the Emp. then living and the last D. [= Duke] great gelosies underhand. 1606 COKE in *True & Perf. Relat.* Tjb, A Doctor of five Dd, as Dissimulation, Depositing of Princes... Destruction. 1630 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* vii. 64 This North was created D.D. in Paris. 1635 J. WELLS *Sciogr.* 4 Let 6d. of the chorde, be equal to 30d. of the Sines. 1710 SACHEVERELL *Sp. on Impeach.* 51 This argues a scandalous Ignorance... in a D.D. a 1866 KEBLE *Lett. Spir. Counsel* (1870) 186 My dear wife (D.G.) bore up well through the nursing. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 62 His cousin, the Ph.D. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* v. (1885) 119 The D.D.'s used to be the leaders. 1873 H. SPENCER *Study Sociol.* ii. 30 The 'D.V.' of a missionary-meeting placard.

-d, formative of *pa. pple.* as in *heard, paid, dead*: see -ED suffix.

**Da** (dā). Nursery and homely abbrev. of DADA. 1851 LADY DUFF GORDON *Let. in Three Gener. English-women* (1888) II. 216 Whether Da and my mother will stay at Weybridge, I know not. *Ibid.* 217 Da is gloomy, I fear 'tis his normal state.

**Da**, obs. form of DAW, DAY, DOE.

**Dab** (dæb), sb.<sup>1</sup> In 3-4 dabbe. [f. DAB v.<sup>1</sup>, both being found c. 1300.]

1. A blow of somewhat sharp and abrupt character. b. A blow from a bird's beak, or with the corner or point of anything which scarcely or only slightly penetrates; a thrust as if aiming to strike or stab; an aimed blow. c. *dial.* A slight blow with the back of the hand or the like, a box, a slap. 1300 K. *Alis.* 2306 Philot him gaf anothir dabbe. That in the scheld the gysarme Bylefte hongyng, and eke the arme. *Ibid.* 2794 They laughte dedly dabbe. *Ibid.* 7304 Bytweone you delith hit with dabbe, And with spere, and swordis dunt. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Dab*... also a light blow on the Chaps, or box on the Ear. 1731 SWIFT *Mem. Capt.*

*Creighton Wks.* 1768 XI. 161, I gave him a dab in the mouth with my broken sword, which very much hurt him. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 69 Giving us several dabs with its beak. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xi. Making two dabs at him in the air with her needle. 1875 A. R. HOPE *My School-boy Fr.* 125 She made furious dabs at him. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Dab*, a slight blow, generally with the back of the hand. [So in *N. W. Linc. and Cheshire Gloss.*]

d. *fig.* (cf. *rap, poke, thrust*.)

1705 in *Perry Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 160 Here's another dab upon Gov<sup>r</sup> Nicholson. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xx. 140 At our alighting, I gave him another dab. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 391 'Tis now an age... Since we have had a dab at any body.

2. A gentle blow or tap with a soft substance, which is pressed slightly on the object and then quickly withdrawn; a stroke with a dabber.

1755 in JOHNSON.

3. A flattish mass of some soft or moist substance dabbed or dropped on anything.

1749 in *Doran Mann & Manners* (1876) I. xiii. 293 Putting a large dab of hot wax under the arms. 1768-74 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1852) II. 596 We... garnish the rims of our dishes with dabs of chewed greens. 1779 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 3 Nov. How can two or three dabs of paint ever be worth such a sum as that? 1874 Mrs. H. WOOD *Mast. Greylands* iii. 32 Fifteen dishes he wanted for his dinner, if he wanted one. And all of 'em dabs and messes.

4. *fig.* Applied slightly to (a) a small or trifling amount, as of money given; (b) a slight effort of the pen, etc.

1729 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* I. 453, I had your hasty dab as you call it... your dabs are of more worth to me than folios of letters from any one else. 1735 HERVEY *Mem.* II. 13, 3200l. ever since he was King, besides several little dabs of money. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Lett. H. Mann* (1833) II. 337 (D) A new dab called *Anecdotes of Polite Literature*. 1788 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 29 Jan., I actually asked for this dab of preferment.

5. a. A wet or dirty clout. b. A pinafore. *dial.*

1714 SWIFT *Hue & Cry*, Reckon with my Washerwoman; making her allow for old Shirts, Socks, Dabbs and Markees, which she bought of me. 1721 BAILEY, *Dab*... a dirty clout. 1837 THACKERAY *Yellowplush* i. Wet dabs of disclouts flapped in your face. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Dab*, a child's pinafore.

6. Applied to persons: a. An untidy woman, a drab. b. A small child, a chit.

1730-6 BAILEY (folio), *Dab*... also a word of Contempt for a Woman. 1797 MRS. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 91 It [Betty] is such an engaging, good-hearted little dab. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.*, *Dab*, an untidy, thriftless woman. [So *Cheshire Gloss.*] 1833 SIR F. HEAD *Bubbles of Brunnen*, A little bare-headed, bare-footed dab of a child. 1864 CAPERN *Devon Provinc.*, *Dab*, a chit.

7. See **quots.**

1758 DYCHE *Dict.*, *Dab*... likewise a mangled piece of fat meat goes by this name. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Box* (1877) 38 Dabs of dingy bacon.

8. *pl.* The refuse or sediment of sugar.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Dabs*, refuse foots of sugar. 1881 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 3/4 Barbadoes dabs, 20s. to 21s... Grenada dabs, 17s. to 19s. 6d.

9. *Type-founding*. See **quots.**

1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Dab*, an impression in type-metal of a die in course of sinking. 1889 T. B. REED (*in Lett.*), The common process of producing cast ornaments for printing, before the introduction of electrotyping was known in English type-foundries as 'dabbing'. The original woodblock is dropped sharply into a bed of molten lead on the point of cooling. A mould or matrix of the design is thus produced. To produce replicas of the design, the operator strikes this matrix into lead. The result is a 'cast' or 'dab' in relief, which when mounted can be used to print along with type.

10. A printer's dabber.

1801 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 75 The worker of the press has found the dabbers... unfit for use... He sits down with raw sheep-skin and carded wool, to stuff the balls and tie it round the handle of the dab.



**11. Comb.**, as *dab-pot*; †*dab-stone*, a game with stones; cf. *dabbers* and *dib-stone*; *dab-wash* (*dial.*), a wash of a few small articles, as distinct from the usual household wash; hence *dab-wash* vb.

**1876** BROWNING *Pacchiarotto* 420 Stick thou, Son, to paint-brush and \*dab-pot! **1862** J. DONNE *Ep. Ded.* in *Donne's Paradoxes*, Lelius and Scipio are presented to us as playing at \*Dabstone before they fought against Hannibal. **a 1812** MALONE (cited for \*Dab-wash by Todd s.v. *Dab*). **1863** MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L. vi*, Having had what is called in the district a 'dab-wash' of a few articles, forgotten on the regular day. **1881** RICHARDSON in *Gd. Words* 51 A few clothes that had just gone through a 'dab-wash'.

**¶ 12. Dab** is frequently written instead of DAUB = rough mortar, clay used in plastering, esp. in *wattle and dab* (*daub*).

**1839** LONDON *Enycl. Arch.* 840 Instead of brick nagging for partitions, cob is used for filling in the framework. This sort of work is called rab and dab. **1881** MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* vi. 70 Cottages, with walls of wattle and dab.

**Dab** (dæb), sb.<sup>2</sup> [Etymology unknown: cf. however *DAB sb.<sup>1</sup> 3*.] A species of small flat-fish, *Pleuronectes limanda*, nearly resembling the flounder, common on the sandy parts of the British coast; also used as a 'street term for small flat fish of any kind' (*Slang Dict.*).

**1577** HARRISON *England* iii. iii. (1878) ii. 20 The plaice, the but, the turbot, dorrie, dab, &c. **1620** VENER *Via Recta* iv. 72 The Dabbe or little Plaice is of the same nature. **1778** PENNANT *Tour in Wales* (1883) i. 29 Dabs visit us in November. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* i. 165 The fish fried by street dealers is known as 'plaice dabs' and 'sole dabs', which are merely plaice and soles, 'dab' being a common word for any flat fish. **1886** R. C. LESLIE *Seafarer's Log* x. 193 A dab or plaice soon getting pale-coloured when lying upon a white surface.

**b. Comb.**, as *dab-darter*, one who spears flat-fish; *dab-fish*, flat-fish.

**1883** G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxvi. (1884) 203 In the deeper water the dab-darters are often hard at work. The 'dart' is like the head of a large rake with the teeth set vertically. **1876** ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Dab-fish*, all kinds of flat fish.

**Dab** (dæb), sb.<sup>3</sup> [Appears before 1700; frequently referred to as school slang: origin unknown. Conjectures have been offered as to its being a corruption of *adept*, and of *dapper*, but without any other evidence than appears in the general likeness and use of the words. It is possible that it is a derivative of *DAB v.*]

One skillful or proficient at († *of, in*) anything; an expert, an adept.

**1691** *Athenian Mercury* IV. No. 3 Qu. 8 [Love is] such a Dab at his Bow and Arrows. **a 1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant.* *Crew, Dab*, expert, exquisite in Roguery. *He is a Dab at it*, He is well vers'd in it. **1711** *Vind. Sacheverell* 83 The Dr. is charg'd with being a great Dab, as the Boys say, for he plays on Sundays. **a 1754** FIELDING *Ess. Conversation* Wks. (1840) 642 (To fetch a phrase from school...) great dabs of this kind of facetiousness. **1759** GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 1 A third [writer] is a dab at an index. **1845** THACKERAY *Punch in the East* iv. I wish to show I am a dab in history. **1874** HELPS *Soc. Press* v. (1875) 69, I am 'a dab', as we used to say at Eton, at suggesting subjects for essays.

**b. attrib. or Comb.**, as *dab hand*.

**1828** Craven *Dialect, Dab-hand*, expert at any thing. **1870** MISS BRIDGMAN *Ro. Lynne* ii. iii. 67 He was a dab hand at water-colours. [The comb. occurs in many dialect glossaries from *Lonsdale* and *Holderness* to *W. Somerset*.]

**Dab**, sb.<sup>4</sup> slang. A bed.

**1812** *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 16 Those who had been accustomed to a downy dab. **1812** J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Dab*, a bed. **1823** W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* iii. iii. (Farmer), When we've had the liquor, we'll all go to our dabs.

**Dab** (dæb), v.<sup>1</sup> In 4 dabbens, 6 dabbes. Inflected dabbled, dabbings. [This and the accompanying sb. *DAB*<sup>1</sup> appear about 1300; there is nothing similar in OE.

Middle and early modern Dutch had a verb *dabben*, according to Oudemans, 'to pinch, knead, fumble, dabble': cf. Ger. *tappen* to grope, fumble (with the hands, as in the dark); but it is not clear that there is any connexion between this and the English word. Rather does the latter appear to be of independent onomatopoeic origin, being, primarily, the expression of the mechanical action in question by analogous oral action, including (but only in a secondary way) the representation of the sound. Cf. *DUB v.*, which in some of its senses appears to be of kindred formation.]

**I. To strike, peck, stick, etc.**

**1. trans.** To strike somewhat sharply and abruptly. (The ME. sense is not quite clear.) **b. To strike** so as slightly to pierce or indent; to peck as a bird with its bill; to pick the surface of a stone (see quot. 1876); to stick or thrust. Now chiefly Sc. c. in mod. dial. To strike with a slight blow, as with the back of the hand. † *To dab nebs*: to kiss.

**a 1307** Pol. *Songs* (Camden) 192 This Frenshe come to Flaunders. The Flemmishe hem dabbeth o the het bare. **1532** MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 551.1 The prickie of the fleshe, to dabbe him in the necke. **1630** DEKKER and Pi. *Hon. Where* iv. ii. Let me alone for dabbings them o' th' neck. **1730-6** BAILEY (folio), *Dab*, to cuff or bang; to slap or strike. **1771** in Jamieson *Pop. Ball. & Songs* (1806) L. 87 (Jam.). The thorn that dabs I'll cut it down, Though fair the rose may be. **1786** Yng. *Coalman's Courtship* (ed. 20) 5 You may, dab nebs wi' her now an' then. **1876** GWILT *Archit. Gloss.*, *Dabbing, Dawbing*... working the face of a stone... with a pick-shaped tool... so as to form a series of minute holes. **1885** RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 82 One chap dabb'd his stick through my arm here. **1887** *Cheshire*

*Gloss.*, *Dab*, to give a slight blow to. 'Dost want dabb'n i' th' maith' [= mouth].

**d. intr.** Of a bird: To peck with the bill. **e. To aim at** in order to strike, as in playing at marbles, or throwing a stone at a bird, etc. *Sc.*

**1805** J. NICOL *Poems* i. 43 (Jam.) Weel daubit, Robin! there's some mair, Beath groats an' barley, dinna spare. **1826** WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 i. 25 Chuckies... dabb'ing at daigh and drummock. *Mod. Sc.* If you go near the nest, the hen will dab at you. Which marble shall I dab at? Some boys dabb'ing at a cat on the roof of the shed.

**2. To strike or cause to strike** (usually with something soft and of broadish surface) so as to exert a slight momentary pressure, and then withdraw quickly. The object may be a. the brush, dabber, etc. used; b. the moist or sticky substance applied; c. the surface to which it is applied.

**a. 1592** NASHE *P. Penitence* (ed. 2) 13 b, A Painter... needs no more but wet his pencil, and dab it on their cheekes, and he shall have vermilion and white enough. **1823** J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 143 A common printer's ball... is now to be dabb'd on the whole surface. **1863** TYNDALL *Heat* viii. § 313, I dip my brush... and dab it against the paper.

**b. 1562** TURNER *Herbal* ii. 31 a, Laser... is dabb'd about the stynges of scorpiones with oyle well manged or tempered. **1750** E. SMITH *Compl. Housewife* 352 Dab it on with a fine rag. **1833** Hr. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* i. 8 One who dabs brick-clay into a mould. **1853** READE *Chr. Johnstone* 109 [11] dabb'd glue on his gauzy wings.

**c. 1747** WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 63 Dip a soft rag in dead small Beer, new Milk warm, and dab each eye, a dozen times gently. **17...** S. SHARP (J.). A sore should never be wiped by drawing a piece of tow or rag over it, but only by dabb'ing it with fine lint. **1879** *Newspaper*, If the bleeding be too copious, dab the part with a rag wetted with creasote.

**d. spec. in Printing, Etching, etc.**: To strike or pat with a dabber for various purposes, as e.g. in order to spread colour evenly over a surface.

**1759** MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 573, I found one painting and another dabb'ing. **1799** G. SMITH *Laboratory* i. 339 The interstices may be dabb'd over with the tincture of that colour which you would have for the general ground-work. **1832** G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 300 Holding the brush perpendicular to the glass, every part of the latter must be dabb'd so that the surface will be dimm'd by the oil. **1874** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* i. 673.1 The insinuation [in stereotyping] of the damp paper into the interstices of the letters by dabb'ing the back of the paper with a hair brush.

**3. To set or put down with a sharp, abrupt motion** (cf. *to stick down*); to throw or fling down in a rough, careless, untidy manner.

**1772** G. WASHINGTON in *Mag. Amer. Hist.* May (1884) 71 They [clothes] will be... dabb'd about, in every hole and corner. **1877** *Holderness Gloss.*, *Dab, Dab-doon*... to fling down with violence. **1884** *Chester Gloss.*, *Dab*, to set things down carelessly, not in their right place.

**II. Specific senses of doubtful history, or indirect connexion with prec.**

**† 4. Fishing.** To fish by dipping the bait gently and lightly in the water; to dap, dib. *Obs.*

**1676** COTTON *Angler* ii. v. 295 This way of fishing we call daping, dapping, or dapping.

**5. To dabble dial.**

**1877** W. MARSHALL *East Norf. Gloss.*, *Dabbing*, dabb'ing. **1847** in HALLIWELL.

**6. Type-founding.** To produce a 'dab' in the process of making matrices, etc.

**1889** [see *DAB sb.<sup>1</sup> 9*].

**† 7. ? To deceive, jape. Obs.**

**1616** R. C. *Times Whistle* v. 2402 Like the parish bull he serves them still And dabbes their husbands clean against their will.

**8. A modification of DAUB v.**, to plaster.

**1577** Ludlow *Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 164 Item, to Humfries for dabling the church house. vjd. **1730** A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 272 The Steps are... dabb'd over with Lime and Mortar. *Ibid.* 374 Those who in various ways transform and dab over those parts of the Building. **1855** BROWNING *Grammarians' Funeral* 92 Fancy the fabric Quite, ere you build... Ere mortar dab brick!

Hence Dabbed (dæbd) ppl. a., Da'b'bing vbl. sb. and ppl. a.

**1885** W. Rhind's *Trade Circular*, A beautiful smooth ground, which... will stand the acid bath better than any dabb'd ground. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 577/2 The wound itself does not require... washing and sponging and dabb'ing. **1874** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Dabbing-machine*, the machine employed in casting large metal type.

**† Dab**, v.<sup>2</sup> *Obs.* [Cf. DABBY and DABBLE.] ? To be wet and dabbled, to hang like wet clothes.

**1558** PHAER *Eneid* vi. (R.). I creeping held with crok'd hands the mountaynes toppes, Encombrid in my clothes that dabb'd down from me did droppe.

**Dab**, adv. [The verb-stem or sb. used elliptically.] With a dab, or sudden contact.

**1608** ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* 2 He dropt downe... as heavy as if a leaden plummet... had fallen on the earth dab. **1884** RUSKIN in *Pail Mail* G. 10 Dec. 11/1 One who sharpens his pencil point, instead of seizing his biggest brush and going dab at the mountains with splotches of colour.

**Dabber** (dæbər). [f. *DAB v.<sup>1</sup> + -ER*.]

**1. One who or that which dabs.** **b. spec.** A rounded mass of some elastic material, enclosed in leather or silk, used to apply ink, colour, etc., evenly to a surface; employed in printing from type, wood-blocks, or engraved plates, in painting on china, etc.; in *Printing* = BALL sb.<sup>1</sup> 13. **c. A brush** used in stereotyping for pressing the damped

paper into the interstices of the type, or for various purposes in gilding, photography, etc.

**c 1790** *Artist's Assistant Mech. Sc.* 193 The ground... is to be laid on thinly and dabb'd all over with the dabber. **1799** G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 419 Have ready a dabber made of a round piece of white glove leather... filled with cotton, or wool, and tied close into a ball. **1821** CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* vii. 397 Taking the dabber, on which some portion of the etching ground has been left. **1854** tr. *Lamartine's Celebr. Char.* II. 323 Dabbers to spread the ink on the letters. **1870** *Eng. Mech.* 28 Jan. 487 (*Gilding*), Go over gently with a dabber [brush].

**2. (See quot.)**

**1881** *Oxfordish Gloss. Supp.*, *Dabbers*, a game played by children with small round flint stones. *Dabber*, a stone with which the game of Dabbers is played.

**Dabble** (dæ'b'l), v. [Appears late in 16th c. Agrees in form, and in sense 2, with Du. *dabbelen*, var. of *dabben*, expl. by Plantijn as 'pattrouiller, ou patteler de mains' to dabble with the feet or hands, *met de voet int slijck dabbelen*, 'trepiner des piedz en la fange', to trample with the feet in the mud. In form Du. *dabbelen* is the frequentative of *dabben*: the relation of *dabble* and *dab* in Eng. is less clear.]

**1. trans.** To wet by splashing, as in running through a puddle or wading about in shallow water, or by pressing against wet shrubs, or the like; to move anything to and fro in water; hence to wet in a casual way; to disfigure or soil with splashes of any liquid; to bespatter, besprinkle, bedabble. Said of the personal agent, or the liquid medium.

**1557** TUSSEY *100 Points Hush* xxvii, Set bauen alone, lay the bowghes from the blockes: the drier, the les maidens dablith their dockes [skirts behind]. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. iv. 64 A Shadow like an Angel, with bright hairy Dabbl'd in blood. **1604** MIDDLETON *Witch* ii. iii. 3 We must take heed we ride through all the puddles... that your safeguard there May be most probably dabb'd. **a 1656** USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 570 The Country being woody they were daily dabb'd with the fall of snow from the trees. **1676** WISEMAN *Surg. (J.)*, I scarified, and dabbled the wound with oil of turpentine. **1860** GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alk.* III. cxxi. 66 The men who are dabb'ing the Queen's robe in blood. **1887** T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* II. v. 85, I dabb'd a handkerchief in a neighbouring fountain for her to wash her streaked face.

**b. causal.**

**1847** TENNYSON *Princess* iii. 297 Or in the... holy secrets of this microcosm, Dabbling a shameless hand.

**2. intr.** To move (with feet or hands, or the bill) in shallow water, liquid mud, etc., so as to cause some splashing; to play about in shallow water, to paddle.

**1611** COTGR., *Patouiller*... to padle, or dable in with the feet. **1626** J. PORY in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* i. 331 They... made her to dable in the durte on a foul morning from Somerset House to St. James. **a 1661** FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 135 Ducklings, which... naturally delight to dabble in the water. **1789** WORDSW. *Evening Walk*, Where the duck dabbles 'mid the rustling sedg. **1821** CLARE *Vilh. Minstr.* II. 118 The long wet pasture grass she dabbles through. **1858** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xviii. 488 The minister who... had stooped to dabble in these muddy waters of intrigue.

**3. fig.** To employ oneself in a dilettante way in (any business or pursuit) without going deeply or seriously into it; to work off and on at, as a matter of whim or fancy. *Const. in* (*with, at, etc.*).

**1625** B. JONSON *Staple of N.* ii. i, Let him still dabble in poetry. **1676** MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 14 Some Youngster that had been Dabbling amongst the Socinian Writers. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1852) I. 120 One of those sources of disputation which must not be dabbled with; we must drink deep, or had better not taste at all. **1792** T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 465 Examining how far their own members... had been dabbling in stocks. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxviii, It's the delight of my life to have dabbled in poetry. **1879** G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* III. i. 14 The man who dabbles at saving the world by science, education, hygeian and other economies.

**† b. To meddle, tamper with; to interfere in.**

**1660** R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 7 He has bound himself up from dabling with the Grounds of Obedience and Government. **a 1732** ATTERBURY *To Pope* (J.), You, I think, have been dabb'ing here and there with the text. **1776** PAINE *Com. Sense, Addr. Quakers* (1791) 80 Dabbling in matters, which the professed quietude of your principles instruct you not to meddle with. **1794** SIR F. M. EDEN in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 238 As he loves to be dabb'ing, he may perhaps go.

**† 4. To move up and down in a playful, trifling manner, like one dabbling in water.** *Obs.*

**a 1688** VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Poems* (1775) 169 I'll dabble up and down, and take the air.

**Dab'ble**, sb. [f. prec. verb.] The act of dabb'ing; that which dabbles.

**1871** R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiii. 7 While still the gory dabble did aneb the soil pollute.

**Dab'bled**, ppl. a. [f. *DABBLE v.* + *-ED*.] Wetted by splashing; casually or irregularly wetted; stained or soiled with water, blood, mud, etc.

**1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iv. 397 The lively Liquor God With dabbled heels hath swelling clusters trod. **1727** SWIFT *Poems, City Shower*, Rising with dabbled wings. **1887** STEVENSON *Underwoods* i. ix. 18 The maiden jewels of the rain Sit in your dabbled locks again.

**Dab'blement**, noun-wd. [See *MENT*.] Dabbling (in semi-concrete sense).



**1866** CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 236, I. . . alas, was met by a foul dabblement of paint oozing downstairs.

**Dabbler** (dæ'blər). [*f.* DABBLE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who dabbles, esp. in any business or pursuit.  
**1611** COTGR., *Patouillard*, a padder, dabler, slubberer; one that tramples with his feet in plashes of dirty water.  
**1625** FLETCHER *Edier Bro.* II. ii. A little unbaked poetry such as the dabbles of our contrivance. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1852) I. 7 Your dabbles in metaphysics are the most dangerous creatures breathing. **1866** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) III. xi. 72 A dabbler in arts and sciences.

† 2. (See quot.) Obs.

**1611** COTGR., *Papeff*, the maine course; that part of the maine-sayle whereto the bonnets, or dablars be fastened.

**Da'bblesome**, *a. nonce-wd.* [See -SOME.] Given to dabbling.

**1866** BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* liii. (1883) 370 Dabble-some interferences with ancient institutions.

**Dabbling** (dæ'blɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [ING 1.] The action of the verb DABBLE; an instance or result of such action.

**1677** HUBBARD *Narrative* 109 Many of the rest were sorely wounded, as appeared by the dabbling of the Bushes with blood. **1712** SWIFT *Jrnl. Stella* 39 Dec. We are full of snow and dabbling. **1856** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 361 Some further paltry dabbling was also attempted with the phraseology. **1884** Chr. Treasury *Feb.* 92/1 The disconnected dabbings of untrained forgers.

**Da'bling**, *phl. a.* [ING 2.] That dabbles.  
**1661** LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 518 In dabbling weather and autumn. **1816** J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 178 Superficial, dabbling authors. **1845** HOOD *Mermaid of Margate* xii. A scaly tail, of a dolphin's growth, in the dabbling brine did soak.

Hence **Da'blingly** *adv.*

**1811** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXV. 134 The first number is written by the editor, and treats dabbingly of 'dabblers'.

**Dabby** (dæ'bi), *a.* [*f.* DAB *v.* 2, DAB *sb.* 1 5.] Damp, moist; (of clothes) wet and clinging to the body; flabby; flaccid.

**1581** J. STUDLEY *Seneca's Medea* 131 b. When the stormy southerne winde with dankish dabby face Of hoary winter sendeth out the gushing shoures apace. **1812** *Sporting Mag.* XL. 167 All very greasy, blousy, dabby, dusty, salt-water, and so on. **1825** FORBY *Voy. E. Anglia*, Dabby, moist, and somewhat adhesive; sticking to the skin like wet linen. **1844** J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W. v. Your.* overalls, which hang dabby and flabby about your legs. **1845** HOOD *Domestic Asides* iv. I should have loved to kiss her so, — (A flabby, dabby baby!).

**Dabchick** (dæ'bɪtʃɪk). Forms: *a.* 6 *dapchicke*, *dopchicken*, 6-7 *dopchick(e)*; *b.* 7 *dip-chicke*, 9 *dibchick*; *γ.* 6 *dobchickin*, 7-8 *dobchick*; *δ.* 7-9 *dab-chick*, 8- *dabchick*. [The early forms *dap-*, *dop-chick*, with the later *dip-chick*, and synonym DOPPER, appear to connect the first part of the word with the ablaut stem *deup*, *dup-*, *dop-* of DIP, DEEP; but the forms in *dob-*, *dab-*, seem to be associated with some senses of DAB *v.*]

The Little Grebe, *Podiceps minor*, a small water-bird, found in rivers and other fresh waters, and noted for its diving; in U.S. the name is applied to another species of Grebe, *Podilymbus podiceps*.

*a.* **1575** TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 150 Small fowle, as the dapchicke, or suche like. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xc. 552 The Swanne the Cormorant the pellicane, the Dopchicken the storke. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odys.* xv. 636 She. Shot dead the woman, who into the pump Like to a dop-chick dived. **1732** MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 449 *Podiceps minor rostro vario*, The Pied Bill Dopchick. **1888** W. SOMERSET *Word-bk.*, Dapchick. (Always.)

*b.* **1602** CAREW *Cornwall* 35a, The Dip-chicke (so named of his diving and littleness). **1827** T. ATTWOOD in C. M. Wakefield *Life* viii. (1885) 109, I am glad Bosco has got the dibchicks.

*γ.* **15-** *Parl. Byrdes* 88 in Hazl. E. P. P. III. 171 The Cote, the Dobchick, and the Water Hen. **1593** FLORIO, *Piombrino* . . a bird called a kingsfisher. Some take it for a dobchicken. **1670** NARBOROUGH *Jrnl. in Acc. Sen. Late Voy.* l. (1694) 59 White-breasted Divers, and Dobchicks. **1678** RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 340 The Didapper, or Dipper, or Dobchick, or small Doucker. **1766** PENNANT *Zool.* (1768) II. 397. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 214 Dobchick.

*δ.* **1670** [see *c.*] **1728** POPE *Dunc.* II. 63 As when a dab-chick waddles thro' the corpse, On feet and wings, and flies, and wades, and hops. **1789** G. WHITE *Selborne* (1853) II. xli. 273 Dabchicks and coots fly erect. **1870** THORNBURY *Tour Eng.* I. i. 7 Brentford again dived, to reappear suddenly, like a dab chick on the surface of history.

*b. dial.* Applied to the Moor-hen or Water-hen. **1877** N. W. LINC. GLOSS., *Dab-chick*, the water-hen. **1879** SHROPSH. *Word-bk.*, *Dab-chick*, the Water-hen.

*c. fig.* Of a girl.

**1610** B. JONSON *Alch.* iv. ii. 'Fore God, She is a delicate Dab-chick! I must have her.

¶ Ash's explanation 'A chicken newly hatched' (to which the *Century Dictionary* refers the quot. from Pope in *a* *δ*) is merely an amusing blunder.

† **Da'blet**, *Obs.* In 4 *deblet*, 7 *Sc. da'blet*, *da'blet*. [*a.* OF. *deablot* (14th c. Godefr.), dim. of *deable*, *diable* DEVIL.] A little devil, an imp.

**1380** WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 328 þe fend moveþ þes debletis to fere Cristene men fro treupe. **1605** MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 379 When the Weird Sisters had this voted, all in an voyce, The deid of [the] da'blet. *Ibid.* 515 For the din of thir da'blets raisd all the deils.

¶ **Daboya** (dä'bōi-ä, dä'bōy-ä). Also *daboia*. [Hindī *daboyā* that lies hid, the lurker, *f. dabnā* to lurk.] The large viper of the East Indies.

**1872** W. AITKIN *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 6) I. 387 A horse bitten by a daboya. **1889** *Century Mag.* Aug. 505 Among the vipers the daboya is entitled to rank as a poisoner close to the cobra.

**Dabster** (dæ'bstər). [In sense 1 *f.* DAB *sb.* 3: see -STER.]

1. One skilled at anything; an expert or dab. Chiefly *dial.*

**1708** Brit. *Apollo* No. 93. 3/2 Ye Dabsters at Rhime. **1770-86** P. SKELTON *Wks.* V. 203 The right dabsters at a sly, or a dry joke. **1824** Hist. *Gaming* 29 Her . . . luck at play (for she was a dabster). **1842** AKERMAN *Willshire Gloss.*, *Dabster*, a proficient. **1888** Berksh. *Gloss.*, *Dabster*, one who excels greatly. [So in many dialect Glossaries.]

2. Applied depreciatively: cf. DAUBSTER, DABBLER.

**1871** BROWNING *Pr. Hohenst.* 389 Lines Which every dabster felt in duty bound To signalize his power of pen and ink By adding to a plan once plain enough. **1892** Idler Sept. 203, I am a very indifferent amateur, a slouchy dabster, a mere artistic sarcasm.

¶ **Dabuh**. [Arab. *دبوح* *dabus* hyena = Heb.

*צבוע* *tsabūas* Jer. xii. 9.] The Arab name of the Striped Hyena, retained by some early naturalists.

**1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 342 Of the Beast called Dabuh . . . It will rake the carcases of men out of their graves, and will devour them. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 439 The second kind of hyena, called Papio or Dabuh.

**Dab-wash**: see DAB *sb.* 1 11.

¶ **Da capo** (da kā'po). *Mus.* [It. *da* from *capo* head, beginning.] A direction at the end of a piece of music to repeat from the beginning; the end of the repeat being usually marked with a pause or the word *Fine*. (Abbreviated D.C.) Also *fig.*

**1724** Short *Explet. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.* (Stanf.), *Da capo*, or by way of Abbreviation D.C. **1740** DYCHE & PARDON, D.C. in Musick signifies *Da Capo*, that is, give or play the whole or some particular part of an air again. **1855** THACKERAY *Newcomes* 1, And then will wake Morrow and the eyes that look on it; and so *da capo*.

Hence **Da capo v.** (*nonce-wd.*), to repeat (music).

**1764** Poetry in *Ann. Reg.* 240 Say, will my song, *da capo* d'er, *Piano* soft, *Andante* roar. **1803** in *Spir. Pub. Jrnl.* (1804) VII. 21 Thus you may *da capo* this musical entré.

**Dace** (dæ's). Also 5 *dace*, *darse*, 6 *dase*. [*M.E.* *darse*, etc., *a.* OF. *darz*, *dars*, nom. (and pl.) of *dart*, from 15th c. *dard* DART, *dace*: cf. Cotgr., 'Dard, a Dart; also, a Dace or Dare fish'; so called from its darting motion: cf. DARE.]

1. A small fresh-water cyprinoid fish, *Leuciscus vulgaris*.

**c. 1430** Two *Cookery-bks.* 20 Take Dace, Troutys, and Roche. **c. 1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 575 Perche, rooche, darce. **1496** Bk. St. Alban's, *Fishing* (1810) 35 Another [bayte] for darce & roche & bleke. **1538** LELAND *Itin.* V. 90 Brems, Pikes, Tenches, Perches and Daces. **1655** MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 271 Daces or Darts, or Dares, be of a sweet Taste, a soft Flesh and good Nourishment. **1802** BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 84 Dace afford great amusement to the angler. **1833** LAMB *Ella, Old Margate Hoy*, With no more relish for the sea, than a pond-perche or a dace might be supposed to have.

*b.* U.S. Applied locally to other fishes resembling or allied to this: as the genus *Rhinichthys*, and the redfin, *Mimulus cornutus*. (*Cent. Dict.*)

2. *Comb.*, as *dace-like*.

**1838** LYTTON *Alice* vi. iv, Stopping Mr. Douce's little . . . dace-like mouth.

¶ **Dacey** (dæ'si). *Anglo-Ind.* [ad. Hindī *dēsī*, *f. dēs* country.] Of or belonging to the country (i. e. India), native; = COUNTRY 13 b, as in *dacey-cotton*, *silk*, *manufacture*, etc.

**1876** L. P. BROCKETT *Silk-weaving* i. 13 (*Cent. Dict.*)

¶ **Dachshund** (dæ'ks'hund). Also in partly anglicized form *dachs-hund*. [*Ger.* = badger-dog.] One of a German breed of short-legged long-bodied dogs, used to draw badgers; a badger-dog.

**c. 1881** M. ARNOLD *Later Poems*, *Poor Matthias*, Max, a dachshound without blot. **1888** MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* (1890) 285 The sleek dachshund . . . sat blinking beside its mistress.

**Dacite** (dæ'sait). *Geol.* [Named 1863 from Dacia, the Roman province including Transylvania + -ITE.] A name for varieties of greenstone or trachyte rock containing quartz.

[**1878** LAWRENCE *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 185 Stache has given the name of Dacit to a quartzose trachyte.] **1879** RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xii. 235 The chemical composition of the dacites varies considerably.

**Dacity** (dæ'siti). *dial.* Also (s.w.) *dacity*. [An aphetic form of *audacity*: so in local dialects *dacious*.] Capacity, ability; activity, energy.

**1636** W. SAMSON *Vow Breaker* v, I have pla'd a Major in my time with as good dacity as e're a hobby-Horse on 'em all. **1746** Exmoor *Scolding* (1879) 209 Tha hast no Stroil ner Dacity, no Vittiness in enny keenest Theng. **1855** ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Dacity*, fitness, capacity, suitable address in a matter.

**Dacker, daiker** (dæ'kər, de'kər), *v. Sc. and north. dial.* Also *daker*. [app., in sense 1, the same as MFlem. *dackeren* 'volitare, motari, mobilitari; et vibrare, coruscare' (Kilian, 1599). But sense 7 is not clearly connected with the others, and may be a separate word.]

1. *intr.* To shake to and fro, waver, totter, stagger. *Eng. dial.*

**1668** SKINNER *Etym.* (1671), *Dacker*, vox in agro Lincoln. usitata: significat autem Vacillare, Nutare. **1674** RAY *N. C. Words* 13 *Dacker*, to waver, stagger or totter, a word used in Lincolnshire. **1876** Whitby *Gloss.*, *Daikinging* . . . also quavering with the limbs; 'a daikinging sort of a body', a paralysed person. **1877-89** N. W. Linc. *Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Dacker*, to waver, to shake fitfully. 'I could see the chimla dacker ivry gust that came'.

2. To walk totteringly as from feebleness or infirmity; to toddle; to go about slowly, idly or carelessly; to saunter, dander.

**1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, Gin ye'll . . . just daiker up the gate with this Sassenach. — *Hrt. Midl.* viii, Wha wad hae thought o' his daikinging out this length? **1825** JAMIESON, *Dacker, daiker* . . . (7) To go about in a feeble or infirm state. *Etrick Forest*. **1851** Cumbrld. *Gloss.*, *Dakerin*, walking carelessly.

3. To work in an irregular or pottering way.

**1703** THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E. D. S.), *Daker*, to work for hire after the common days work is over, at 2d. an hour. **1808** JAMIESON, *Dacker, daker, daiker* . . . 3. To toil as in job work, to labour. . . 5. To be engaged about any piece of work in which one does not make great exertion; to be slightly employed.

4. *fig.* To remain or hang on in a state of irresolution; to vacillate, equivocate, waver; be irregular in one's ways. Also, to have relapses in sickness.

**1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* vi, Sae I e'en daiker on with the family frae year's end to year's end. **1877** in N. W. Linc. *Gloss.*, 'I knew he was liein', he dacker'd . . . in his talk'.

5. To truck, to traffic (*Lothian*).

'It properly signifies to deal in a piddling and loose sort of way; as allied in sense to E. *kiggie*' (Jamieson).

6. To have dealings, engage, grapple with.

**1785** Poems *Buchan Dialect* to (Jam.), I dacker'd wi' him by myself. **1882** in Edwards *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. iv. 193 'Twere well wi' folk they oft would think afore they daiker long wi' drink.

II. 7. To search (*intr. and trans.*).

**1634** Burgh *Rec.* in Cramond *Ann. Banff.* (1893) II. 251 The bailie, haiffing causit searche, seik, and dacker the duelling housis. **1717** Kirk *Session Rec.* in Gordon *Chron. Keith* (1880) 90 Warrant for dackering for the said meal. **1768** Ross *Helenore* 91 (Jam.) To dacker for her as for robbed gear.

¶ **Dacoit** (dä'kōit), *sb.* Also *dakoit*, *dacoit*, *decoit*. [Hindī *dakait*, orig. *dākait*, *f. dākā* gang-robbery, *f. Skr. dasthaka* compressed, crowded.]

A member of a class of robbers in India and Burmah, who plunder in armed bands.

Also applied to pirates who formerly infested the Ganges between Calcutta and Burhampore; see quot. 1810.

**1810** T. WILLIAMSON *E. India Vade M.* II. 396 (Y.) Decoits, or water-robbers. **1844** H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 399 The Dakoits did not commonly proceed to murder; but they perpetrated atrocious cruelties. **1888** Pall *Mall* G. 1 Feb. 3/2 The whole of Lower Burmah was ravaged by bands of dacoits, who defied and defeated the local authorities and robbed whole villages.

Hence **Dacoit v.**, to plunder as a dacoit; **Dacoit-tage**, **Dacoiting**, the practice of a dacoit, **DACOITY**, **Dacoitee**, one robbed by a dacoit.

**1886** *Athenaeum* 1 May 578 The only choice left him is that of dacoiting or of being dacoited. **1890** Times 26 Dec. 3/1, 2000 rupees and other property belonging to them were dacoited. **1897** New York *Examiner* 12 May (*Cent. Dict.*), We may expect soon to hear that Dacoitage has begun with as much vigor as ever. **1897** *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 499 It may be a pleasanter game to play the dacoit than the dacoitee. **1885** *Manch. Courier* 16 Dec., It is stated that dacoiting . . . has taken place at Bhamo.

¶ **Dacoity** (dä'kōiti). Also *de-*, *dacoitee*, *-ie*. [*a.* Hindī *dakaitī*, abstr. *sb. f. dakait*.]

The system of robbery practised by the dacoits; gang-robbery; an act of robbery with violence committed by an armed band (now, according to the Indian penal code, of not less than five men).

**1818** JAS. MILL *Brit. India* (1840) V. 466 (Y.) The crime of dacoity (that is, robbery by gangs). **1845** STODOLLE *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 223 Not less than one hundred Dacoities . . . are annually reported. **1891** Times 12 Jan. 5/2 A dacoity did occur . . . and property was carried off.

¶ Erroneously for DACOIT.

**1849** E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 7 Once the property of a renowned Decoitee, or river-pirate.

**Dacre**, *obs.* form of DICKER (of hides).

¶ **Dacryd** (dæ'krid). *Bot.* [*f.* mod. L. *Dacrydium*, *a. Gr. δακρυδιον*, dim. of δάκρυ tear, in allusion to resinous drops exuded by these trees.] A tree or shrub of genus *Dacrydium*, allied to the Yew.

**1846** LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 228 In New Zealand the Dacryds are sometimes no bigger than Mosses.

**Dacryolin** (dæ'kriolin). *Chem.* [*mod. f. Gr. δάκρυ* tear + -OL + -IN.] The form of albumin found in the tears.

**1875** A. FLINT *Physiol. Man* v. 145 The albumen . . . is called by some authors, lachrymine, or dacryoline. **1882** Syd. Soc. Lex., *Dacryolin* . . . is converted by slow evaporation into a yellow insoluble substance.

**Dacryolith**, *-lite* (dæ'kriolīth, -līt). *Path.* [*f.* as prec. + λίθος stone.] A calculus or concretion occurring in the lacrymal passages.

**1847-9** Todd *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 82/1 Calculous formations in the lacrymal organs . . . may be known by the generic name dacryolith. **1875** H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 1009 Conjunctival dacryoliths have been described. **1882** Syd. Soc. Lex., *Dacryolith*, same as *Dacryolite*.



**Dacryoma.** *Path.* [f. as prec. after such obs. as *carcinoma*.] An impervious state of one or both of the puncta lachrymalia, preventing the tears from passing into the lachrymal sac.

1830 in S. COOPER *Dict. Surg.* 373. 1857 in DUNGLISON.

**Dacryops.** *Path.* [f. as prec. + *ψψ* eye, face.] a. An affection of the eyelid: a clear cyst due to distension of one of the lachrymal ducts. b. A watery eye.

1857 in DUNGLISON. 1859 HULKE in *Ophthalm. Hosp. Repts.* 1. 287.

**Dactalomaney**, error for **Dactyliomaney**.

† **Dactile.** *Obs.* [? f. **Dactyl** sb.] ? *v. intr.* To run quickly and nimbly. (If not a misprint for *ductile* adj., as treated by Gifford, or for *dactile*.)

a 1637 B. JONSON *Mortimer's Fall*, Thy form doth feast mine eye, thy voice mine ear. And softness of thy skin my very touch, As if I felt it dactile through my blood.

**Dactyl** (dæ'kil), sb. Also 5-ylls, 5-6-ile, 6-11, -ill, 7-9-ylls. [ad. (perh. through F. *dactyle*) L. *dactylus*, a. Gr. *δάκτυλος*, a finger, a date, a dactyl (from its 3 joints).]

† 1. The fruit of the date-palm; a date. *Obs.*

[1338 TREVISIA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxvii. (1495) 678 The fruit of the palme is callyd *Dactulus*.] 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 88 A Dactyle fruit (fruytt A.), *dactilis*. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Formularye* Xij b, Powdre of dactiles. 1644 BULWER *Chirolog.* Aijj, Thus while the grateful Age offer whole springs of Palme, my zeale an humble Dactyle brings. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

2. *Prosody*. A metrical foot consisting of a long syllable followed by two short (or, in modern verse, of an accented syllable and two unaccented).

c 1420 *Wyclif Bible*, Job Prol. (1850) II. 671 Vers of six feet, renne with dactile and sponde feet. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 The French... hath not one word, that hath his accent in... *Antepenultima*, and little more hath the Spanish; and therefore, verie gracelesly may they vse Dactiles. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xiv. (Arb.) 140 This distique... standing all vpon perfect dactils. 1670 EICHARD *Cont. Clergy* 13 If... upon the first scanning, he knows a spondee from a dactyl... A forward boy! cries the school-master. 1779 BURNEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 196 If he discovers a partiality for any particular measure, it is for dactyls of one long and two short notes. 1838-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. v. § 92 The first foot of each verse is generally a dactyle. 1848 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 30.

3. A mollusc, the piddock (*Pholas dactylus*).

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 442 The Dactyle *Pholas*.

† **Dactylar**, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. type *dactylar-is*, f. *dactyl-us*: see prec.] Pertaining to a dactyl; dactylic.

[c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 307 The .v. j. is cleped dactilare for it is schape as it were þe stoon of a date.] 1828 in WEBSTER.

† **Dactylet.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. **Dactyl** + -ET, dim. suffix.] A little dactyl.

1597 Br. HALL *Sat.* I. vi. 14 How handsomely besets Dull spondee with the English dactilets.

**Dactylic** (dækti'lik), a. and sb. [ad. L. *dactylic-us*, a. Gr. *δάκτυλικός*, f. *δάκτυλος*: see -IO.]

A. adj. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of, a dactyl; consisting of or characterized by dactyls.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. (Arb.) 130 That which Stanhiurst first tooke in hand by his exameters dactilicke and spondaicke in the translation of Virgills Eneidos. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* 94 ¶ 9 The power of the spondaic and dactylic harmony. 1853 LOWELL *Moosehead Fm.* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 11 The dactylic beat of the horses' hoofs. 1871 *Publ. Sch. Lat. Gram.* § 225 The Dactylic Hexameter occupies as large a space in Latin poetry as all other Verses together.

B. sb. A dactylic verse.

1795 SOUTHEY (*title*). The Soldier's Wife. Dactylics. 1797 CANNING & GIFFORD *Parody in Anti-jacobin* No. 6 Ne'er talk of ears again! I look at thy spelling-book; Dactylics, call'st thou 'em?—'Good help thee, silly one!' 1872 M. COLLINS *Two Plunges* I. v. 103 She got hold of a blind poet... and made him tell the story in dactylics.

**Dactylio-**, combining form of Gr. *δάκτυλος* finger-ring [f. *δάκτυλος* finger: see **Dactyl**], as in **Dactylioglyph** [Gr. *δάκτυλιος* f. *δάκτυλος*], an engraver of gems for finger-rings; also, according to Brande, 'the inscription of the name of the artist on a gem'; hence **Dactylioglyphic** a.; **Dactylioglyphist** = **Dactylioglyph**; **Dactylioglyphy** [Gr. *δάκτυλιολυφία*], the art of engraving gems (Webster 1864). **Dactyliographer**, one who describes finger-rings, engraved seals, etc.; hence **Dactyliographic** a.; **Dactyliography**, the description of finger-rings, 'the science of gem-engraving' (Brande). **Dactyliology**, the study of finger-rings.

1850 LEITCH *Müller's Anc. Art* § 131. 109 The luxury of ring-wearing... raised the art of the dactylioglyphist to the height which it was capable of attaining. 1872 C. W. KING *Antique Gems & Rings* Index, *Dactyliology*.

**Dactyliomaney** (dækti-liomæ'nsi), *erron.* **dactyl-o-**. [f. Gr. *δάκτυλος* finger-ring + -MANCY.] Divination by means of a finger-ring.

(For methods see E. B. Tylor, *Prim. Culture* I. 115.) 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. iv. v. 310 Dactyliomaney was a divination with Rings. 1652 GAULF *Magastrom*. 165 Dactyliomaney. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 115 These mystic arts... are rude forms of the classical dactyliomaney.

1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* L. 112 Another method of practising Dactyliomaney.

† **Dactylist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. **Dactyl** + -IST.] A writer of dactylic verse.

1785 WARTON *Pref. Milton's Min. Poems* (T.), May is certainly a sonorous dactylist.

|| **Dactylitis** (dækt'ilōitis). *Path.* Inflammation of a finger or toe. Hence **Dactylitic** (-i'tik) a., pertaining to dactylitis.

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1875) 671 This affection... was formerly called syphilitic panaris. We use the term dactylitis. *Ibid.* 772 Dactylitic swellings.

**Dactylo-** (dæ'ktilo, dækt'ilp), combining form of Gr. *δάκτυλος* finger, as in **Dactylodeiktous** a. (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. *δάκτυλοδευκτός*], pointed at with the finger. **Dactylography** = **Dactylo-**.

**Dactylo-** (see quot.); hence **Dactyloporic** a. **Dactylopterus** a., having the characters of the genus *Dactylopterus* of fishes, in which the pectoral fins are greatly enlarged and wing-like; so **Dactylopteroid** a. **Dactylozooid**, -zo'id, a mouthless cylindrical zooid in some Hydrozoa.

1852 *Times* 27 May 5/6 Oxford must... be represented in politics... by an universally dactyloideiktous personage. 1884 J. C. GORDON *Deaf Mutes in Amer.* *Annals* Apr. (1885) 128 note, A much simpler system of 'dactylography' based upon the Dalgarno alphabet. 1721 BAILEY, *Dactylography*, the Art of Numbering on the Fingers. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 92 Appendages which are known as the 'propodite' and 'dactylopropodite'. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* iv. 219 The dactylopropodites of the two posterior thoracic limbs. 1882 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Dactyloporic*, a name given to the pores in the corallum of Hydrocorallinae, from which the dactylozooids protrude. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 758 The hydranth is sometimes modified for special functions, and the following must be regarded as polymorphic forms of it. The *Dactylozooid*, a mouthless hydranth, modified for solely defensive and offensive purposes. Such zooids are universal among *Hydrocorallina*.

**Dactyloid** (dæ'ktiloid), a. *rare* -o. [ad. Gr. *δάκτυλοειδής* finger-like: see -OID.] Resembling a finger.

1882 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

**Dactylography** (dækt'ilp'logji). Also 7 dactylogie. [f. Gr. *δάκτυλος* finger + -λογία discourse: see -LOGY.] 'Finger-speech'; the art of 'speaking' or communicating ideas by signs made with the fingers, as in the deaf-and-dumb alphabet. (Formerly *CHIROLOGY*.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Dactylogie*... finger-talk, speech made with the fingers. 1680 DALGARNO *Deaf & Dumb Man's Tutor* Introd., Chirology, or dactylography... is interpretation by the transient motions of the fingers. 1860 *Guardian* 24 Oct. 927/1 The ceremony was performed in the finger language, or, as it is grandiloquently termed, dactylography. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana* II. xii. 303 They pressed hands at parting... not for the ordinary dactylography of lovers, but in sign of the treaty of amity.

**Dactylose** (dækt'ilō's), a. *rare* -o. [f. **Dactyl** (or its source) + -OSE.] 'Having fingers, or finger-shaped' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

**Dad** (dæd), sb.<sup>1</sup> *collog.* Also 6-7 dadd(e). [Occurs from the 16th c. (or possibly 15th c.), in representations of rustic, humble, or childish speech, in which it may of course have been in use much earlier, though it is not given in the *Promptorium* or *Catholicon*, where words of this class occur.

Of the actual origin we have no evidence; but the forms *dada*, *tata*, meaning 'father', originating in infantile or childish speech, occur independently in many languages. It has been assumed that our word is taken from Welsh *tad*, mutated *dad*, but this is very doubtful; the Welsh is itself merely a word of the same class, which has displaced the original Celtic word for 'father' = Ir. *athair*.]

A childish or familiar word for father: originally ranking with *mam* for mother, but now less typically childish. Cf. **DADDY**.

1a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) I. 43 *Cayme*. I will... Speake with my dadde and mam also... Mamme and dadd, reate you well! [Of uncertain date: the MS. is only of 1592. Harl. MS. of 1607 reads (ii. 678) 'sire and dam', (ii. 681) 'father and mother'.] 1553 WILSON *Rhet.* 31 Brynyng forthe a faire child unto you... such a one as shall call you dad with his swete lispynng wordes. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 53 The boy says, Mam, where is my Dad, when will he come home? 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 467 Since I first cal'd my brothers father Dad. 1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* 1. 95 I have not read so farre in heraldry, as to tell you who was his Dad, nor of what house his mother came. 1708 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* I. i. An Uncle who... tho' he made me his Heir, left Dad to my Guardian. 1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* I. Arg't., Leaving his dad and mam in tears. 1886 BESANT *Child. of Gibeon* II. viii, Poor old dad!

Fig. 1608 T. MORTON *Pream. Encounter* 93 It is better to be a lad then (that I may so say) a dad in falshood. 1682 N. O. BOILEAU *Lutrin* I. 222 For he was Dad of all the singing Tribe. 1828 *Croven Gloss.*, *Dad* is also used for one that excels in any thing, but chiefly in a bad sense. 'He'st dad of au for mischief'.

**Dad**, sb.<sup>2</sup> *Sc. and north. dial.* Also *daud*, *dawd*. [f. **DAD** v.]

1. A firm and shaking blow, a knock or thump (e.g. on the back of a man or beast, or on any body with dull resonance).

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk* iii. xiii, He... Play'd dad, and dang the bark Aff's shins that day. 1789 D. DAVIDSON

*Seasons* 15 (Jam.) Whoe'er did slight him gat a daud. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* (1855) I. 277 The snaw was... gein them sair flaffs and dads on their faces.

2. A large piece knocked off, a 'thumping' piece, a lump (of bread or other solid matter).

1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* xxiii, Cheese an' bread... dealt about in... dawds that day. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 89 Dauds o' counsel ye would gie. 1849 in ROBSON *Bards of Tyne* 77 Lumps o' beef, an' dads o' duff. 1879 *Cumbrld. Gloss.* Suppl., *Daud*, a flake of snow.

**Dad**, a deformation of *God*, in asseverations: now *dial.* (Cf. **ADAD**, **BEDAD**; also **DOD**.)

1678 OTWAY *Friendship* in F. III. i, But by Dad he's pure company. 1681 N. N. *Rome's Follies* 30 Say'st thou so, Neighbour? dad, you have very much reviv'd my heart. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, By dad! Andy, you've made a mistake this time that I'll forgive you. 1890 *Dialect Notes* (Boston U.S.), *Kentucky Words* II. 64 *Dad*, *dod*, for *God*, in certain curses. 'Dad drat you hide'.

**Dad**, **daud** (dæd, dad), v. *Sc. and north. dial.* [Onomatopœic; expressing orally the action in question, and its abrupt and somewhat dulled sound. The occasional *Sc.* spelling *daud* does not imply a long vowel, but merely the low back wide (a), often approaching (ə).]

1. *trans.* To strike with a blow that shakes or sends a shock through; to knock, beat; to shake with knocking or beating.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 260 One took him [the 'idole'] by the heillis, and dadding his head to the calsay, left Dagon without head or handis. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk* II. iii, Then took his banner to the bent And daddit aff the glar. 1722 — *Three Bonnets* iv, This said, he dadd to the yate. 1816 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1855 I. 128 Twa stout young fellows daudin ane another about... wi' their neives. 1833 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xvii. (1849) 113 Dadding the end of his staff on the ground. 1849 CARLYLE *Let.* in *Froude Life* II. 11 Nervous system all 'dadded about' by coach travel.

2. *intr.*

1719 RAMSAY *and Ansu.* *Hamilton* iv, Dad down a grouf, and tak a drink. 1865 Mrs. CARLYLE *Let.* III. 258 The shock it was to me to find... all those weak, wretched letters... 'dadding about' [knocking about] in the dining-room.

**Dada** (dæ'da, dādā), Also *dadda*, *da-da*. [Cf. **DAD** sb.<sup>1</sup>] A child's word for father; cf. *papa*. (In some parts pronounced *dada*, like *papa*, and used instead of that word.)

1688 3rd *Coll. Poems*, *Loyal Litaney* xvi, Or if the Smock and Dada fails, Adopt a Brat of Neddy Hayles. 1689 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* 1, Poor child! he's as like his own dada as if he were spit out of his mouth. 1775 MAD. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 117 Dear Dada, I have this moment received your letter. 1842 in ROBSON *Bards of Tyne* (1853) 227 A, U, A, my bonny bairn... A, U, A—thou suin may learn To say dada se canny. 1866 MISS YONGE *Prince & Page* iii. 52 The child still cried for her da-da.

† **Da da**, *int.* *Obs.* [app. of nursery origin; but the history is unknown.] A childish and familiar expression for 'Good-bye!'; the earlier form of **T-A-TA**.

1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Well, da, da, da... pritheer don't be troubled, da, da. 1733 *Hampton Court Misc.* 10 *Wife*. Da, Da, Monster [exit laughing]. *Husb.* Farewel, Tormentor.

† **Dadder**, v. *Obs. exc. dial.* In 5 *dadir*. [Cf. **DODDER**, **DIDDER**, **DITHER**: the form is that of a frequentative, as in *patter*, *shiver*, *totter*, etc.; but the etymology of the stem *dad*, *did*, *dod*, is obscure; cf. **DADE**.] *intr.* To quake, tremble.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 88 1/2 To Dadir, *frugicio*. 15... *Hyne Way to Spytill Hous* 118 in Hazl. E.P.P. IV. 28 Boys, gyles, and luskys strong knaues, Dydderyng and dadderyng, leaning on their stauces. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 77/47 To Dadder, *trepidare*. 1878 *Cumbrld. Gloss.*, *Dadder*, *Diader*, *Dodder*, to shiver; to tremble.

Hence **Dadder-**, **Dodder-grass**, *Briza media*.

1878 *Cumbrld. Gloss.*, *Dadder grass*, *Dotherin grass*, quaking grass.

**Daddie**, var. of **DADDY**.

**Daddle** (dæ'dl), sb. *dial.* The hand or fist. 1785 in GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 47 His daddles he us'd with such skill and dexterity. 1827 SCOTT *Two Drovers* ii, 'Adzooks I!' exclaimed the bailiff—'sure... men forget the use of their daddles'. 1881 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.* Suppl. s.v., 'Tip us yer daddle' is an invitation to shake hands.

**Daddle**, v.<sup>1</sup> *dial.* [app. f. same root as **DADDER**, with dim. ending -LE: cf. *toddle*.] *intr.* To walk totteringly or unsteadily, like a child; to be slow in motion or action; to dawdle, saunter, trifle. Cf. **DAIDLE**, **DAWDLE**.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Daddle*, to walk unsteadily like a child; to waddle. 1825 BROCKETT *North C. Wds.*, *Daddle*, to walk unsteadily, to saunter or trifle. 1878 *Cumbrld. Gloss.*, *Daddle*, to walk or work slowly; to trifle. 1881 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.* Suppl., *Daddle*, to trifle; to loiter; to dawdle.

**Daddle**, v.<sup>2</sup> *dial.* = **DIDDLE**.

1886 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* I. iii. 21 'I'll trick them again... I'll shake out another reef, matey, and daddle 'em again.'

**Daddock** (dæ'dök), *dial.* Also 7 *dadocke*. [Stem *dad-* of uncertain etymology; but cf. **DODDER**: the suffix appears to be dim. -OCK, as in *bullock*, *hillock*.] Rotten or decayed wood; also † *daddock-wood*.

a 1624 Br. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 106 How long would it be before you could... make mortar of sand, or make a piece



of dadocke-wood to flame? 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Daddock*, when the heart or body of a Tree is thoroughly rotten, it is called *Daddock*, quasi, *dead Oak*. 1787 GROSSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Daddock*, rotten wood, touch-wood. *Glouc.* 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* ii. 1, The great red daddocks lay in the green pastures where they had lain year after year, crumbling away. 1884 *Upton-on-Severn Gloss.*, *Daddock*, decayed wood, touchwood.

Hence **Daddocky** *a.*, decayed, rotten.

1825 BRITTON *Beaut. Wiltshire*, *Daddicky*, dry, decayed. 1884 *Upton-on-Severn Gloss.*, *Daddocky*, flimsy, unsubstantial, soft with decay.

**Daddy** (dæ'di). *collog.* Also 6 *daddy*, 6-8 *dady*, 8-9 *daddie*. [dim. of DAD *sb.*: see -Y.] A diminutive and endearing form of DAD, father.

1710 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) I. 38 As my daddy hath taughte yt me, I will fulfill his lore. [MS. of 1592: Harl. MS. reads 'father'.] 1529 SKELTON *Image* 140c. 158 Now God save these daddies And all their yong babies. 1552 HULOET, *Dadde* or *daddy*, as *infantes* call their fathers. 1673 R. LEIGH *Transproser* Reh. 8 Every Nurse can readily point to Daddy's Eyes. 1794 J. WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Rowl. for Oliver* Wks. II. 413 So [I] ask'd my daddy's leave to study Painting. 1880 MISS BRADTON *Just as I am* xi, She could not believe that there was a fault in daddy.

*b. irreverently.*

1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* II. xciii. 220 All day long afraid of old Daddy in England. 1892 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 927/2 In other respects, he is an Old Daddy!

Hence **Daddyism** *nonce-wd.*, the characteristics of an 'old daddy' (cf. prec. *b.*); in U.S. boast of or respect for ancestry.

1871 KATE FIELD in *Harper's Bazaar* Aug. (Farmer), 'His grandfather was a distinguished man.' 'Was he?' replied the man of Chicago. 'That's of no account with us. There's less daddysm here than any part of the United States. What's he himself?' 1892 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 927/2 If this great truth had broken upon Carlyle's biographer, how much daddysm had we been spared!

**Daddy-long-legs.** [From its very long slender legs.] *a.* A popular name for the CRANEFLY. (Called also *father-* and *Harry-long-legs*.) *b.* A name for Arachnids or spiders of similar appearance, such as those of the genus *Phalangium*. 1814 DISBEN *Quanki Fongo* in *Univ. Songster* II. 58/1 Old daddy longlegs, when he drank his congo. 1840 WESTWOOD tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 619 These insects are well known under the names of *Daddy-long-legs*, *Tailors*, &c. 1884 F. J. LLOYD *Science Agric.* 279 Next to the wireworm the crane fly or daddy-longlegs... is probably most hurtful.

**Dade** (dæd), *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Also *dial. dad*, *dawd*. [perh. the same as the root of DADDER.]

1. *intr.* To move slowly or with uncertain steps, to toddle, like a child just learning to walk.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-ob.* i. 8 Which nourisht and bred up... No sooner taught to dade, but from their mother trip. *Ibid.* xiv. But easly from her source as Isis gently dades.

2. *trans.* To lead and support (one who totters, esp. a child learning to walk). Also *fig.*

1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xli. 108 The little children when they learne to goe, By painefull Mothers daded to and fro. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 18 A guide... to stay and dade them when they learne to go. *Ibid.* 399 Such he ought to enforme, to direct, to dade and leade by the hand. 1859 E. WAUGH *Lanc. Songs* 72 (*Lanc. Gloss.*), Dost think thee could dode me an' dade me to bed? 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.*, *Dade*, to lead children when learning to walk. 1881 *Leicestershire Gloss.*, *Dade*, to help to walk... 'I shouldn't ha' got home, if they hadn't daded me along'. Hence *Dading vbl. sb.*, as in *† dading-sleeves*, -strings (*dial.*), leading-strings.

1675 TROUGE *Diary* (1825) 13 His sonn... with his mayd to leade him by his dading sleeves. 1865 BEN BRIERLEY *Irkdale* I. 259 He's nobbut like a chilt in his dading. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.*, *Dading-strings*, by which a child is held up when learning to walk.

† **Dade**, *sb.* *Obs.* Name of some wading bird. 1686 *Loyal Garland* xx. ii, There's neither swallow, dove, nor dade, Can soar more high, or deeper wade.

**Dade**, early form of DEED.

**Dadless**, *a.* *rare* -1. [f. DAD *sb.* + -LESS.] Fatherless.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiv. xci. 369 So many dadlesse Babes.

**Dado** (dæ'do). *Arch.* [a. It. *dado* die, cube (= Pr. *dat.*, OF. *det.*, *dé*):—L. *datum*: see DIE.]

1. The block or cube, with plane faces, forming the body of a pedestal, between the base mouldings and the cornice; i.e. the die.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 124 [The Pedestal] is likewise called Truncus the Trunk... also Abacus, Dado, Zocco, &c. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* iii. 102/1 Dado or Dye is a flat in a Cornice or Pedestal. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 171 Each central portion, as Dado of pedestal, shaft of column. 1820 T. CROMWELL *Excurs. Ireland* ii. 81 The dado of the pedestal, above the entablature.

2. The finishing of wood running along the lower part of the walls of a room, made to represent a continuous pedestal; strictly applied only to the flat surface between the plinth and the capping. Hence, *b.* Any lining, painting, or papering of the lower part of an interior wall, of a different material or colour from that of the upper part.

1787 *Builder's Price-Bk.* 39 Dado. 3 inch dado, level, skirled, and capped. 1794 *Ibid.* 41 Whole deal dove-tailed dado and keyed. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 284/2 The dado employed in the interiors of buildings is a continuous pedestal... constructed of wood, and is usually about the height of a chair-back. Its present use is to protect the

stucco-work or paper of the walls. 1854 *Ecclesiologist* XV. 357 A dado of oak-panelling. 1858 *Household Words* No. 456. 66 (The Alhambra) The dados, or low wainscotings, are of square glazed tiles, which form a glittering breast-high coat of mail.

*b.* 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xl. (1878) 323 Oh, by the way, Lady Sylvia, how did your dado of Indian matting look? 1879 MISS BRADTON *Vixen* III. 249 Mabel insisted upon having... a sage-green wall with a chocolate dado—did you ever hear of a dado?—in the new morning-room.

3. *attrib.*, *as dado-moulding*.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 284 A cornice or dado moulding surmounting the die. 1852-61 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.* s. v. The capping or surbase, sometimes called the dado moulding.

**Dadoed** (dæ'dod), *ppl. a.* [f. DADO *sb.* + -ED.] Furnished with a dado.

1881 MISS BRADTON *Asph.* xiv. 159 The old oak-dadoed drawing-room. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Aug. 2/3 A pretty morning-room... with dadoed walls.

**Dae**, *Sc. form* of DOE.

† **Dædal**, *sb.* *Obs.* In 7 *Dædale*, *Dedal* (I. [ad. L. DÆDAL-US: see below. Cf. F. *Dédale* maze.]

1. An anglicized form of the proper name Dædalus; a skilful artificer or fabricator like Dædalus.

1619 H. HUTTON *Foll. Anat.* A v a (Stanford), My lame-legged Muse... Yet doth aspire with Dædal's wings. c 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 18 The Silk-worm of Love. A Dædale of my death.

2. A maze or labyrinth.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 119 Groves, Labyrinths, Dædals. Close-Walks... and other Relievo's of Topiary and Hortulan architecture.

**Dædal** (dæ'dæl), *a.* Chiefly *poetical*. Also 6-7 (9) *dædale*, 7 *dædall*, 7-9 *dædal*. [ad. L. dædal-us, a. Gr. δαίδαλος skilful, cunningly wrought, variegated, etc.: see prec.]

1. Skilful, cunning to invent or fashion.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. Prol. ii. All were it Zeuxis or Praxiteles, His dædale hand would faile and greatly faynt. c 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 95 Out-run the wind-out-running dædale hare. 1828 BLACKW. *Mag.* XXIV. 246 Here the dashing Blind Harry the Harper had hung up his dædal harp. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 33 By the dædal hand of Titan Nature piled.

2. Displaying artistic cunning or fertility of invention; maze-like; = DÆDALIAN I.

c 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 42 Ye, who with curious numbers, sweetest art, Frame dædal nets our beauty to surprize. 1746 J. WARTON *Ode* iii. (R.), Here ancient art her dædal fancies play'd In the quaint mazes of the crisped roof. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & A.* Wks. 1846 II. 372 The dædal dance is spun and woven.

3. Of the earth, etc.; 'Manifold in works'; hence, varied, variously adorned.

A vague poetic use after Lucretius (l. 7 'dædala tellus'; v. 234 'natura dædala rerum').

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 45 Then doth the dædale earth throw forth to thee Out of her fruitful lap abundant flowres. 1745 T. WARTON *Pleas. Melanch.* 248 What dædal landscapes smile! 1817 WORDSW. *Sequel to 'Beggars'*, For whose free range the dædal earth was filled with animated toys. 1834 D'ISRAËLI *Rev. Epick* i. xv, The dædal faith of the old world had died. 1864 SKEAT *Unkand's Poems* 28 With what dædal fulness Thy beds their blossoms shew!

† 4. ? Mazy, labyrinthine; ? changeful. *Obs.*

1818 KEATS *Endym.* iv. 459 Search my most hidden breast! By truth's own tongue, I have no dædale heart!

† 5. *Bot.* = DÆDALEOUS, DÆDALOUS. *Obs.*

1793 T. MARTYN *Lang. of Bot.*, *Dædaleum folium*, a Dædal leaf.

**Dædaleous**, *a.* *Bot.* [f. *as* next + -OUS.]

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) II. 357 *Dædaleous*; when the point has a large circuit, but is truncated and rugged.

**Dædalian**, -ean (dæ'dæ-li-ān), *a.* Also *De-*. [f. L. *Dædalē-us* relating to Dædalus, Gr. δαίδαλος cunningly wrought + -AN; or f. *Dædal-us* + -IAN.]

1. Of or after the style of Dædalus; skilful, ingenious, formed with art; resembling the labyrinth of Dædalus, intricate, maze-like.

1607 WASHINGTON *Opt. Glass* III The Dædalian... Labyrinths wherein hee takes his turns. 1634 CHAPMAN (W.), Our bodies decked in our dædalian arms. 1757 J. BROWN in *Pope's Wks.* 1757 III. p. xv. (Stanford), Dædalian arguments but few can trace. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. ii. (1869) I. 322 Suspended upon the Dædalian fancies of paper money. 1880 *Contemp. Rev.* XXXVII. 475 note, Beauty of contrivance, adaptation, or mechanism... we have called Dædalian beauty.

1636 RALEIGH's *Tubus Hist.* Pref. B, Contrived by a Dædalean Hand. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 41 To please the Dædalean Fancies of the ingenious Contrivers. 1850 CARLYLE *Latitud. Pamph.* iii. 14 Such creatures, like moles, are safe only underground, and their engineerings there become very dædalean. 1854 BADHAM *Hædret.* 512 Unable to wind his way through the Dædalean mazes of a modern bill of fare.

† 2. = DÆDAL *a.* 3. *Obs.*

1898 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Arke* 425 In various sort Dædalian Nature seems her to disport.

3. (See quot.)

1848 WORNUM *Lect. Painting* 371 note, The black vases, or those with the black figures (skiagrams) or the stained reddish-yellow terra cotta, are the most ancient... The style of design of these black figures has been termed the Egyptian or Dædalian style.

**Dædalist** (dæ'dæ-list), *nonce-wd.* [See -IST.] An imitator of Dædalus.

1871 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 112 ¶ 3, I have fully considered the project of these our modern Dædalists, and am resolved so far to discourage it, as to prevent any person from flying in my time.

† **Dædalize**, *v.* *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. DÆDAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make intricate or maze-like.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas, Lucymæ* 89 Wee Lawyers then, who dedalizing Law, And deadening Conscience, like the Horse-leach drawe.

**Dædalous** (dæ'dæl-ūs), *a.* *Bot.* Also *dedalous*. [f. L. *dædal-us* cunningly-wrought + -OUS.]

Of leaves: 'Having a margin with various windings and turnings; of a beautiful and delicate texture' (Webster 1828, citing Martyn, and Lee).

|| **Dædalus** (dæ'dæl-ūs). See also DÆDAL *sb.* [L., a. Gr. δαίδαλος 'the cunning one', name of the workman who constructed the Cretan labyrinth, and made wings for himself and his son Icarus.] A skilful or cunning artificer (like Dædalus).

c 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 50 Gone is my sparrow... A Dædalus he was to catch a fly. 1631 HEYWOOD *Eng. Elis.* (1641) 123 Gardiner was the only Dædalus and inventor of the engine.

**Dæl**, early form of DEAL.

**Dæmon**, **Dæmonic**, etc.: see DEMON, etc.

**Dæer-stock** (dæ'er-støk), *Irish Antiq.* [f. Mr. dæer, OIr. *dóir*, deer base, ignoble, unfree, servile, mod. Ir. *daor* captive, condemned, guilty + STOCK.] Stock or cattle belonging to the landlord of which the tenant or vassal has the use; used *attrib.* in *dæer-stock tenant*, *tenancy*.

1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* vi. 159 The Dæer-stock tenant had unquestionably parted with some portion of his freedom. *Ibid.*, The relation between vassal and chief called Dæer-stock tenancy.

**Dæsmán**, var. of DESMAN.

**Daff** (daf), *sb.* *Obs. exc. north. dial.* Also 4-5 *daf*, 4-6 *daffe*. [Etymology uncertain: cf. DAFI.] It has been conjecturally referred to ON. *dauif* deaf, dull, savourless, which survives in Sc. *douff*, *douf* dull, spiritless, but this is phonetically inadmissible.]

One deficient in sense or in proper spirit; a simpleton, a fool; a coward.

c 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II.* 99 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 328 If the parson have a prest of a clene lyf... Shal comen a daffe and putte him out. 'That can noht a ferthing worth of god. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. i. 129 'Pou dotest daffe' quoth heo 'Dulle are þi wittes'. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 288 And when this lape is tald another day I sal been halde a daf, a cokney. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 111/2 Daffe, or dastard, or he bat spekythe not yn tyme, *oridurus*. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. ii. (1877) i. 58 Certes [Landaffe] is a poore bishopricke... the late incumbent thereof being called for... in open court made answer: The daffe is here, but the land is gone'. 1616 BULLOCK, *Daffe*, a dastard. 1876 *Whitty Gloss.*, *Daff*, a half-wit; a coward.

**Daff** (daf), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* [f. DAFF *sb.*]

Cf. the *dial. daffe* to become stupid, grow imbecile; also to dumbfounder, confuse the faculties; *daffily* imbecile, stupid from failure of the faculties. *Whitty Gloss.*

1. *intr.* To play the fool; to make sport, toy, dally, talk or behave sportively.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 342 Quhat do 3e now? I se 3e do bot daf. a 1605 POLWART *Flying w. Montg.* 662 Dastard, thou daffes, that with such divilrie mels. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 175 (Jam.) Come yont the green an' daff wi' me, My charming dainty Davy. 1876 *Whitty Gloss.*, *Daff*, to chat in a daffling way; to loiter. Also to falter in memory; 'beginning to daff'. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iv. 30 Gentlemen daffing at their wine.

† 2. *trans.* To daunt. *north. dial. Obs.*

1674 RAY N. C. Words 13 *Daffe*, to Daunt.

**Daff** (daf), *v.* 2 [A variant of DOFF to do off, put off.]

(Johnson, misunderstanding the pa. t., as in quot. 1596, made the present stem *daff*.)

† 1. *trans.* To put off (as clothes); to throw off, divest oneself of. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. *Love's Compl.* 297 There my white stole of chastity I daff'd. 1606 *Ant. & Cl.* iv. iv. 13 He that vnuckles this, till we do please To daff [=daff'] for our Repose, shall heare a storme.

2. To put or turn aside, to thrust aside; *esp.* in the Shaksperian phrase *to daff the world aside* (= to bid or make it get out of one's way), and imitations of this (sometimes vaguely or erroneously applied).

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* iv. i. 96 The... Mad-Cap, Prince of Wales, And his Cumrades, that daff the World aside, And bid it passe. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. i. 78 *Claud.* Away, I will not haue to do with you. *Leo.* Canst thou so daffe me? 1599 — *Pass. Pilgr.* 183 She bade good night, that kept my res away; And daff'd me to a cabin hang'd with care. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* A vii, We daff the world with time ourselves beguiled. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* ii. 160 Some knotty problem, that had daff'd His patient thought. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH in *Atl. Monthly* No. 268. 202 We have no right to daff a pessimist's argument aside merely because [etc.]. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 787/1 Its pleasant fashion of daffing the world aside.

† *b.* To put off (with an excuse, etc.). *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. ii. 176 Every day thou daffs [v. r. doffest] me with some deuisse laigo.

**Daffadowndilly**, **daffydowndilly**. Also *daffe*. [A playful expansion of DAFFO-DILLY.] A daffodil; used at first in the generic sense.

Still a widespread popular name of the Yellow Daffodil, under the dialect forms *daffadown-*, *doon-*, *daffidown-*, *daffydowndilly*.

1573 TUSSEY *Hush.* xliii. (1878) 95 Herbes, branches, and flowers, for windowes and pots... 7 Daffadowndillies. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 140 Strowe mee the gronde with daffadowndillies. 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* iv. li, Their



Hair . stuck with Roses, Gilly-flowers . . Daffidown-dillies.  
1840 BARRHAM *Inglol. Leg.*, Barney Maguire ii, With roses  
and lillies, and daffi-down-dillies.

2. A shrub: prob. the Mezeoron, which is still  
so called in Yorkshire 'from the slight similarity  
of the Greek name *Daphne* with *Daffodil*' (Britten  
and Holland).

1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Adelfa*, a daffadoundilly, or  
rather rose bay tree, *Rhododaphne*. 1611 Florio, *Oleandro*,  
the weede Oleander. Also a Daffadoundillie.

**Daffing** (da'fin), *vbl. sb.* [f. DAFF *v.* 1 + -ING 1.]  
1. Fooling, folly; sportive behaviour or talk;  
frolicking, toying, merriment.

1535 STEWART *Crom. Scot.* I. 449 Into sic daffing putting  
your delyte, As brutell beist that followis appetyte. 1686  
G. STUART *Yeasser. Disc.* 39 You would have burst your  
heart with laughing To've seen the gang so full of daffing.  
1787 BURNS *Two Dags* 43 Until wi' daffin weary grown,  
Upon a knowe they sat them down. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg.*  
*Dalton* vii. v. (1842) 416 They're young folk; daffin's natural  
to them. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiii. 232 It was all  
daffing; it's all nonsense.

2. Mental derangement, insanity.

1614 J. MELVILL *MS.* 53 (Jann.) There he falls into  
a phrenzie and daffine which kept him to his death. 1857  
DUNGLISON *Dict. Med.* 274 *Daffing*, insanity.

**Daffish**, *a. Obs. exc. north. dial.* [f. DAFF *sb.*  
+ -ISH.] Spiritless; stupid.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* ix. xlii, This is but a daffysh  
knyght. [1859 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Daffish*, shy, modest.]

**Daffodil** (dæ'fɒdɪl). Also 6 daffodyll, 6-7  
daffo-, daffadill, 7-8 daffadil, (9 daffodel): see  
also DAFFODILLY, and DAFFADOWNDILLY. [A  
variant of AFFODILL, q. v. The initial *d* has not  
been satisfactorily accounted for.

It has been variously suggested as due to childish or playful  
distortion, as in *Ted for Edward, tante for aunt*; to union  
of the article *th* (cf. *Cotgr.*, *Affrodille*, *Th' Affodill*, and  
north. Eng. *t' affadil*); to final *d* of and, (in e.g.) 'fennell  
an-d affodil'; to union of the Dutch or Flemish article, as *de*  
*affodil*=the affodil; and to Fr. prep. *d'* as in *fleur d'aphro-*  
*dille*. It is noteworthy that as in Eng. the word has gained  
a letter, in 16th c. Fr. it sometimes lost one: Littré (s. v.  
*asphodelle*) quotes from De Serres (16th c.), 'Des racines  
*d'afrodille*', and also 'Decoction de lapace, *de frodilles*'.  
A third form *dafrodille* is quite conceivable.

*Affodil* and its popular variants *daffodil*, *daffodilly*, were  
originally and properly the *Asphodel*; then by popular  
misconception, due apparently to the application to both  
plants, at their first introduction to England, of the fanciful  
name *Laus tibi* see Turner *Libellus* B 3 b, it was applied,  
especially in the popular variations, to species of *Narcissus*,  
etc. Botanists, after resisting this misapplication, com-  
promised the matter by retaining *affodil* for the *Asphodel*,  
and accepting the more popular *daffodil* for *Narcissus*.  
Finally *affodil* was 'rectified' to *asphodel* and *asphodel*,  
and *daffodil* restricted in popular use to the Yellow *Narcis-*  
*sus* or Yellow *Daffodil* of Eng. fields and gardens.]

†1. The same as AFFODILL; the genus *Aspho-*  
*delus* (formerly including some allied plants). *Obs.*

[1538 see AFFODILL.] 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* s. v.  
*Albicus*, *Asphodillus* growth . . in gardines in Anwerp, it  
may be named in englishe whyte affodil or duche daffodil.  
1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 40 Daffadill, some call Antherin-  
the, the Romanes Kings spare. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxix.  
649 This herbe [*Asphodelus* in 3 species] is called . . in  
English also Affodil, and Daffodyll. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f.*  
*Beasts* (1673) 304 *Asphodelus* (englisshed by some *daffodil*).

†2. The genus *Narcissus*, of which it is the  
common Eng. name in the Catalogue of Gerard's  
Garden 1599, where twelve *Daffodils* or *Nar-*  
*cissuses* are distinguished, the *White Daffodil* being  
the common *White Narcissus* or *Poet's Lily* (*N.*  
*poeticus*) of Eng. gardens, the 'White Lily' of  
Scotland; the *Yellow Daffodil* (*N. pseudo-Nar-*  
*cissus*) the plant to which the name is now restricted.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 10 This that we  
take for daffodil is a kinde of *Narcissus*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens*  
ii. 1. 211 These pleasant flowers are called . . in Englishe  
*Narcissus*, white *Daffodil*, and *Primerose* pierlesse [In  
Lyte's own annotated copy in the Brit. Mus. Lib. he has  
written over the figure of *N. poeticus* on p. 210 'White  
primerose pyerles, *Laus tibi*, and of some *Daffodille*']. 1597  
GERARDE *Herbal* i. lxxxiv. 111 The double white *Daffodill*  
of Constantinople [*N. orientalis*] was sent into England  
vnto the right Honorable the Lord Treasurer, among other  
bulbed flowers. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus in Sole* iv. (1656)  
8 Many idle and ignorant Gardiners . . do call some of these  
*Daffodils* *Narcissus*, when as all know that know any Latine,  
that *Narcissus* is the Latine name, and *Daffodil* the  
English of one and the same thing.

3. Now restricted to *Narcissus pseudo-Narcissus*  
(also called *Lent Lily*), found wild in various parts  
of England and cultivated as an early spring flower.

[1556 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 62 a, Our comen daffadil is one  
kynde of *Narcissus*.] 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 2  
The yellow daffodil, a flower fit for jealous dotterels. 1611  
SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 1 When Daffadils begin to peere,  
With heigh the Doxy over the dale. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*,  
*To Daffodils*, Faire Daffadills, we weep to see You haste  
away so soone. 1746-7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 129 Who  
emboldens the daffodil, to trust her flowering gold with  
inclement and treacherous skies? 1855 TENNYSON *Maud*  
iii. 6 When the face of night is fair on the dewy downs, And  
the shining daffodil dies.

4. *Chequered Daffodil*: the *Fritillaria* or *Snake's*  
*head*, *Fritillaria meleagris*. Still known as the  
*Daffodil* in Hants. (Britten and Holland).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* i. lxxxix, The chequered *Daffodil*  
or *Jinny hen floure* . . chequered most strangely. 1599 —  
*Catal.*, *Fritillaria*, *Chequered Daffodil*.

5. The colour of the daffodil; a pale yellow.  
Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1855 TENNYSON *Maud* i. xxii. ii, On a bed of daffodil sky.  
1884 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 1/2 A belt of daffodil in the east  
announced the approach of dawn. 1886 *St. Stephen's Rev.*  
13 Mar. 14/1 A primrose, a daffodil, or an orange-coloured  
gown.

**Daffodilly, daffadilly** (dæ'fɒdɪli), *sb.* [f.  
prec.: perh. influenced by *lily*.] The same as  
DAFFODIL: a poetic (and dialect) form.

1538 [see AFFODILL.] 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 22 Thy  
sommer prowde, with Daffadillies dight. 1593 DRAYTON  
*Ecloques* iii. 81 See that there be store of Lillies, (Call'd of  
Shepheards Daffadillies). 1637 MILTON *Lucidas* 150 Bid  
amaranthus all his beauty shed, And daffadillies fill their  
cups with tears. 1847 MARY HOWITT *Ballads* 7 He cut the  
leaves of the snow-drop down, And tied up the daffodilly.

**Daffodilly, a. rare.** [f. DAFFODIL + -Y.] Full  
of or furnished with daffodils.

1892 *Temple Bar Mag.* Sept. 125 An exceedingly unpre-  
tentious, yet palm-y and daffodilly-y drawing-room.

**Daft** (daft), *a.* Now chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*  
[In early ME. *dafte*, corresp. to OE. *gedafste* mild,  
gentle, meek;—O'Leut. \**gadafijo-z*, f. *gadafi* vbl.  
sb. from stem *daft-*, in Gothic *gadaban* to become,  
be fit, OE. pa. pple. *gedafen* becoming, fit, suitable.  
The *æ* here is app. for umlaut *ɛ* before *ft*, *st*, which  
explains the two-fold ME. development *daft* and  
*deft*.] The primary meaning of the adj. must have  
been 'becoming, fit'; cf. the adv. *gedæflice* fitly,  
suitably, seasonably, and the vb. *gedæfian* to make  
fit or ready, to prepare; from 'fit, ready, apt',  
came the general later sense of *deft*; from 'be-

coming, *decens*' as said of persons, came that of  
'meek, mild, innocent', and from 'innocent, in-  
offensive' app. that of 'irrational' said of beasts,  
and of 'silly, foolish, deficient in sense' as said of  
persons: cf. a common sense of 'innocent', and  
the sense-history of *SILLY*. See also *DEFT*.  
DAFFE, 'a fool', is found c 1325; its relationship to *daft* is  
uncertain; if originally distinct, it may have contributed to  
the development of the sense 'foolish' here.]

†1. Mild, gentle, meek, humble. *Obs.*  
c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 5 Nu þin cýning þe cymð to  
þe ðeðelste. c 1200 ORMIN 2175 Shammfast, and dafte, and  
sedefull. *Ibid.* 4610 And meoc, and dafte, and sedefull.

2. Silly, foolish, stupid. Cf. *INNOCENT*, *SILLY*.

*a.* Said of beasts.  
c 1325 *Body & Soul* 302 in *Map's Poems* 343 Ne wuste  
what was good or il, But as a beest, doumbe and daft.

c 1450 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 81 Who sayes ane sheepe is  
daft, they lie of it.

*b.* Of persons: Wanting in intelligence, stupid,  
foolish.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 443 Bot to make it I am daft,  
For I can not of potter craft. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2008  
Thou art the dafteft full that ever I saw. 1570 LEVINS  
*Manip.* 9/33 Dafte, doltishe, stupidus. 1637-50 Row *Hist.*  
*Kirk* (1824) 462 Cast away these daft conceits, and . . take  
you seriously to your booke and studies. 1674 RAY *N. C.*  
*Words* 13 *Daft*, stupid, blockish, daunted, a verbo Daffe.

1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Daft*, dull of apprehension.

3. Of unsound mind, crazy, insane, mad.  
1536 BELLENDEN *Crom. Scot.* (1821) I. viii. He that was  
trublit with the falling evil, or fallin daft or wod. 1540  
*Ld. Treas. Accts. Scot.*, Makand him Curatour to P. N.  
quihik is daft, and hes na wit to gyde him self. 1816  
SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, 'The woman would drive any reason-  
able being daft.' 1829 ARNOLD *Let.* in *Stanley Life & Corr.*  
(1844) I. v. 254, I hope you will not think I ought to . . adjourn  
to the next asylum for daft people. 1880 R. G. WHITE *Every-*  
*Day Eng.* 122 We have preserved our common sense, and  
have not gone clean daft.

4. Thoughtless or giddy in one's mirth; madly  
gay or frolicsome. *Daft days*: the days of merriment  
at Christmas.

c 1575 *Dial. betw. Clerk & Courtier* (Jam.), Quhen ye  
your selfis ar daft and young. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 117  
(Jam.) Awa, she says, Whae'er's daft to day, it setna you.  
1787 BURNS *Two Dags* 155 In a frolic daft. a 1774 FERGUSON  
*Poems* (1789) II. 10 (title) *The Daft Days*. 1816 SCOTT  
*Antig.* xxi, 'Ay, ay—they were daft days thae—but they  
were a vanity and waur.' 1832-53 *Whistle-binkie* (Sc. Songs)  
Ser. iii. 81 At Yule, when the daft-days are fairly set in,  
A play without him wadna be worth a pin.

†5. = *DEFT*, skilful. *Obs.*  
†a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 134 (MS. 1592) For  
semlye he was and wounder dafte [MS. Harl. (1607) 2124  
wondrous defte].

Hence † *Dafte*lik, *dafte*like; [ON. -leikr suffix  
of action or condition], gentleness, meekness.

**Dafte** (*collog.*), a daft person. **Dafte**ish *a.*, some-  
what daft. **Dafte**like *a.*, having an appearance of  
folly or craziness. **Dafte**ly *adv.*, †a. mildly,  
meekly (*obs.*); †b. foolishly. **Dafte**ness, foolish-  
ness, madness.

c 1200 ORMIN 2188 Forr kaggerle33c shall don patt 3ho  
Shall daftele33c forrweppenn. 1872 C. GIBSON *For the*  
*King* i, The dafte still maintained his position. 1825  
JAMIESON, *Dafte*ish, in some degree deranged. 1855 ROBIN-  
SON *Whitby Gloss.*, A dafteish dizey sort of a body. 1725  
RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* iv. i, 'Tis sae dafteish. 1816 SCOTT  
*Antig.* iv, Never think you . . that his honour . . would hae  
done sic a daft-like thing. c 1200 ORMIN 1215 And hazbert-  
like leddest te And I. 34 We dafte thought to row in  
rowth. 1552 ARN. HAMILTON *Catech.* 151 The word of the  
crosse semis to be dafte and folie to thame that perischis.

**Daft**, pa. t. of DAFF *v.* 2

**Dag** (dæg), *sb.* 1 In 4-5 dagge. [Of uncertain  
origin: the same senses are partly expressed by  
TAG.]

†1. A pendant pointed portion of anything; one  
of the pointed or laciniated divisions made by  
deeply slashing or cutting the lower margin of a  
cloak, gown, or other garment, as was done for  
ornament in the 15th c. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* 193 Dryue out þe dagges and  
all þe duche cotis. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 111 Dagge of  
clothe, *fractillus*. 1617 MINSHU *Ductor*, Dagge or ragge  
of cloth.

†2. A tag or aglet of a lace, shoe-latchet, or the  
like; = *AGLET* 1, 2. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 726 Grey clothis . . frettyd fulle of tatar-  
wagges (=dagges, *sense* 1) And high shoos knopped with  
dagges. 1616 BULLOCK *Dagges*, latches cut out of leather.

3. One of the locks of wool clotted with dirt  
about the hinder parts of a sheep; a 'clag'; =  
DAGGING, DAG-LOCK.

[The relationship of this to the prec. senses, and to *DAG*  
*v.* 1, is not clear.]

1731 BAILEY, *Dagges*, . . the Skirts of a Fleece cut off. 1887  
*Kentish Gloss.*, *Dag*, a lock of wool that hangs at the tail  
of a sheep and draggles in the dirt. *Dag-wool*, refuse wool;  
cut off in trimming the sheep.

† **Dag**, *sb.* 2 *Obs.* [Derivation unknown.]

Referred by some to *F. dague* a dagger; but no trace has  
been found of any connexion between the two words.]

1. A kind of heavy pistol or hand-gun formerly  
in use.

1561 *Diurn. Occurrents* (Bannatyne Club) 66 Thay . . schot  
furth at the said servandis ane dag. 1587 HARRISON *Eng-*  
*land* ii. xvi. (1877) i. 283 To ride with a case of dags at his  
saddle bow. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 252 Because  
the dagge being overcharged brake . . he draweth his dagger  
to stabbe him. 1602 WARNER *Albion's Eng.* ix. xlv. (1612)  
211 By wars, wiles, witchcrafts, daggers, dags. 1642 LAUD  
*Wks.* (1853) III. 461, I heard a great crack, as loud as the  
report of a small dag. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Dag*, a Gun.

1849 GRANT *Kirkaldy of G.* xxiv. 283 The captain rushed  
upon Lennox and shot him through the back with a dag.  
1881 GREENER *Gun* 61 A chiselled Italian dag manu-  
factured by one of the Commazinzo family about 1650.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a 1568 *Def. Crissell Sandelandis* 53 in *Sempill Ballades*  
(1872) 234 Snapwark, adew, fra dagnen dom noch stand.  
1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1409/2 The dag was  
bought . . of one Adrian Mulan a dag-maker dwelling in east  
Smithfield. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 33 A Dag  
case may be as good now and then as a case of Dags. 1721  
WODROW *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1829) II. ii. ix. 250 Alexander  
Logan, Dagmaker in Leith Wynd.

[The sense 'dagger' given by Johnson (without quotation),  
and repeated in later dictionaries (in *Century Dict.* with  
erroneous quotation), appears to be a mere mistake, due to  
misapprehension of the frequent 16-17th c. collocation 'dag  
and dagger' in descriptions of personal accoutrement. Sense  
3 in *Century Dict.* 'a stab or thrust with a dagger', is a  
blunder due to misreading of Minshu.]

**Dag** (dæg), *sb.* 3 [a. *F. dague* dagger, also the  
first horn of a young stag, and in some technical  
senses. Sense 2 is not found in French.]

1. The simple straight pointed horn of a young  
stag.

1859 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* V. 517/2 These processes acquire  
in the second year the form of . . dags. 1861 HULME *tn.*  
*Moquin-Tandon* ii. iii. 181 At first the new horns [of the  
stag] are simple protuberances, and are known by the  
name of 'dags'.

2. A pointed piece of metal, etc.; a pin or bolt.

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Bridge*, You must so joint  
the Timber, as . . to resemble an Arch of Stone . . the Joints  
ought to be . . strongly shut together with Cramps and Dags  
of Iron. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* (1807) II. 598  
The upper pair [of rollers] being stuck with cogs and dags.

3. *dial.* (See *quots.*)

*a.* 1863 BARNES *Dorset Dialect*, *Dag*, a small projecting  
stump of a branch.

*b.* 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.*, *Dag*, a mining tool; an axe.

**Dag** (dæg), *sb.* 4 *dial.* [app. of Norse origin:  
cf. ON. *dagg*, gen. *daggar*, pl. *daggir*, dew, Swed.  
*dagg* (Norw. *dogg*, *Da. dagu*) = Goth. \**dagwa-*,  
O'Leut. \**dauwo*, OLG. *dauw*, OE. *deaw*, dew.]

1. Dew.

1674-91 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 95 *Dag*, Dew upon the  
Grass. 1876 *S. Warwicksh. Gloss.*, *Dag*, dew. 'There's  
been a nice flog of dag.'

2. *a.* A thin or gentle rain. *b.* A wet fog, a  
mist. *c.* A heavy shower (Ayrshire).

1808 in JAMIESON. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, *Dag*,  
a drizzling rain.

**Dag**, *v.* 1 [Connected with *DAG sb.* 1 The senses  
have no connexion with each other.]

†1. *trans.* To cut the edge of (a garment) into  
long pointed jags; to slash, vandycke. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Parv. T.* 344 Costlewe furring in here  
gownes . . so moche daggyng of scheris. *Ibid.* 347 Sucha  
pounsed and daggid clothynge. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* xxiii.  
143 Let dagge hus clothes. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 112 Dag-  
gyn, *fractillo*. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxvi. 233 Short  
clothes and streyte wastyd dagged and kyt. 1523 SKELTON  
*Garl. Laurel* 630 Raggid and daggid & cunnyngly cut.

2. To clog with dirt, bemire, daggie, bedraggle.

*Obs. exc. dial.* (Cf. *DAG sb.* 1 3.)

1484 CAXTON *Æsop* iii. xvii, Al to-fowled and dagged.  
a 1529 SKELTON *El. Runnyng* 123 Wyth theyr heles  
dagged, Theyr kyrtelles all to-iagged. 1530 PALSGR. 445/2



Indede, damoyssell, you be dagged. *vous estes crottée*. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Archidiacone*, *Crotte en Archidiacone*, dagd vp to the hard heeles (for so were the Archdeacons in old time euer wont to be, by reason of their frequent . . . visitations). a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 136 Vexing the baths with his dagged root. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Dag* . . . (2) To trail or dirty in the mire, to bedaub, to daggle. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shroph. Word-bk.*, *Dag* . . . to trail in the wet or dirt.

b. *intr.* To daggle or trail in the dirt or wet. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Dag* v. i. 1880 W. Cornwall *Gloss.* s. v. *Dagging*, 'That tree is dagging with fruit.' 'Her dress is dagging in the mud.'

3. *Farming*. To cut off the 'dags' or locks of dirty wool from (sheep). (Cf. *DAG* sb.<sup>1</sup> 3.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Dag sheep*, to cut off the Skirts of the Fleece. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, *Dag*, to remove the dags or clots of wool, dirt, etc. from between the hind legs of sheep.

† *Dag*, v.<sup>2</sup> *Obs.* [Related to *F. daguer* dagger (13th c. in Littré); cf. also 16th c. *F. daguer* to strike with a *daguer* or dagger; but the latter is not the source of the Eng. verb. See also *DAGGER*.]

*trans.* To pierce or stab, with or as with a pointed weapon.

1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2102 Dantes the Duche-mene daltene agaynes, With derfe dynttes of dede, dagges thurgh scheldez. *Ibid.* 3750 Derfe dynttys they dalte with dagganne spers. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gale Lang. Unt.* lxiy. § 668 Remorse . . . pierce and daggeth guilty persons with the anguish of a galled conscience. 1794 A. GALLATIN in J. A. STEVENS *Life* iv. (1884) 95 One Ross of Lancaster . . . half drew a dagger he wore . . . and swore any man who uttered such sentiments ought to be dagged.

† *Dag*, v.<sup>3</sup> *Obs.* [f. *DAG* sb.<sup>2</sup>] *trans.* and *intr.* To shoot with a dag or hand-gun.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* (1846) I. 87 Thei schote spearis and dagged arrowis, whare the compaynes war thickest. c 1580 J. HOOKER *Life Sir P. Carey*, They soe dagged at these loopes, that sundrye of theyme within were slayne.

*Dag* (dag), v.<sup>4</sup> *dial.* [app. of Norse origin: cf. *DAG* sb.<sup>4</sup> and ON. *daggva*, Swed. *dagga* to bedevil. See also *DEG*.]

1. *trans.* To sprinkle, to wet with sprinkling. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Dag*, to sprinkle with water. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Dag*, to sprinkle. 'Dag cawsey afoorthoo sweeps it.' 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shroph. Word-bk.*, *Dag*, to sprinkle clothes with water preparatory to mangling or ironing.

2. *intr.* To drizzle. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, *Dag*, to drizzle.

*Daggar*, *ard*, *are*, *obs.* forms of *DAGGER*.

|| *Dagsh*, *daghesh* (dā'jē), sb. *Heb. Gram.*

[med. Heb. דָּגֵשׁ *dāghēsh*, f. Syriac ܕܓܝܬܐ *d'ghash* to prick.] A point or dot placed within a Hebrew letter, denoting either that it is doubled (*dagsh forte*), or that it is not aspirated (*dagsh lene*).

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* Bj, B. . . very often . . . is sounded like the Hebrew 2 when it is in the middle of a word without dagsh. 1749 B. MARTIN *Dict. Introduct. Eng. Tongue* 9 If any of the aspirated letters has the point (call'd Dagsh) in them, they are then pronounced without the H. 1834 A. WILLIS *Hebr. Gram.* 5 A point is sometimes inserted in the middle of a consonant affecting the pronunciation, and called Dagsh or Mappik.

Hence *Dagsh* v. *trans.*, to mark with a dagsh.

Also *Dagessate* v., *Dagessate*, *-ated* pa. *pple*.

1751 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 156 In some Verbs . . . the middle Radical is dagshed. 1871 BOLTON tr. *Delitzsch's Psalms* II, 250 note, The dagshing of the opening mute of the following word.

*Daggar*, *dial.* 'An old term for a dog-fish' (Smyth, *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

a 1728 KENNETT cited by HALLIWELL.

† *Dagged*, *ppl.* a.<sup>1</sup> *Obs.* [f. *DAG* v.<sup>1</sup>]

1. Of a garment: Having the margin cut into long pointed projections; jagged, slashed.

c 1286 [see *DAG* v.<sup>1</sup> 1]. c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 200 Undir hire dayged hood of green. 1523 [see *DAG* v.<sup>1</sup> 1]. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 'Extra' 24 July 28/2 The costume is all dagged and slashed into the shape of leaves and flowers.]

2. Clogged with dirt, dagged.

1484, a 1529, 1661 [see *DAG* v.<sup>1</sup> 2].

*Dagged*, *ppl.* a.<sup>2</sup> *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. *DAG* v.<sup>4</sup>]

Wet with dew, drizzling rain, or a sprinkling of anything. b. *slang*. Drunk.

a 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lxxviii. 11 My Bee's aloft, and daggit full of skill: It gets cum drink, sen Grissall toke the bed. 1745 FRANKLIN *Drinker's Dict.* Wks. 1587 II. 23 He's dagged. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Dagged*, tipsy. *North.*

*Dagger* (dā'gə), sb. Forms: 4- dagger; also 4-5 daggere, *Sc. dagare*, 5 daggaro, 5-6 dager, dagar, daggar, 6 dagard. [Related to *F. daguer* (Sp., It. *daga*) dagger, and to *DAG* v.<sup>2</sup>

No such form is known in Old French. Med.L. shows *daggarus*, *arium*, *erius*, *ardum* (see Du Cange), app. from English, so that the form *dagger* appears to be really of English formation (cf. *DAG* v.<sup>2</sup>), of which however only later instances are known. If the form *daggard* could be assumed as the original, the word might be an augmentative in -ard of *F. daguer*; but, though *extracto cullito daggardo* occurs in Walsingham, 15th c. (Du Cange), the forms *daggarium* and *dagger* are of earlier appearance and better supported.]

1. A short stout edged and pointed weapon, like a small sword, used for thrusting and stabbing.

[a 1375 *Fragm. Vetusta* xxiv. in *Sc. Acts* (1844) I. 388 Habet equum, hauberkion, capilium de ferro, ensem, et

cultellum qui dicitur dagare. *Ibid.* Habet archum et sagittas, et daggarium et cultellum.] c 1385 CHAUCER *Proh.* 113 He baar . . . on that oother syde a gay daggere [*rime spere*]. — *Parad. T.* 502 And with thy daggere [so 4 MSS., 3 dagger] looke thou do the same. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 111 Daggere, to steke wythe men, *fugio*. 1463 *Paston Lett.* No. 466 II. 126 The same dagger he slewe hym with. 1535 *Bury Wills* (1850) 127 W<sup>m</sup> my dagard. 1604 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iii. ii. 157, I feare I wrong the Honourable men, Whose Daggers haue stabbd Caesar. 1605 — *Macb.* i. iii. 13 Is this a Dagger which I see before me? 1719 YOUNG *Bursar* iv. i. Loose thy hold, Or I will plant my dagger in thy breast. 1866 KINGSLEY *Hereward* iii. 88 'You have a dagger in your hand!' said he.

† b. *Ale dagger*, *alehouse dagger*: see *ALE*, B. II.

*Dagger of lath*: the weapon worn by the 'Vice' in the old 'Moralities'. *Obs.*

1592 NASH P. *Penitence* (Shaks. Soc.) 40 All you that will not . . . wear ale-house daggers at your backs. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 151 A Kings Sonne? If I do not beate thee out of thy Kingdome with a dagger of Lath. . . Ie neuer wear haire on my face more. 1601 — *Twel. N.* iv. ii. 136 Like to the old vice . . . Who with dagger of lath, in his rage and his wrath, Cries ah ha, to the duell.

2. *Phr. Daggers drawing* (fig.): the commencement of open hostilities. *At* (or to) *daggers drawing*, now at *daggers drawn*: on (or to) the point of fighting or quarrelling; in a state of open hostility. Also (rarely) at *daggers' points*.

*At daggers drawn* is found in 1668, but becomes usual only in 19th c.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* 12 a, They . . . among themselves are wont to bee at daggers drawing. 1576 FLEMING *Popul. Epist.* 267 That countrie was at defiance and daggers drawing with the lande of Gracia. 1652 J. WADSWORTH tr. *Sandau's Civ. Wars* Sp. 19 The Grandees of the Court were com almost to daggers drawing. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quer.* (1708) 214 Upon this Point, were they at Daggers-drawn with the Emperor. a 1735 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* vii, A quarrel in a tavern, where all were at daggers-drawing. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Castle Rackrent*, Three ladies. . . talked of for his second wife, all at daggers drawn with each other. 1837 LADY L. STUART in *Lady M. W. Montagu's Lett.* (1893) I. 104 Both these ladies inherited such . . . imperial spirit, as to . . . insure daggers drawing as soon as it should find . . . opportunity to display itself. 1847 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III. xviii. 36 You will be at daggers drawing . . . with every order . . . of persons in the town. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* (House. ed.) 395/1 Five minutes hence we may be at daggers' points. 1870 R. B. BROUGH *Marston Lynch* xxiv. 257 Was Marston still at daggers drawn with his rich uncle?

3. *fig.* Something that wounds or afflicts grievously.

1506 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iii. i. 115 Thou stickst a dagger in me, I shall neuer see my gold againe. 1605 — *Macb.* ii. iii. 45 Where we are there's Daggers in mens Smiles. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* ii, This was to me Daggers. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* III. 240 Every word he spoke was a dagger to her heart.

b. *To speak or look daggers*: to speak so as to wound, to speak or look fiercely, savagely, or angrily.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. ii. 414, I will speake Daggers to her, but vse none. 1622 MASS. & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* iv. i, And do thine eyes shoot daggers at that man That brings thee health? 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iii, Lord Privilege . . . looked daggers at me. 1839 H. AINSWORTH *Jack Shep.* iv, A glance . . . which was meant to speak daggers.

† 4. *fig. (contempt)*. A bravo, braggadocio. *Obs.*

1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* i. i. 289 Soothe up this . . . ingrosser of cringers. . . this great hilted dagger! *Ibid.* iv. i. 1236 This brachidochio . . . this meere rapier and dagger.

† 5. A bayonet. (See *BAYONET* 1, 2.) *Obs.*

1688 CAPT. J. S. *Art of War* 27 Draw your Daggers. Fix them in your Musquet.

6. a. The upright piece of wood nailed to the bars in the middle of a rail or gate. b. *Naut.*

(See quot.)

1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 15 A dagger, which goeth straight downe the middle of the spelles, and is nayled to each spell. c 1850 *Rudin. Navg.* (Weale) 113 *Dagger*, a piece of timber that faces on to the poppets of the bilge-ways, and crosses them diagonally, to keep them together. The plank that secures the heads of the poppets is called the dagger plank. The word 'dagger' seems to apply to anything that stands diagonally or aslant.

† 7. The horn of a young stag; = *DAG* sb.<sup>3</sup> 1. *Obs.*

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 684 The second yeare they haue their first hornes, which are called daggers.

8. *Printing*. A mark resembling a dagger (†), used for marginal references, etc.: also called *obelisk*. *Double dagger*: a mark having each end like the hilt of a dagger (†), similarly used.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Dagger*. a. Mark in Printing . . . (†). 1770 *Hist. Printing* 259 The Obelisk, or long Cross, erroneously called the single Dagger. . . The Double Dagger. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* ii. viii. (ed. 2) 166 Those that are certainly not indigenous being indicated by a little dagger (†) placed before the name.

9. A collector's name of moths of the genus *Acronycta* having a black dagger-like or ψ-like mark near the anal angle of the fore wings.

1832 J. RENNIE *Conspicuous Butterf. & Moths* 79 *The Dark Dagger* appears in June. 1862 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 249, I do not know why this insect (*Acronycta tridens*) is called the 'Dark Dagger': it is no darker than the 'Gray Dagger' [A. *Psil*].

10. *pl.* Applied locally to various plants with long sword-like leaves, as *Sword-grass* (*Poa aquatica*), *Water-flag* (*Iris Pseudacorus*), etc.

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Daggers*, sword-grass. *Somerset.*

1882 *Devonsh. Plant-n.* (E. D. S.), *Daggers*, *Iris Pseudo-*

*corus*, and *I. fetidissima*. The name evidently has reference to the sword-like flags or leaves.

† 11. The name of a celebrated tavern in Holborn c 1600 (Nares); hence *attrib.* as in *dagger-ale*, *-frumety*, *-pie*. *Obs.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Diet Droonkardes* (N.). But we must haue March beere, dooble dooble beere, dagger-ale, Rhenish. 1602 DEKKER *Satirismastix* in *Hawkins Orig. Eng. Drama* 111. 115 (N.). Good den, good coosen . . . When shall we eat another Dagger-pie. 1610 B. JOYNSON *Alch.* i. i, My lawyer's clerk, I lighted on last night, In Holborn, at the Dagger. *Ibid.* v. ii, Her grace would haue you eat no more Woolsack pies, Nor Dagger frumety.

12. *Comb.*, as *dagger-blade*, *-hilt*, *-stab*, *-work*; *dagger-like*, *-proof* adjs.; † *dagger-ale* (see 11); † *dagger-cheap* a., very cheap, 'dirt-cheap'; † *dagger-frumety* (see 11); *dagger-grass*, ? = *sword-grass* (see 10); *dagger-knee* (*Naut.*), see quot.; † *dagger-man*, a man who carries a dagger, a bravo; † *dagger-money*, 'a sum of money formerly paid to the justices of assize on the northern circuit to provide arms against marauders' (Ogilvie); † *dagger-pie* (see 11); *dagger-piece* (*Naut.*) = sense 6 b; *dagger-plank* (*Naut.*), see quot. under 6 b; *dagger-plant*, a plant of the genus *Yucca*, also called *Adam's needle*, having sharp-edged and pointed leaves; *dagger-wood* (*Naut.*) = sense 6 b.

1562 Act 5 *Eliz. c. 7* § 3 'Dagger-blades, Handles, Scabbards. 1592 Bp. ANDREWES *Serm. Christ's Tempt.* vi. (1843) V. 546 We set our wares at a very easy price, he [the devil] may buy us even 'dagger-cheap, as we say. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 202 These tracks were sometimes lost in high 'dagger-grass. 1676 GRAY *Anat. Plants* Lect. iv. ii. § 18 Crystals . . . figur'd crossways like a 'Dagger-Hilt. c 1850 *Rudin. Navg.* (Weale) 114 Any straight hanging knees, not perpendicular to the side of the beam, are in general termed 'dagger-knees. 1603 SHAKS. *Mass. for M.* iv. iii. 16 Mr. Starue-Lackey the Rapier and 'dagger man. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, 'Dagger-piece, or *Dagger-wood*, a timber or plank that faces on to the poppets of the bilge-ways, and crosses them diagonally, to keep them together. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, 'Dagger plant, a name for *Yucca*. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 220 The road was bordered by hedges of cactus and dagger-plants. 1892 BARING-GOULD *Roar of Sea* II. xxix. 141 Miss Trivisa . . . cast a glance at her niece like a 'dagger-stab. 1890 MICHAEL FIELD *Tragic Mary* i. i. 7, I never saw such 'dagger-work . . . As that which pierced him. Six and fifty wounds!

*Dagger*, v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To stab with a dagger.

1658 R. FRANCES *North. Mem.* (1821) 36 When Democrats dagger the crown. 1806 *Naval Chron.* XV. 453 Rackstraw was dagged, and died immediately. 181. A. SUTHERLAND *Tales of Pilgrim, Brigand of Loire*, He was in no danger of being dagged.

2. *Printing*. To mark with a dagger (†).

1875 FURNIVALL in *Thynne's Animad.* Introd. 37 note, The dishes chang'd in the list are dagged.

Hence *Dagging* *vbl. sb.*, stabbing with a dagger; *ppl. a.*, stabbing, fatal.

1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* (1695) 214 Every Month produces sad and fatal Instances of its [Brandy's] dagging force. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 55 The screaming and dagging and death-rattling.

*Dagged* (dā'gərd), a. [f. *DAGGER* + -ED.]

1. Armed with a dagger.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xii. 137 Now swerded, now dagged, and in alle manere gyses. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings*, The dagger'd Envy. c 1830 BEDDOES *Poems, Boding Dreams*, A dagged hand beside the bed.

2. Stabbed or wounded with a dagger.

1604 DEKKER *Hon. Where* Wks. II. 38 How many Gallants haue drunke healths to me, Out of their dagger'd armes.

3. *Printing*. Marked with a dagger.

*Daggeswayne*, var. *DAGSWAIN* *Obs.*

*Dagging* (dā'gɪn), *vbl. sb.* Now *dial.* [f. *DAG* v.<sup>1</sup> + -ING.] The action of the verb *DAG*; clogging with dirt, esp. of the wool about the hinder parts of a sheep; in *pl. (concr.)* = *DAG-LOCKS*.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict.*, *Dibyl*, dagging. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1627) 197 Keeping them from cold in Winter, dagging in Summer. 1890 F. T. ELWORTHY (*in letter*), In Kent these clots of dung which are apt to . . . stick to the wool around the tails of sheep, with the wool attached, are called 'daggings'.

*Daggle* (dā'g'l), v. Also 6 daggyl, 6-7 dagle.

[Frequentative of *DAG* v.<sup>1</sup> sense 2: associated in its sense-development with *DABBLE* and *DRAGGLE* and perhaps with *DAG* v.<sup>4</sup>]

1. *trans.* To clog with wet mud; to wet and soil a garment, etc., by trailing it through mud or wet grass.

1530 PALSGR. 594/1 You shall daggyl your clothes, *vous crotterez vos habillemens*. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* ii. 566 Daglit in weit richt claggit was his weid. 1611 Cotgr., *Crotter* . . . to dagle, bedurtie. 1660 T. GOUGE *Chr. Directions* xv. (1831) 85 As a long coat is in greater danger to be dagged than a short one. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, *Daggle* . . . to bemie.

b. In later use, chiefly said of the effect of wet:

To wet by splashing or sprinkling. See *DAG* v.<sup>4</sup>

1805 SCOTT *Last Minst.* i. xxix, The warrior's very plume . . . Was dagged by the dashing spray. 1862 MISS YONGE *Countess Kate* viii. (1880) 81 The pretty soft feather had been dagged in the wet.

2. To drag or trail about (through the mire).

1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* v. i, After you haue been dagging yourself abroad for prey . . . you come sneaking hither for a crust, do you? 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, I haue been dagged to and fro the whole day.



3. *intr.* To walk in a slovenly way (through mud or mire); to drag or trail about. Cf. DRAGGLE.

1705 VANBRUGH *Confed.* i. ii. Then, like a dutiful son, you may dabble about with your mother, and sell paint. 1735 POPE *Profr. Sat.* 225, I ne'er... like a puppy daggled through the town To fetch and carry sing-song up and down. 1859 Lonsdale Gloss., Daggled v. i., to trail in the dirt. 1876 Whitby Gloss. s. v. Daggling, 'Trailing and daggling', said of a person walking in a shower.

† **Daggled**, *sb.* Obs. rare. [f. prec. vb.] A clot or spot of wet mud, as on a daggled garment. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Carpas*, daggles of dirt, spots of dirt.

**Daggled** (dæ'g'ld), *fpl.* a. [f. DAGGLE v. + -ED 1.] Having the skirts clogged or splashed with dirt or wet; bespattered, bemired.

1607 Barley-Breaker (1877) 21 What... daggled mayd with payle. 1638 Songs Costume (Percy Soc.) 140 Fringe with gold your daggled tails. 1727 Swift *Poems, City Shower*, 'To shops in crowds the daggled females fly. 1742 Mrs. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 193 Caught in a smart shower of rain, [we] came home in a fine daggled condition.

b. *Comb.* † **Daggled-tail** a. = DAGGLE-TAILED. 1708 SWIFT *Agst. Abol. Christianity*, Shocked at the sight of so many daggled-tail parsons.

**Daggled-tail** (dæ'g'ld'teɪl), *sb.* Obs. exc. dial. A person (*esp.* a woman) whose garments are bemired by being trailed over wet ground; an untidy woman, slut, slattern. Now DRAGGLE-TAIL.

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1098/2 Upon their joining with the queens soldiers, the one part could not be discerned from the other, but onlie by the mire and dirt... which stakke vpon their garments... wherefore the crie on the queenes part... was; Downe with the daggled tails. 1674-91 RAY S. & E. C. Words 95, *Daggled-tail*, a woman that hath dabbled her Coats with Dew, Wet or Dirt. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.*, *Daggled-tail*, a slut. 'Doll Daggled-teel'.

**Daggled-tailed** (dæ'g'ld'teɪld), *a.* Obs. exc. dial. Having the skirts splashed by being trailed over wet ground; untidy, slatternly. (Usually of a woman.) Now DRAGGLE-TAILED.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 125 A nobeler witt Then that dagglytayld skitt. 1824 SCOTT *S. Roman's* xxxiii, To make love to... some daggletailed soubrette.

**Daggling** (dæ'g'lin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] a. The action of the verb DAGGLE, q. v. † b. *concr.* = DAGGING (obs.).

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* Crottes, daglings. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* iv. vi. 100 To prevent the dangling down, and dagling of so long garments.

**Daggling**, *fpl.* a. [-ING 2.] That daggles: see the verb.

1564 PHAER *Æneid* viii. Zij b, A she wolfe downe was layed, and next her duggs two goodly twins, Two daggling sucking boies. 1611 COTGR., *Crottes*, dirt, filth, mire; dagling stuffe, etc. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confed.* i. ii, Who is this good woman, Flippanta?.. An old dagling cheat, who hobbles about... to bubble the ladies of their money.

**Daggly**, *a. dial.* [f. DAGGLE + -Y.] 1809 Lonsdale Gloss., *Daggly*, wet, showery. 1887 S. Cheshire Gloss., *Daggly*, wet, dewy. 'It was daggly i' th' mornin'.

**Daggysweyne**, var. DAGSWAIN, *Obs.* Dagh(e), *obs.* form of DOUGH.

**Daghesh**, *Daghyng*: see DAGESH, DAWING.

**Dag-lock**, [f. DAG sb. 1 + LOCK.] *pl.* Locks of wool clotted with dirt about the hinder parts of a sheep.

1623 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) p. xlv. To 12 women... 2 daies washing dag-locks. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6264/2 Frauds... are... committed... by winding in Fleeces, Locks, Tail-Locks, Sheer-Locks, Dagg-Locks. 1799 W. PITT in *Common. Board Agric.* II. 464 A very small proportion of breechings or daglocks. 1805 Luccock *Nat. Wool* 223 The bundles contained... a quantity of dag-locks, of wool from dead sheep. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.*, *Dag-locks*, the long locks of wool about a sheep which dag in the dirt when the animal lies down, etc.

**Dagman**: see DAG sb. 2.

**Dago** (dæ'go). *U.S.* [Supposed to be a corruption of *Diego* a Spanish equivalent of James; applied as a generic proper name to Spaniards.] A name originally given in the south-western section of the United States to a man of Spanish parentage; now extended to include Spaniards, Portuguese, and Italians in general.

1888 *American* 18 July (Farmer), The shrimps... are caught by Dagogs. 1890 *N. Y. Nation* (25 Sept.) LI. 237/1 Mr. Reed makes no effort to conceal his contempt for this proposition to trade with a lot of 'Dagoes', as he calls them.

† **Dagoba** (dā'gobā). [ad. Singalese *dāgāba* = Pāli *dhātugabbho* = Skr. *dhātu-garbha* relic-receptacle (Yule).] Also adopted as *dhagope*, *daghope*, *dhagob*, *dagof*, from the form of the name in the Mōgadhi dialect of south Behār.]

In Buddhist countries, a *tope* or dome-shaped monumental structure containing relics of Buddha or of some Buddhist saint.

1806 SALT *Caves of Salsette* in *Trans. Lit. Soc. Bombay* (1819) I. 47 (Y.) In this irregular excavation are left two dhagopes, or solid masses of stone bearing the form of a cupola. 1855 YULE *Mission to Ava* (1858) 35 (Y.) The bluff knob-like dome of the Ceylon dagobas. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Sept. 6/1 Mdm. Blavatsky's dagoba is to be built of pink sandstone from Rajpootanah.

† **Dagoun**. *Obs.* Also dagoun. [? related to DAG sb. 1] A piece (of cloth).

c 1286 CHAUCER *Somn. Tale* 43 Or gif us... A dagoun of your blanket, levee dame. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Bv a, Take a dagoun or pece of Rough blanket vnshorn.

† **Dagon** (dæ'g'ŋn). [a. L. *Dagon*, a. Gr. *Δαγών*, a. Heb. דָּגוֹן *dāgōn* 'little fish, dear little fish', f. דָּג *dāg* fish.]

The national deity of the ancient Philistines; represented with the head, chest, and arms of a man, and the tail of a fish. b. *transf.* An idol, or object of idolatrous devotion.

1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* xvi. 23 The princis of Philistiens camen to gidre in oon, for to offere oostis of greet worship to Dagon, her god. a 1572 [see DAD v. 1]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* l. 462 Dagon his Name, Sea Monster, upward Man And downward Fish. 1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* (1867) 440 Though the Roman synagoge join force to subtlety in the advancement of their dagon. 1868 STANLEY *Script. Portr.* 89 The head was deposited (probably at Ashdod) in the temple of Dagon.

c. A term of reproach to a man.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Flying* 66 3e, dagone, dowbart. [Cf. DOGONE in *Tua Mariit Wenen* 457.]

Hence **Dagonalis** *sb. pl. nonce-wd.* (after *bacchanal*), rites or orgies in honour of Dagon.

1614 T. ADAMS *Devil's Banquet* 5 A Banquet worse then Jobs childrens; or the Dagonals, of the Philistins; (like the Bacchanals of the Moenades).

† **Dagswain**. *Obs.* Forms: 5 dagswayne, daggysweyne, 6 daggesswayne, -swanne, dagswayne, -swain. [Etymology obscure: the first part has been associated with DAG sb. 1 (cf. description in quot. 1519); cf. also DAGON 1.] A coarse coverlet of rough shaggy material.

1400 *Morte Arth.* 3610 Dubbyde with dagswaynes downlede they seme. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 122 Daggysweyne, lodix. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 167 b, My bedde is couered with a daggesswayne; and a quyle... Some daggswayns haue longe thrummys and iaggz on bothe sydes; some but on one. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knoul.* v. (1870) 139 Symple rayment doth serue us full well Wyth daggswayne and roudges we be content. 1577 HARRISON *England* ii. xii. (1877) 1. 240 Our fathers... haue lien full oft vpon straw pallets... vnder couerlets made of daggswain... or hop-harlots (I vse their owne termes).

**Dag-tailed**, *a.* [f. DAG sb. 1] Having the wool about the tail clotted with dirt. (Cf. DAG sb. 1 3, DAG-LOCK.)

1597 8 BR. HALL *Sat. v.* i. 116 To see the dunged foldes of dag-tailed sheepe.

**Dague**, var. of DAG sb. 3

**Daguerreotype** (dā'g'ro'teɪp), *sb.* Also daguerrotype. [a. F. *daguerrotype*, f. *Daguerre* name of the inventor + TYPE.]

1. One of the earliest photographic processes, first published by Daguerre of Paris in 1839, in which the impression was taken upon a silver plate sensitized by iodine, and then developed by exposure to the vapour of mercury. † b. The apparatus used for this process (obs.). c. A portrait produced by this process. 1839 *Athenum* 26 Jan. 69 The newly invented machine, which is to be called the Daguerrotype. 1839 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* I. 53 Perhaps you are not civilized enough to know what Daguerrotype is. 1849 THACKERAY *Lett.* 14 Sept. I am going... to give you a daguerrotype of myself. 1875 *Vogel's Chem. Light* ii. 14 The little pictures that were called daguerrotypes from their inventor.

† 2. *fig.* An exact representation or description. *Obs.* (since the daguerrotype itself has yielded to improved photographic processes).

1850 WHIFFLE *Ess. & Rev.* II. 351 The masquerade at Ranelagh, and the scene at Vauxhall... are daguerrotypes of manners. 1866 DOOLITTLE (*title*), Social Life of the Chinese: a Daguerrotype of Daily Life in China.

3. *attrib.*

1841 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1872) VI. 212 Contemporary Daguerrotype delineator. 1845 *Athenum* 22 Feb. 202 Daguerrotype plates. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 234 From which it must be copied, with daguerrotype exactitude, into every disciple's mind.

**Daguerrotype**, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To photograph by the daguerrotype process.

1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* vii. 80 A head, that daguerrotyped in that attitude... would have been lovely. 1867-77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* vii. vii. 707 The sensitive silver compounds used in Daguerrotyping.

† 2. *fig.* To represent or describe with minute exactitude. *Obs.*

1839 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 53 All Daguerrotyped into the mind's eye. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* xiii. 706 That daguerrotyping power which he possesses beyond any other writer of the time.

So **Daguerrotypist**, *a. daguerrotypist*. **Daguerrotypio** (-ti'pik), *-typical* *adjs.*, relating to the daguerrotype process. **Daguerrotypism** (*nonce-wd.*), minute exactness as of a daguerrotype. **Daguerrotypy** (-tə'pi), the daguerrotype process, the art of taking daguerrotypes. **Daguerrotypist** (-tə'pist), a photographer who uses this.

1864 WEBSTER, *Daguerrotypist*. 1840 THACKERAY *Crit. Rev.* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 156 Mr. Macleish has a daguerrotypic eye. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orv's Circ. Sc.* Chem. 91 The language of Daguerrotypic art. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 729 Painted with a daguerrotypical minuteness. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. ii. 1. vii. § 30 He professes nothing but coloured Daguerrotypism. 1841 EMERSON

*Lect., Times Wks.* (Bohn) II. 251 Whilst the Daguerrotype, with camera-obscure and silver plate, begins now to traverse the land. 1853 *Cham. Jnrl.* XX. 79 There is something new in daguerrotypy.

† **Dahabeeyah**, *-biah* (dāhābē'yā). Also *-beeah*, *-bieh*, *-beiah*. [Arab. دَهَابِيَّة *dahabiyah* lit. 'the golden', f. ذهب *dahab* gold: name of the gilded state barge of the Moslem rulers of Egypt.] A large sailing-boat, used by travellers on the Nile.

1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* Pref. 12 The Dahabeeyah hired by the European traveller, reproduces in all essential features the painted galleys represented in the tombs of the kings. 1890 SAYCE in *Trans. Lanc. & Cheshire Antiq. Soc.* VII. 4 Coming down the Nile in a dahabiah.

† **Dahet**, *dathet*. *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 dahet, dapet, (dayet), dapeit, dathait, dapeheit, daipat, dait, dai. [a. OF. *dahet*, *dahet*, usually *dēh*, *dāh*, *dād*, *dēd*, also *dēhāt*, *dahait*; in pl. *dēhes*, *dāhes*, *dāez*, *dēhais*, 'misfortune, mischief, evil, curse', used only in imprecations.

As to the OF. word, see M. Gaston Paris in *Romania* (1889) 469. He shows it to be distinct from OF. *deshait* evil disposition or condition, sorrow, woe, etc., and suggests the meaning 'God's hate', in primitive Merovingian French *\*deu hat*. In English, the primary *dahet* is very rare; the usual *dapeit*, *dathait*, *dahet* are difficult to account for, unless they represent the OF. phrase *da(h)et ait*, *daat ait*, or in pl. *dāhes*, *dāez*, *dāez ait*, just as in OF. itself M. Paris explains *dēhāt*, *dahait*, from the running together of *dēh* *ait*. Apparently the phrase being thus taken for the simple word, the verb had to be added anew, as in OF. *dēhāt ait*! ME. *dapeit hawe*! In Robert of Brunne written *dapet* with dotted *p*, printed by Hearne as dotted *y*.]

[= OF. *dēhēt ait*, *dēhāt ait*.] a. In the construction *dahet hawe*, *dathet hawe* = May (he, etc.) have misfortune! a mischief, curse, damnation be to...

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 99 Dahet habbe that like best, That fuleth his owe nest. 1290 S. Eng. Leg. I. Beket 1884 Dapeheit habbe þat so astonde so folliche. c 1320 *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2395 Dathet hawe thou... Al to loude thou spak thi Latin! c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 143 Dayet haf his lip, & his nose perby.

b. without have [so OF. *dēhāt*, *dahait*]: A curse upon!

c 1290 S. Eng. Leg. I. Beket 2036 Dapeit alle þat it seide! c 1308 *Sat. People Kildare* xiv. in E. E. F. (1862) 155 Dapeit þur curteisie, 3s stinkep al þe strete. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 95 A Breton (dayet his nose) for Robert hider sent.

c. followed by relative clause [so OF. *dāha ait* *qui*, *dahait qui*].

c 1300 Beket (Percy Soc.) 2072 Daithat hit so sede. c 1300 *Havelok* 300 Dapeit hwo it hire yure. c 1300 *Seyn Julian* 202 Dait þat him wolde bymene. *Ibid.* 134 Dait þat wolde... him bische. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 167 Dayet þat þerof rouht, his was alle þe gilt.

† The following is prob. a mere coincidence: cf. *dash it*! 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.*, *Dathit* (Furness), *interj.* a mild curse on making a mishap.

**Dahlia** (dæ'li-ā), properly dā'li-ā. [Named 1791 in honour of *Dahl*, a Swedish botanist.]

1. A genus of Composite plants, natives of Mexico, introduced into Europe in 1789, and commonly cultivated in gardens.

In the wild plant the flowers are 'single' with a dull scarlet ray and yellow disk; in the cultivated forms the varieties of colour are very numerous, and the 'double' varieties are distinguished by the remarkable regularity of their flowers, in which florets of the ray completely cover the disk.

1804 *Curtis's Bot. Mag.* XIX. 762 Of the genus *Dahlia* there are three species described by Cavanilles. 1840 HOOD *Kilmanseck, Her Honeymoon* ix, A double dahlia delights the eye. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, Student's Tale* 18a Among the dahlias in the garden walk.

b. *Blue dahlia*: *fig.* something impossible or unattainable (no blue variety of the dahlia having been produced by cultivation).

1880 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 5/4 Whether the colonisation of Gilead be a blue dahlia or not.

2. Name for a particular shade of red.

1846 *Art Union Jnrl.* Jan. 26 Their Mazarine blue, their puce, their dahlia, their Turkey red, or their azure. 189a *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 1/3 One of the many ugly shades that are to be worn this season is dahlia.

**Dahlin** (dā'lin). *Chem.* [f. DAHLIA + -IN.] A name for INULIN from the tubers of the dahlia.

1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 326 *Dalhine*. This substance was extracted by Layen from the bulbs of the Dahlia. 188a *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Dahlia*. The roots of the several species are eaten when cooked, and supply Dahlin.

**Dai**, **Daiblet**: see DAY, DABLET.

**Daidle** (dæ'd'l), *sb.* Sc. A pinafore. Hence **Daidlie**, *-ey* (diminutive).

17. *Jacobi's Relics* (1819) I. 7 Jenny [shall have] the sark of God For—petticoat, dishcloth, and daidle. 1833 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* v. (1849) 23, I was a wee chap with a daidle.

**Daidle** (dæ'd'l), *v.* Sc. and north. dial. [app. Sc. form of DADDLE v.] *intr.* To move or act slowly or in a slovenly manner; to saunter, loiter. Chiefly in *pres. ppl.* = loafing, idling, lazy, slovenly. (Cf. DAWDLE.)

1808 in JAMIESON. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xvii, He's but a daidling coward body. Sc. Proverb, a primsie damsel makes a daidlin' dame.

**Daie**, *obs.* form of DAY.

**Daigh**, *Sc.* form of DOUGH.



**Daign**, obs. form of **DEIGN**.

**Daiker** (de'kar), *v. Sc.* [?a. F. *décorer* to decorate, adorn.] *trans.* To set in order.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 652 (Jam. s.v. *Daiker*) Say Madge Mackitrick's skill has failed her in daikering out a dead dame's flesh. 1880 Mrs. L. B. WALFORD *Troubl. Dan.* I. ii. 31 Your room will be daikert by the time it's wanted.

**Daiker**: see **DACKER**.

**Dail(e)**, obs. form of **DALE, DEAL**.

**Dailiness**, *rare*. [f. **DAILY** a. + **-NESS**.] The quality of being daily; daily occurrence, etc.

1607 *Hieron Wks.* I. 135 There are very few duties of religion, but the scripture speaks of the dailiness of them. a 1670 *HACKET Chr. Consolations* ii. (1840) 19 The dailiness of sin must be bawled with the dailiness of sorrow.

**Dail**, obs. *Sc.* form of **DALE**.

**Daily** (dā'li), *a. (sb.)* Forms: 5-8 **dayly**, 6 **daylie**, **dailie**, (*Sc.* **dalie**), 6-**daily**. [OE. *daglic* (in the compounds *twiddæglic*, *préodæglic*, happening once in two or three days) = OHG. *tagalīh*, *dagalīh*, ON. *dagligr*, an ancient derivative of WGer. *dag*, OE. *dag* day: see -LY<sup>1</sup>. The ordinary OE. word was *daghwamlic*, in 12th c. *deihwanlich*.]

1. Of or belonging to each day; occurring or done every day; issued or published every day (or every week-day).

c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* xi. 1291 For daily mess, and hering off confession. 1526 *TINDALE Matt.* vi. 11 Geve vs this daye our daily bread. 1553 *EDEN Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 7 Proued... by daily experience. 1611 *BIBLE Ec.* v. 13 Fulfill your workes, your daily taskes. 1711 *HEARNE Collect.* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.) III. 153 A Daily paper comes out call'd The Spectator. 1862 *LD. BROUGHAM Brit. Const.* iv. 62 The daily labour to gain their daily bread.

b. with agent-nouns, as in *daily waiter*, one who waits daily (a title of certain officers of the Royal household).

1568 *E. TILNEY Disc. Marriage* Cj, A daylie gamester, a common blasphemor. 1642 *Brass in Weybridge Church* (N. & Q. i Oct. 1892), Here lieth the body of Humphry Dethick Esq. who was one of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s Gent. Vshers (daily Waiter). 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5300/4 Sir William Oldes, to be his Majesty's first Gentleman Usher, Daily Waiter and Black Rod. *Mod.* A daily visitor to the well.

† 2. Of the present day; belonging to the present time. *Obs. rare*.

1663 *GERBIER Counsel* 8 Why modern and daily Buildings are so exceedingly Defective.

**B. sb. (ellipt.)** A daily newspaper.

1858 *Times* 29 Nov. 6/3 Clever weeklies and less clever dailies. 1881 *Academy* 26 Mar. 234 The foreign correspondent of one of the great dailies.

**Daily** (dā'li), *adv.* Forms: 5-7 **dayly**, (6 *Sc.* **dalie**, -y), 6 **dailie**, 6-7 **daylie**, 7-**daily**. [f. **DAY** + **-LY**<sup>2</sup>. The OE. word was *daghwamlice*.] Every day, day by day. Often in a looser sense: Constantly, always, habitually.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 9 My desire muste dayly be done. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. deW. 1531) 1 b, Wherin... dayly & hourly I myght loke, as in a myrouer. 1635 *A. STAFFORD Fem. Glory* (1869) 79 With bended knees I daily beseech God. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 265 ¶ 6, I am informed that this Fashion spreads daily. 1747 *WESLEY Prim. Physic* (1762) 97 Drink daily half a Pint. 1848 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* II. 75 He continued to find his advice daily, and had the mortification to find it daily rejected. 1885 *R. BUCHANAN Annan Water* v, The public wagonette ran daily between Dumfries and Annanmouth.

**Daimen**, *a. Sc.* Also 9 **demmin**. [Origin unknown. In Ayrshire pronounced as *de'mmin*.] (Perh. a ppl.e.: cf. *Whitby daim'd out*, dealt out sparingly.) 'Rare, occasional' (Jam.).

1785 *BURNS To a Mouse*, A daimen-icker in a thrave 'S a sma' request. 1821 *Edin. Mag.* Apr. 352 (Jam.) At a demmin time I see the Scotchman. [Still in use in Ayrshire, as in 'a daimen ane here and there']

**Daiment**, var. **DAYMENT, Obs.**

|| **Daimio** (dai'myo). [Japanese, f. Chinese *dai* great + *mio*, *myo* name.] The title of the chief territorial nobles of Japan, vassals of the mikado; now abolished.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 94/1 The nobility or hereditary governors of the provinces and districts are called *Daimio*, or High-named, and *Siomio*, or Well-named. 1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 283 The writer... has lived in a daimio's capital before, during, and after the abolition of feudalism.

Hence **Dai'miate**, **Dai'mioate**, **Dai'miote**, the territory or office of a daimio.

1870 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Aug. 4 Japanese students... from all parts of the empire, from the inland daimioates as well as from the sea-coasts. 1882 *Athenaeum* 10 June 730/1 The abolition of the Daimioates has elevated the masses of the people [of Japan] from a state of feudal servitude to the condition of free citizens. 1889 *Ibid.* 6 Apr. 436/1 Old Japanese tenures [of land]... no doubt differed considerably in the different daimioates.

|| **Daimon** (dai'mōn), a direct transliteration of Gr. *δαίμων* divinity, one's genius or DEMON.

1854 *THOREAU Lett.* (1865) 73 It is the same daimon, here lurking under a human eyelid. 1875 *E. C. STEDMAN Victorian Poets* (1876) 154 The Laureate... is his own daimon... the inspirer and controller of his own utterances.

† **Dain**, *sb. Obs.* Also 5 **deyne**, **dene**, 6 **daine**, **dayne**, **deane**. Syncopated from *dedain*, **DISDAIN sb.** 1. Disdain, dislike, distrust.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 1863 Pat ay has dayne [Dublin MS. dene] & dispite at dedis of litill. 1591 *LVLV Sappho* v. i.

207 Which striketh a deepe daine of that which wee most desire.

2. The suffering or incurring of disdain; contumely, ignominy, reproach.

¶ a 1500 *MS. St. John's Coll. Oxon.* No. 117 fol. 123 b (in *Maskeil Mon. Rit.* III. 356), The beginning of thi lif, care and sorwe; thi fo[r]thliving, trauail, and dene, and disese. 15... *Merline in Percy Folio* I. 444 'Nay, certaine,' said the old queane, 'yee may it doe without deane.'

3. Repulsiveness of smell; 'stink, noisome effluvia. Still used in this sense in the west of England' (Nares).

(Quot. 1575 taken in this sense by Nares and Halliwell may belong to 2; 1601 may belong to **DAIN** adj.)

1575 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Cordilla*, From bowres of heavenly hewe, to dennes of dayne. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xi. liii, The breath of Lions hath a very strong deane and stinking smell with it [*animas leonis virus grauel*]. 1825 *BRITTON Prov. Words in Beauties of Wiltsh.* (E. D. S.), *Dain*, infectious effluvia. 1847- in *HALLIWEILL (Wills)*.

† **Dain**, *a. Obs.* or *dial. rare*. Also 6 **daine**, **dane**. [a. OF. \**deigne*, Burg. *doigne* = F. *deigne* worthy: cf. Chaucer's *deyn* under **DIGNE** a.]

1. Haughty; reserved, distant; repellent. *Sc.*

c 1500 *DUNBAR Thua marrit Women* 132 Than am I dangerus and dane and dour of my will. *Ibid.* 253 Thought I dour wes and dane, dispoitis and bald. c 1540 *LYNDESAY Kyttes Conf.* 6 Bot 3it aune countenance he bure, Degeist, deuote, daine, and demure.

2. Repulsive, esp. in smell; stinking. Cf. **DIGNE** a. [Cf. *Dain sb.* quot. 1601.] 1882 *Berkshire Gloss.*, *Dain*, tainted, putrid, bad-smelling.

† **Dain**, *v. Obs.* Also 5 **deyne**, 6 **dayne**. Syncopated form of *dedain*, **DISDAIN v.**

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4579 Owþir 3e gesse at 3e be gods... Or deynes with our driftings for þat we þam dere hald. 1514 *BARCLAY Cyt. & Uplandisynk* (Percy Soc.) 6 Youthe dayneþ counsaille, scornynge dyscrecyon. a 1592 *GREENE Alphonsus* i. Wks. 226/1 She shall have scholars which will daine to be in any other Muse's company. *Ibid.* iii. 237/2; iv. 240/1.

**Dain(e)**, obs. forms of **DEIGN**.

† **Dainful**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 **deignfull**. Syncopated form of *dedainful*, **DISDAINFUL**.

c 1530 *H. RHODES Bk. Nurture* 672 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 100 A busy tongue makes of his friend oft tymes his daynfull foe. 1578 *T. PROCTOR Gorg. Gallery in Heliconia* i. 91 Cipres well, with dainfull chaung of fraight, Gave thee to drinke infected poyson colde. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* iv. lxxxix, Yet tempred so her deignfull lookes alway.

† **Daint**, *a. and sb. Obs.* Also 6 **daynt**, **deint**. = **DAINTY** (of which it appears to be merely a shortened form, or perh. a misreading of the old spelling *dainte*, *deynt*, etc.).

**A. adj.**

1590 *SPENSER F. Q. I. x. 2* To cherish him with diets daint. *Ibid.* ii. xii. 42 Whatever... may dayntest fantasy aggregate. 1596 *Ibid.* iv. i. 5 Demeanour daint.

**B. sb.**

1633 *P. FLETCHER Pisc. Ecl.*, *The Prize* xxxvii, Excesse or daints my lowly roof maintain not. Hence † **Daintly** *adv.*, daintily.

1563 *SACKVILLE Mirr. Mag.*, *Induct.* xxxviii, As on the which full dayntie would he fare. 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Regaladamente*, gentiele, courteouslie, deintlie.

† **Dainteous**, *a. Obs.* Forms: a. 4-5 **deyn**, **dein**, (**den**-), **daynteuous**, -vous, (-uos, **dentyuous**); b. 4-6 **deyn**, 6 **dayn**-, **deinteuous**. [app. orig. *dayntivous*, f. *dayntive* **DAINTIVE** + **-OUS**: afterwards altered so as to appear f. *daynte*, **DAINTY** + **-OUS**. Cf. **BOUNTEOUS**, **PLENTEOUS**.] = **DAINTY** a.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Merch. T.* 470 Ful of instrumentz and of vitaille The moste deyntheuous of all Ytaille. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) III. 323 Wiþ gret plente of deyntheuous mete and drink. ¶ a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4196 It was my derlyng deyntheuous, and fulle dere holdene. c 1510 *BARCLAY Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) D v, The source saure is served before meat deyntheuous. 1548 *UDALL*, etc. *Erasm. Par. Math.* x. 64 This is no daynteuous and delicate profession.

Hence † **Dainteously** *adv.*, daintily.

c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 157 Somme men deyntheuously norischen hor body. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. ix.* 324 Tenne was his folke feyn and fedde hunger deyntheuousliche [*v. r.* deuteuous, deyntifliche]. a 1556 *CRANMER Wks.* (Parker Soc.) II. 194 Yet will they... fare daintiously, and lie softly.

**Daintier**, var. of **DAINTIER** *Obs.*, a dainty.

**Dainteth**, -ith (dā'ntēth), *sb. and a.* Now only *Sc.* Forms: 4-5 **dein**-, **deyn**-, **dain**-, **daynteth** (e, rarely -ith (e, -yth, (also **den**-, **danden**-, **dayne**-), 8-9 **Sc. **daintith**, -eth. [a. OF. *daintiet*, *deintiet*:-L. *dignitāt-em*, f. *dignus* worthy: see **DAINTY sb.**] A. = **DAINTY sb.****

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg. I. Beket* 1190 Heo bi-gan to serui þis holi man and deintepes [Percy Soc. l. 1202 deynthes] to him brougte. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* lxxxv. 10 With other... he has litill daynteth to dwell. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 463 Sho hade no deintithe to dele with no deire meite. c 1450 *Bk. Curtesy* 527 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 316 Yf any deyntheite in countré be, þo strande schewes hit to þo lorde so fre. a 1774 *FERGUSON Drink Elegiac Poems* (1845) 52 On bien-clad tables... Bouden wi' a' the daintiths o' the land. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 580 Sic daintiths are rare.

† **B.** = **DAINTY** a. *Obs.*

c 1430 *LYNG. Chorle & Byrde* ix, A dunghill! Douke as deyntith as a Snyte. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lviii. 374 (Add. MS.) He myght not take of the noble and deyntith metes.

Hence † **Daintithly** *adv.*, † **Daintithness**. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* l. 370 (Add. MS.) Riche men... þat... etyn and drynkyn deyntithly. c 1440 *York Myst.* i. 78 Thi

dale, lord, es ay daynetithly delande. 1548 *THOMAS Ital. Gram.*, *Dilicatezza*, daintithness, or delicacie.

**Daintification**, *nonce-wd.* [f. **DAINTIFY**: see **-IFICATION**.] Daintified condition.

1780 *MAD. D'ARBLAY Diary* Apr., A mighty delicate gentleman... all daintification in manner, speech, and dress.

† **Daintiful**, *a. Obs.* [f. **DAINTY sb.** + **-FUL**.] = **DAINTY** a.

1393 *GOWER Conf.* I. 28 There is no lust no deintefull. a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4274 A dayntefull diete. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvii. 184 (Harl. MS.) How that he made so gret festes, and hadde so deyntheufulle metis.

Hence † **Daintifully** *adv.*, daintily.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. ix.* 324 (MS. G.) þis folke... fedde hunger deynthfulliche [*v. r.* deyntheuousliche, deyntifliche].

**Daintify** (dā'ntifai), *v. nonce-wd.* [See **-FY**.] *trans.* To make dainty. Hence **Daintified** *ppl. a.*

1780 *MAD. D'ARBLAY Lett.* July, My father charges me to give you his kindest love, and not to daintify his affection into respects or compliments. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* xlii. 317 A silken cushion—which... the daintified animal did not hurt.

**Daintihood** (dā'ntihud), *rare*. Daintiness.

1780 *MAD. D'ARBLAY Diary* May, Shocking her by too obvious an inferiority in daintihood and ton. 1890 *Temple Bar Mag.* Jan. 146 Her youth, her daintihood.

**Daintily** (dā'ntili), *adv.* [f. **DAINTY** a. + **-LY**<sup>2</sup>.]

† 1. Excellently, finely, handsomely, delightfully. a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 723 Dukkes and duzeperes dayntely rydes. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* ix. xxvii. 8 Rycht we arayt and dayntely. 1625 *BACON Ess. Truth* (Arb.) 499 A naked... day-light, that doth not show the masques... of the world halfe so Stately, and daintily, as Candlelights. 1640 *HOWELL Dodoni's Gr.* 2 There is no Forrest on Earth so daintily watered, with such great navigable Rivers.

2. In a dainty manner; with delicate attention to the palate, personal comfort, etc.

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 3655 (Trin.) Venisoun... Deyntily dize to his pay. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxvi. 145 (Harl. MS.) The fleshe is i-fed deyntilly. 1549 *LATIMER 2d Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 52 The rich... gloton which fared well and deynately every day. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A. v. iii.* 61 Baked in that Pie, Whereof their Mother daintly hath fed. 1647 *COWLEY Mistress, Love's Ingratitude* ii, And daintily I nourish d Thee With Idle Thoughts and Poetry. 17... *BROOMS View Epick Poems* (J.), To sleep well and fare daintily.

3. Delicately, nicely, etc.; elegantly, gracefully, neatly, deftly.

1561 *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst.* iii. viii. § 1 He was not tenderly & daintily handled. 1592 *GREENE Disput.* i You tread so daintily on your typtoes. 1654 *TRAPP Comm. Ps.* xxiii, So daintily hath he struck upon the whole string. 1860 *G. H. K. Vac. Tour.* 117 The daintily tripping roe. 1860 *MOTLEY Neheri* (1868) vii. 443 The envoy performed his ungracious task as daintily as he could.

† 4. Rarely, sparingly. *Obs.* (Cf. **DAINTY** a. 2.)

1494 *FABYAN Chron.* vii. ccxli. 242 To be kept there as a prysoner, where he was so dayntely fed that he dyed for hunger. 1581 *SIDNEY Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 65 The Ancients haue one or two examples of Tragycomedies... But... we shall find, that they neuer, or very daintily, match Horn-pypes and Funerals.

**Daintiness** (dā'ntinēs), [f. **DAINTY** a. + **-NESS**.] The quality of being dainty.

1. † a. The quality of being fine, handsome, delightful, etc. *Obs.* in general sense. b. Of food: Choiceness, deliciousness.

1552 *HULOET*, Deyntiness of meates at a banquet, *lautilia*. 1577 *B. GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* iv. (1586) 167 In daintiness and goodnesse of meat, the Hennes may compare with... the goose [etc.]. 1627 *HAKWILL Apol.* (J.), It was more notorious for the daintiness of the provision which he served in it, than for the massiness of the dish.

2. Delicate beauty, elegance, gracefulness; neatness, deftness.

1580 *SIDNEY Arcadia* i. (1725) 106 Leucippe was of a fine daintiness of beauty. 1669 *A. BROWNE Ars Pict.* (1675) 19 The grossness, slenderness, clownishness, and daintiness of Bodies. 1878 *J. W. ENSWORTH Brathwaite's Strappado* Introd. 28 There is poetic grace and daintiness of expression in the charming little lyric. 1884 *BLACK Jud. Shaks.* xxx, The pretty daintinesses of her coaxing.

3. Niceness, fastidiousness, delicacy, scrupulousness (of taste, sensibility, etc.).

1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm. Tim.* xxi. 250/2 What greter daintiness doe we make at blasphemies? 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* v. v. 45 Daintiness of eare. 1624 *WOTTON Archil.* i, Of sand, Lyme, and clay, Vitruvius hath discoursed without any daintiness. 1824 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 299/1 A certain discrimination, a certain daintiness of choice.

4. Niceness of appetite; fastidiousness with regard to food, personal comfort, etc.; softness.

1530 *PALSGB. 212/2* Deyntiness, *frandise*. 1598 *HAKLUYTT Voy.* I. 250 (R.) How justly may this barbarous and rude Russe condemne the daintiness and niceness of our captaines. 1670 *MILTON Hist. Eng.* v. (1851) 232 The People... learnt... of the Flemish daintiness and softness. 1836 *W. IRVING Astoria* i. 78 What especially irritated the captain was the daintiness of some of his cabin passengers. They were loud in their complaints of the ship's fare.

† 5. Physical delicacy or tenderness. *Obs.*

1575 *TURBERY. Faulconrie* 229 In these cures of diseases that grow in the eyes there must be great care used... because of the dayntiness of the place.

**Daintith**: see **DAINTETH**.

† **Daintive**, *sb. and a. Obs. rare*. In 6 **deyn**-**tyue**. [app. a. Anglo-Fr. \**daintif*, -ive, f. *dainté*: cf. OF. *bontif*, -ive, f. *bonté*.] = **DAINTY** *sb. and a.* 13... [see *adv.* below]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 70 b To taste of his deyntyue delicates. *Ibid.* 71 [He] fedeth vs with the deyntyues of his owne delicate dysshe.



Hence † **Daintively** *adv.* (in 4 *deyntifliche*).  
13.. *Cursor M.* 27904 (Cotton Galba) To zern metes daintytely. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C. ix.* 324 (MS. I) pis folke .. fedde hunger deyntifliche.

† **Daintrel.** *Obs.* Also 6 *daintrelle*, 7 *daintrelil*, -trill. [Cf. OF. *daintier* a tit-bit, a delicacy. The formation is obscure.] A dainty, delicacy.

1575 *J. STILL Gamn. Gurlon* ii. i. But by thy words, as I them smelled, thy daintrels be not many. 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 240 Neither glut thy selfe with present delicacies, nor long after daintrels hard to be come bye. 1615 *SIR E. HOBY Curry-combe* i. 7 These daintrels have layen so long vpon his hands, that I feare me they are scarce sweete. 1640 *BROME Spar. Garden* iii. vii. You say I shall fill my belly with this new Daintrell.

**Dainty** (dē'nti), *sb.* Forms: 3-6 *dein*-, *deyn*-, *dain*-, *daynte*-, *ee*, (4-5 *dayn*-, *deyntte*), 4-6 *dein*-, *deyntie*-, *y(e)*, 4-6 *Sc. dante* (e, 6 -ie, 5 -dente, 6 -denty, -ie, 4-7 *daynty* (e, -ie, 6-7 *daintie*-, *ye*, 4- *dainty*). [a. OF. *daintié*, *daintiē*, *daintiē* pleasure, tit-bit: -L. *dignitatem* worthiness, worth, beauty, f. *dignus* worthy. The earlier OF. form was in -et, whence *DAINTETH*.]

† 1. Estimation, honour, favour (in which anything is held); esteem, regard; affection, love.

a 1225 *Anscr. R.* 412 Me let lesse deinte to pinget bet me haue oft. c 1305 *St. Dunstan* 35 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 35 For deynthe pat he hadde of him: he let him some bringe Bifore be prince of Engeland. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xiii. 475 Schir edward. Lufit [him], and held in sic dante. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xi. 47 Of dowe ne dobet no deynthe me ne pouyte. c 1430 *LYDG. Bochas Prol.* 52 These Poetes .. Were by olde time had in great deynthe With Kinges. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* iv. viii. 28 Sen zonne .. man, deir sister, the Was wount to cherise, and held in gret dantie.

† 2. Liking or fondness to do or see anything; delight, pleasure, joy. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Song of Yesterday* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 133 Pei haue no deynthe forto dele With hings pat bene deuotly made. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xii. 379 Than all ran in-to gret dantie The Eril of Murreff for till se. c 1386 *CHAUCER Man of Law's T.* 41 Enery wight hath deynthe to chaffare With hem. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* i. xiii. 66 The reeding in the Bible .. draweth the reders .. fro loue and deinte of the world. 1508 *DUNBAR Twu maris wemen* 413 Adew dolour, adew I may daynte now begynis. a 1529 *SKELTON Bonge of Court* 337 Trowest thou.. That I haue deynthe to see thee cheryshed thus?

† 3. Delightful or choice quality; sumptuousness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3655 (Cott.) Venison pou has him nomenclon, Wit dainte dight til his be-houe. c 1300 *K. Alis.* 7070 They haue seolk, gret plente, And maken clothis of gret deynthe. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 1717 Dente (K. H. P. deynthe), *launtia*.

† 4. Daintiness; fastidiousness. *Obs.*

1590 *SPENCER F. Q. I.* ii. 27 He feining seemly merth, And shee quoo lookes: so dainty, they say, maketh derth. 1597 *SHAKS. a Hen. IV.* iv. i. 198 Note this: the King is wearie Of daintie, and such picking grievances.

† 5. *concr.* Anything estimable, choice, fine, pleasing or delightful; hence occas., a luxury, rarity (cf. *DAINTY* a. 2). *Obs.* exc. as in 6.

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 7850 Pare es plente of dayntes and delice. a 1400-50 *Alexander* 5208 Ware slike a wondre in oure marche of Mesmedone. It ware a daynte to deme. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 51 Plenty is no dainty. 1617 *RICH Irish Hubbub* 47 It was a great dainties .. even amongst their greatest nobility, to see a cloake lined thorow with Veluet. a 1661 *FULLER Worthies* (1840) II. 439 [He] made such a vent for Welch cottons, that what he found drugs at home, he left dainties beyond the sea. 1798 *FERRIAR Illustr. Sterne, Eng. Hist.* 227 Those who can only be allured by the dainties of knowledge.

† b. As a term of endearment. (Cf. *sweet*.)

1611 *B. JONSON Catiline* ii. i. There is a fortune comming Towards you, Daintie.

6. *esp.* Anything pleasing or delicious to the palate; a choice viand, a delicacy.

c 1300 *Beket* 1202 Heo seruede this holi man and of deynthes him brozte. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* II. 255 Tho was there many a deinte fet And set to fore hem on the bord. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 117 Delyce, or deynthes, *delicie*. 1576 *FLEMING Panoph. Epist.* 291 Some whet their teethe upon sugred deinties. 1611 *BIBLE Ps.* cxli. 4 Let mee not eate of their dainties. 1794 *SOUTHEY Wat Tyler* iii. ii. Your larders hung with dainties. a 1839 *FRAED Poems* (1864) i. 305 The cunning caterer still must share The dainties which his toils prepare.

Fig. 1393 *GOWER Conf.* III. 26 Suche deinties .. Whereof thou takest thin herte food. 1614 *BP. HALL Recoll. Treat.* 59 There be some .. to whom sin .. is both food and dainties.

† 7. Phrase. To make dainty of (anything): to set great store by; hence, to be sparing or chary of; to make dainty to do (or of doing; also *absol.*), to be chary or loth, to scruple. *Obs.*

1555 *WATREMAN Fardle Facions* i. iii. 37 The moste noble Citrus, wherof the Romaines made greate deintie. 1579 *Tomson Calvin's Sermon* Tim. ix. 107/1 They will not make daintie of the name of our Lord Jesus Christe, to worke their subtilty and mischevous practises. 1581 *SAVILLE Tacitus' Hist.* i. xli. (1591) 26 Some .. made noe dainty to beare any burden. 1594 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 21 Which of you all will now deny to dance? She that makes dainty, She Ile sweare hath cornes. a 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 492 Shee ranne home and made no dainties of it; all her neighbours were the better for her store. a 1628 *PRESTON New Cov.* (1634) 410 Defer not, make not dainty of applying the promises. 1633 *BP. HALL Hard Texts* Matt. x. 39 Hec that makes so dainty of his life as that .. he will not expose it to danger. 1638 *FEATLEY Strict. Lyndom.* ii. 122 We have all reason to make greate dainties of the noble con-

fession of .our Romish adversaries. 1649 *MILTON Eikon.* 43 If .. he made so dainty and were so loath to bestow [etc.].

† 8. As an asseveration: ? = By God's dignity, or honour. *Obs.*

1611 *TOURNEUR Ath. Trag.* ii. v. S'daintie, I mistooke the place, I miss'd thine eare and hit thy lip.

**Dainty** (dē'nti), *a.* [from *prec. sb.*]

† 1. Valuable, fine, handsome; choice, excellent; pleasant, delightful. *Obs.* or *dial.* in general sense.

c 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1253 To daly with derely your daynte wordez. c 1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 168 Full many a deynthe hors hadde he in stable. 1526 *TINDALE Rev.* xviii. 14 All thynges hadde be deynthe and had in pryce. 1573 *TUSSER Husb.* xxxv. (1878) 81 More daintie the lambe, the more worth to be sold. 1626 *BACON Sylva* § 389 The daintiest Smells of Flowers, are out of those plants, whose Leaves smell not. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 354 ¶ 1 To hear Country Squires .. cry, Madam, this is dainty Weather. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* vi. 'Ay? indeed? a scheme o' yours? that must be a denty one!' 1855 *ROBINSON Whitty Gloss.* Denty or Dentyish, a weather term, genial, cheering.

† 2. Precious; hence, rare, scarce. *Obs.*

a 1500 *How Plowman lerned Pater-Noster* 28 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* (1864) I. 211 Malte had he plenty; And Martyl-ma befo to hym was not deynthe. 1578 *LYTE Dodoens* vi. xi. 671 The blacke [whorls] are very common .. but the red are dayntie, and founde but in fewe places. 1616 *HIERON Wks.* I. 584 If sermons were dainty .. they would be more esteemed. 1677 *LADY CHAWORTH in 12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37 A rare muffle, but judged to be some dainty squirell skin.

3. Pleasing to the palate, choice, delicate.

1382 *WYCLIF Prov.* xxi. 17 Who loueth deynthe metis. c 1386 *CHAUCER Pard.* T. 58 To gete a glouton deynthe mete and drinke. 1541 *BARNES Wks.* (1573) 299/1 To eate .. costely fishes, and that of the dentyist fishen dressed. 1598 *SHAKS. L. L. L.* i. 26 Dainty bits Make rich the ribs. 1607 *MILTON Vac. Exerc.* 14 The dainty dishes shall be serv'd up last. 1758 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 100 ¶ 12 Her house is elegant and her table dainty. 1822 *STEVENSON Wrecker* ii. Fine wines and dainty dishes.

4. Of delicate or tender beauty or grace; delicately pretty; made with delicate taste.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3060 Her chyn .. With a dypull full derne, dayntie to se. 1555 *WATREMAN Fardle Facions* i. v. 77 She is esteemed, as a dainty derling, beloued of many. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* June 6 The grassy ground iv. i. dainty Daysies dight. 1609 *B. JONSON Sil. Wom.* iv. i. Let your gifts be slight and dainty, rather than precious. c 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* i. xxviii. 54 Such a diaphonous pellucid dainty body as you see a Crystall-glasse is. 1877 *M. M. GRANT Sun-Maid* vii. There stood waiting for her the daintiest of little broughams.

5. Of persons, etc.: Possessing or displaying delicate taste, perception, or sensibility; nice, fastidious, particular; sometimes, over-nice.

1576 *FLEMING Panoph. Epist.* 357 Fine fellows, that bee verie deintie and circumspect in speaking. 1581 *LAMBARDE Eiren.* iv. v. (1588) 497 Sundry other daintie and nice differences doth M. Marrow make. 1591 *SHAKS. a Hen. VI.* v. iii. 38 no shape but his can please your dainty eye. 1602 - *Ham.* v. i. 78 The hand of little Impoyment hath the daintier sense. 1700 *CONGREGATE Way of World* iii. xv. I am somewhat dainty in making a resolution - because when I make it I keep it. 1841 *LYTTON Nt. & Morn.* iii. ii. You must take me as you take the world, without being over-scrupulous and dainty. 1855 *H. REED Lect. Eng. Lit.* iii. 107 From being too dainty in our choice of words.

† b. with of: Particular or scrupulous about (anything); careful, chary, or sparing of. *Obs.*

1576 *FLEMING Panoph. Epist.* 251 Friendes .. garnished w't learning, & not deintie of their travell. 1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* ii. iii. 150 Let vs not be daintie of leane-taking, But shift away. 1622 *FULLER Holy & Prof.* St. v. iii. 307 The devil not being dainty of his company where he finds welcome.

† c. with *infin.*: Disinclined or reluctant (to do).

1553 *B. GILPIN in Strype Eccl. Mem.* II. xxiii. 440 Such as be dainty to hear the poor. 1612 *SIR R. DUDLEY Fortesc. Papers* 7 note, I will not bee dainty to make you a partie to my designs.

6. Nice or particular as to the quality of food, comforts, etc.; † luxurious.

a 1533 *LD. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K j b. The heart of a woman is deynthe. 1614 *BP. HALL Recoll. Treat.* 85 As .. some daintie guest knowing there is so pleasant fare to com. 1683 *TRYON Way to Health* 181 You dainty Dames that are so nice, that you will not endure this pleasant Element to blow upon you. 1855 *MOTLEY Dutch Repr.* III. vi. 521 When men were starving they could not afford to be dainty. 1892 *STEVENSON Wrecker* ii. I was born with a dainty tooth and a palate for wine.

† 7. Delicate (in health or constitution). *Obs.*

1566 *BULLEYN Campoundes* 46 a. They maie be giuen to drinke to them that are weak or feable, or as they call it deintie. 1581 *MULCASTER Positions* xxiii. (1887) 94 Whose mother was delicate, daintie, tender, neuer stirring.

8. quasi-*adv.* Daintily. (*rare*.)

1614 *BP. HALL Recoll. Treat.* 726 You quote Scriptures, tho (to your prayse) more dainty indeede then your fellows. 1671 *H. M. tr. Erasmus. Collog.* 72 If rich men shall fare somewhat dainty. 1873 *MISS BROUGHTON Nancy* III. 144 So exceedingly fair and dainty wrought.

9. *Comb.*, as dainty-chapped, -eared, -fingered, -mouthed, -tongued, -toothed adjs.

1725 *BAILEY Erasmus. Collog.* (1877) 42 (D.) You \*dainty-chapped fellow, you ought to be fed with hay. 1549 *LATIMER 2nd Sermon. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 90 marg., How tender and \*deynety eared men of these days be. 1713 *ROWE Yane Shore* i. i. This tough impracticable Heart Is govern'd by a \*dainty-finger'd Girl. 1530 *PALSGR. 309/a* \*Deynthy mouthed, *frant.* a 1633 *AUSTIN Medit.* (1635) 233 They are so \*dainty-Tongued that their Company is too costly. 1577 *tr. Bullinger Decades* (1592) 154 Let every young man bee .. not licorish lipped, nor \*dainty toothed.

† **Dainty** (dē'nti), *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. *prec. sb.* or *adj.*] *trans.* With up: To pamper or indulge with dainties.

1622 *H. SYDENHAM Sermon. Sol. Occ.* (1637) 108 So that they would .. nourish, not daintie up the body. 1778 *Mrs. THRALE in Mad. D'Arblay's Diary* Sept. 1. 68 She dainties us up with all the meekness in the world.

**Dair**, **Dairt**, *obs.* forms of **DARE**, **DART**.

**Dairawe**, **Daired**: see **DAY**.

|| **Dairi** (dairi). Also 7 *dayro*. [Japanese, f. Chinese *dai* great + *ri* within.] In Japan, properly the palace or court of the Mikado: also a respectful mode of speaking of the mikado or emperor.

Hence **Dairi-sama**, *lit.* lord of the dairi or palace, an appellation of the Mikado.

1662 *J. DAVIES tr. Mandelslo's Trav. E. Ind.* 184 That great State hath always been govern'd by a Monarch, whom, in their Language they call *Dayro*. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. App. 7 We were not allowed to see the Dairi, or ecclesiastical emperor.

**Dairy** (dē'ri), *sb.* Forms: 3 *deirie*, 4 *dayerie*, *dayry*, 5 *devery*, *deyry*, 6 *deirie*, *dary*, *ph.* *deyris*, *dayres*, 6-7 *deyrie*, *darye*, *dery*, *derye*, *dairie*, 7 *daery*, *darie*, *dayry*, 7- *dairy*.

[ME. *deirie*, etc., f. *deie*, *deye*, DEY female servant, dairy-maid + *-erie*, -ERY 2, suffix of Romanic origin. The *dai-ry* is thus the place where the function of the *dēy* is performed: cf. *dēy-woman*, -house.]

1. A room or building in which milk and cream are kept, and made into butter and cheese. b. Sometimes in towns the name is assumed by a shop in which milk, cream, etc. are sold.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg. I.* 129/14 Hire *deirie* was euer of chese and botere bar and swipe lene. *Ibid.*, For bare nas in be *deirie* nougt adel of none *zuite*. c 1386 *CHAUCER Wife's T.* 15 Tropes, beernys, shipnes, *dayrys*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 117 *Deiryre, vacaria*. 1577 *B. Gooce Hereshack's Husb.* i. (1586) 3 As my Foldes .. or my *Dayrie* and Fishpondes wyl yeelde. 1621 *B. JONSON Gipsies Metamorph.* Wks. (Rtdg.) 624/1 To Roger or Mary Or Peg of the dairy. 1727-46 *THOMSON Summer* 262 Some [insects] to the house, The fold, and dairy, hungry, bend their flight. 1837 *HOWITT Rur. Life* vi. i. 402 The elegant dairy for the supply of milk and cream, curds and butter.

2. That department of farming, or of a particular farm, which is concerned with the production of milk, butter, and cheese. Hence, sometimes applied to the milch cows on a farm collectively.

c 1286 *CHAUCER Prol.* 597 His lordes scheep, his meet, and his *dayerie*, His swyn, his hors, his stoor, and his pultrie, Was holly in this reeves govyngene. 1673 *TEMPLE Trade in Ireland* Wks. 1773 III. 22 Grounds were turned much in England from breeding either to feeding or dairy. 1779 *H. SWINBURNE Spain* xxxviii. (R.) The large dairy of cows established here by the present king. 1814 *JANE WEST A de Lacy* III. 238 The .. troopers .. drove off our good cow-dairy. 1882 *Somerset Co. Gaz.* 18 Mar., Dairy of 12 or 16 cows to be let. 1888 *ELWORTHY W. Somerset Word-bk.* Dairy, the milking cows belonging to any farm or house.

3. A dairy-farm.

1562 *PHAER Æneid.* ix. A a j b b, Stormy showres and winds about mens *deiries* houlting. 1594 *NORDEN Spec. Brit., Essex* (Camden) 8 In Tending hundred wher are manie wickes or *dayries*. a 1661 *FULLER Worthies* ii. 144 The Goodnesse of the Earth, abounding with *Deiries* and Pasture. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 41 All the lower Part of this County .. is full of large feeding Farms, which we call *Dairies*; and the Cheese they make is excellent.

4. *attrib. and Comb.*, as dairy-cabin, -country, -damself, -path, -society, -ware, -wench, -wife, -work, etc.; dairy-fed *adj.*; dairy-farm, a farm chiefly devoted to the production of milk, butter, and cheese; so dairy-farmer, -farming; dairy-grounds, cow-pastures; dairy-school, a technical school for teaching dairy-work or dairy-farming; dairy-woman, a woman who manages a dairy.

1797 *Mrs. RADCLIFFE Italian* xiii. It was a \*dairy-cabin belonging to some shepherds. 1626 *BACON Sylva* § 354 Children in \*Dayrie Countries doe waxe more tall, than where they feed more upon Bread, and Flesh. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xli. The yet more considerate \*dairy-damsel. *Ibid.* ix. To employ them as a \*dairy-farmer, or cowfeeder, as they are called in Scotland. 1842 *S. LOWER Handy Andy* x. I've seen them in England killing your \*dairy-fed pork. a 1618 *SILVESTER Hymn of Aims* 131 *Keats Endym.* Sheep, his \*dairy-grounds w't Neat. 1828 *KEATS Endym.* 1. 44 The \*dairy pails Bring home increase of milk. 1530 *PALSGR. 212/1* \*Dayrie place, *metor.* 1893 *Queen* 25 Mar. 278/2 They will .. establish \*dairy schools all over England. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 5/2 The numerous \*dairy socie- ties in America. 1727 *Philop Quarll* (1816) 61 Having a store of \*dairy ware, he resolved to make a place to keep it in: the kitchen .. not being a proper place for cream or milk. 1684 *ORWAY Atheist* v. i. The \*Dairy-Wench or Chamber-maid. 1798 *BLOOMFIELD Farmer's Boy*, *Spring* 251 Suffolk \*dairy-wives run mad for cream. 1609 *Eu. Woman in Hum.* i. in *Bullen O. P. P.* iv. I shall goe to court now, and attired like an old \*Dairie woman. 1841 *M. L. HAWTHORNE in Hawthorne & Wife* (1883) I. 230 Bring us home a box of butter, if your dairy-woman is very nice. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) III. ix. 67. I have .. admired them in their \*dairy-works. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 5/2 As a specialist in dairy work.

**Dairy**, *v. rare.* [f. **DAIRY** *sb.*] *trans.* To keep or feed (cows) for the dairy.

1780 *A. YOUNG Tour Irel.* II. 142 The cattle system is generally dairying Cows. 1805 *LUCCOCK Nat. Wool* 245 Those [lands] of a stiffer quality are employed in the dairying of cows.



**Daker-hen.** *dial.* [Connexion has been suggested with **DAIKER** *v.*, and with Flem. *daeckeren* 'volitare, motari, mobilitare, et coruscare' (Kilian). But no such name appears to be applied to the bird in Flanders.] The Corn-crake or Land-rail.



1554 *Elvot Bibl.*, *Crex*, a certaine birde, whiche semeth by Aristotle to be that whiche in some places is called a Daker hen. 1678 *Ray Willughby's Ornith.* 170 The Rail or Daker-hen. 1766 *Pennant Zool.* (1768 II. 387. 1789 *G. White Selborne* 1853) 347 A man brought me a land-rail or daker-hen. 1859 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Daker-hen*, the corn-crake. *Dakoit*, etc.: see *DAKOIT*, etc.

|| **Dal** (dāl). *Anglo-Ind.* Forms: 7-9 dōl(l), 9 dhal, dhol(l), dāl(l). [Hindi *dāl* split pulse:—Skr. *dala*, f. *dāl* to split.] The pulse obtained from some leguminous plants, chiefly from the *Cajan*, *Cajanus indicus*, extensively used as an article of food in the East Indies.

1698 *Fryer Acc. E. India* 101 (Y.) At their coming up out of the Water they bestow the largess of Rice or Doll (an Indian Bean). 1727 *Hamilton New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xiv. 161 Doll and Rice being mingled together and boyled, make Kitcherie, the common Food of the Country. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 189 *Cajanus indicus*. In India the pulse is called Dhal or Dhol or Urhur, and [is] ranked as third in value among the pulses. 1883 *F. M. Crawford Mr. Isaacs v. 87* A mouthful of dal to keep his weakened old body alive.

**Dal**: see *DALE*, *DEAL*, *DOLE*.

|| **Dalai**, **Dalai-lama**: see *LAMA*.

**Dalder**, obs. form of *DOLLAR*.

**Dale** <sup>1</sup> (dæl). Forms: 1-3 dæl, 1-4 dāl, 3-dale; also 3 deale, 4 dalle, 5 dall, daile, daylle, 6 daill. [OE. *dæl*, gen. *dæles*, dat. *dæle*, pl. *dalu*, *dalo*, neuter; Com. Teut. = OS. *dāl*, OFris. *dāl*, *deil*, MDu. and Du. *dāl*, all neuter, OHG., MHG. *tal*, masc. and n., Ger. *thal* n., LG. *dāl*, *dāl*, Goth. *dāl* n., ON. *dāl* m. (Sw., Da. *dāl*):—O'Leut. *dalo-m*, *dalo-z*, of which the root-meaning appears to be 'deep or low place': cf. Goth. *dalap* down, *dalap* below. As used in ME. the native word appears to have been reinforced from Norse, for it is in the north that the word is a living geographical name.

As to the final *e* in Ormin's *dāle*, see *Sachs Unorganische E im Ormin*. 22. The form *deales* pl. in *Ancren Riwle* is difficult to explain.]

1. A valley. In the northern counties, the usual name of a river-valley between its enclosing ranges of hills or high land. In geographical names, e.g. *Clydesdale*, *Annan-dale*, *Borrowdale*, *Dovedale*, it extends from Lanarkshire to Derbyshire, and even farther south, but as an appellative it is more or less confined to the district from Cumberland to Yorkshire. In literary English chiefly poetical, and in the phrases *hill and dale*, *dale and down*.

893 *K. Alfred Oros.* I. iii. þæs dæles se dæl se þæt flod ne grette ys gyt to-dæg wastmberende on ælces cynnes bledum. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Hwile uppen cluies and hwile in þe dæles. c1200 *Ormin* 9203 Nu sket shall ille an dæle beon all hegyed up & filled. — *ibid.* 14568, & coude & feld, & dale & dun. c1205 *Lay.* 26034 Heo comen . . in ane dale deope. c1225 *Ancre R.* 282, I þe deales. . þu make wellen uorto springen. c1300 *Cursor M.* 22532-4 (Cott.) Al þis werld bath dale and dune. . þe dals up-rise, þe fells dun fall. c1385 *Chaucer Sir Thopas* 85 By dale and eek by doune. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 112 *Dale*, or vale, *vallis*. c1533 *Ld. Berners Hwot* xxi. 65 They . . rode by hylles and dæles. 1560-1 *Bk. Discl. Ch. Scott.* v. ii. § 10 Galloway, Carrick, Niddisdall, Annandall, with the rest of the Dailis in the West. 1611 *Bible Gen.* xiv. 17 The valley of Shaveh, which is the Kings dale (1883 *R. V. vale*). 1727-46 *Thomson Summer* 1271 Where, wined into pleasing solitudes, Runs out the rambling dale. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 343 *Lithgowshire*. . Its surface is finely diversified with hill and dale. 1820 *Wordsw. Scenery of Lakes* (1822) 62 That part of these Dales which runs up far into the mountains. 1847 *Tennyson In Mem.* Concl. Till over down and over dale All night the shining vapour sail. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 50 2 Around Whitby all the valleys are 'dales'. There are many smaller dales into which the larger are divided. 'Decalhead' is the upper portion of the vale; 'Decal end' being the lower part.

b. *fig.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 19 Dan man hem telled soðe tale . . Of blisses dune, of sorwes dale. c1340 *Hampele Psalter* xxiii. 3 Falland down agayn til þe dale of synn. — *Pr. Cons.* 1044 *Twa worldes*. . An es þis dale, whar we er wonnand. c1651 *Fuller in Spurgeon Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxi. 1 Viewing the deep dale of thy own unworthiness.

† 2. A hole in the ground, a hollow, pit, gulf. Cf. *DELL* I. *Obs.*

a. 800 *Corpus Gloss.* 274 *Baratrum*, dæl [*Leiden* dal]. a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 421 On ðæt deope dæl deofol gefeallap. c1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 481 Ther thay stonde a dale Do make, and drenchen hem therein. 1489 *Caxton Faytes of A.* I. xxv. 78 Dyches or dales or euyl pathes.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *dale furze*; *dale-end*, the lower end of a dale; *dale-head*, the head of a dale or valley; *dale-land*, the lower and arable ground of a district (Jamieson); *dale-lander*, -man, 'an inhabitant of the lower ground' (Jam.); *dale-backed a.*, hollow in the back (as a horse).

1676 *Lond. Gas.* No. 1078/4 *Lost*. . a brown bay Nag. . a little dale backt. 1807 *Vancouver Agric. Devon* (1813) 250 The . . dwarf or dale furze blooming in the autumn. 1876 [see sense 1].

**Dale** <sup>2</sup> (dæl). Also *Sc. dail* (l. [The northern phonetic variant of *DOLE*:—OE. *dāl* part, portion, division, allotment, dealing, dole; cf. northern *hale*, *stane* = standard Eng. *whole*, *stone*. Used *esp.* in the following senses; for others see *DOLE*.]

1. A portion or share of land; *spec.* a share of a

common field, or portion of an undivided field indicated by landmarks but not divided off.

c1241 *Newminster Cartul.* (1873) 87, j acram et j rodum in campo del West in duas mikel dales quas Rob. fil. Stephani et Sywardus quondam tenuerunt. 1531 *Dial. on Lawes Eng.* I. xxx. (1638) 53 The grantee suffereth a recovery . . by the name of a rent in Dale of a like sum as, etc. 1735 *N. Riding Rec.* IX. 157 All the . . closes, inclosures, dales and parcels of arable land meadow and pasture ground thereto belonging. 1820 *Wordsw. Scenery of Lakes* II. (1823) 43-4 The arable and meadow land of the vales is possessed in common fields; the several portions being marked out by stones, bushes, or trees; which portions . . to this day are called Dales. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss.*, *Dale* [local], an unseparated portion of a field. . often unmarked, or only shown by stakes in the hedge and stones at the corners of the dale. 'A dale of about a quarter of an acre on Black Moss belongs to this farm.'

† 2. Dealing; having to do with; business. *Sc. Obs.*

c1375 *Barbour Troy-bk.* II. 2839 Cume and ly heire besyde me now, So pat I may haf dale with þe. 1469 *Act. Audit.* 9 (Jam.) He sall hafe na dale nor entermeting tharwith in tyme to cum. 1513 *Douglas Aeneis* XII. iv. 161 All to syng wyth sic ane to haue daill [1553 dale]. 1535 *Stewart Cron. Scot.* III. 302 That he wald get the best part of the daill. 1592 *Sc. Acts* 755. VI (1814) 544 The successioun proceeding of that pretitid mariage or carnall daill.

**Dale** <sup>3</sup> (dæl). Also 7 daile, 8, 9 dail, (dail). [Corresponds in sense 1 to LGER. and Du. *dāl*; also to F. *dalle*, which is also used for a conduit-tube of wood or metal used in various technical processes, Sp., Pg., It. *dala*, Sp. also *adala*. According to Littré *dalle* in Picard is also a kitchen-sink; and Cotgr. has 'dalle, a sewer or pit whereinto the washings, dishwater, and other such ordure of houses are conveyed'. See Littré and Diez.]

1. A wooden tube or trough for carrying off water, as from a ship's pump; a pump-dale.

1611 *Cotgr.*, *Escoursouër*, the dale of a (ships) pumpe, whereby the water is passed out. 1627 *Capt. Smith Seaman's Gram.* II. 8 The daile is a trough wherein the water doth runne over the Deckes. 1800 *S. Standidge in Naval Chron.* III. 472 They pumping the water into a pump dill. c1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 139 *Pump dales*, pipes fitted to the cisterns, to convey . . water . . through the ship's sides.

2. An outlet drain in the Fen district.

1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 304 When those fens were first embanked and drained, narrow tracts, called 'dales', or washes, were left open to the river. . Every district, with its frontage of dales, is tolerably well drained.

**Dale**: see *DEAL*.

**Dale v.**, northern form of *DOLE v.*

**Daleir**, obs. form of *DOLLAR*.

**Dalesman** (dælz-mæn). [= *dale's man* from *DALE* <sup>1</sup>.] A native or inhabitant of a dale; *esp.* of the dales of Cumberland, Westmorland, Yorkshire, and adjacent northern counties of England.

1769 *Gray Jrnl. in Lakes Wks.* 1884 I. 257 A little path . . passable to the Dale's-men. 1813 *Scott Robby* III. II. In Redesdale his youth had heard Each art her wily dalemen dared. 1848 *Macaulay Hist. Eng.* I. 285 Even after the accession of George the Third, the path over the fells from Borrowdale to Ravenglas was still a secret carefully kept by the dalemen.

So **Dalesfolk**, **Dalespeople**, **Daleswoman**.

1863 *Mary Howitt F. Bremer's Greece* I. 224 Our dale-folk of Mora. 1886 *Hall Caine Son of Hagar* I. II. There is a tough bit of Toryism in the grain of these Northern dale-folk. 1883 *F. A. Mallett N. Wordsw. & Duddon in Gd. Words.* The dreary wastes of Wrynose, which the dalepeople call Wreyneess. 1892 *Mrs. H. Ward David Grieve* I. v. 362 Her dalewoman's self-respect could put up with him no longer.

**Dalf** (e, obs. pa. t. of *DELVE*).

**Dallance**, **dalie**, obs. ff. **DALLIANCE**, **DALLY**.

† **Dalk** <sup>1</sup>. *Obs.* [OE. *dalc*, dale, in ON. *dalkr*.]

A pin, brooch, clasp, buckle.

c1000 *Ælfric Josh. vii.* 21 Ic geseah sumne gildenne dalc on fitigum entsum. c1000 *Ælfric Voc.* in Wr. Wülker 152 *Fibula*, preon, uel oferefeng, uel dalc. c1100 *Anglo-Sax. Voc.* *ibid.* 313/2 *Spinther*, dalc, oððe preon. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 89 A Dalk (or a tache), *firmaculum*, *firmatorum*, *monile*. 1488 *Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* 286 Unum portiferium cum a dalk cum ymagine B. Marie.

† **Dalk** <sup>2</sup>, **delk**. *Obs. exc. dial.* [?dim. of *DALE*, *DELL*: cf. *E. Fris. dölke* small hollow, dimple, dim. of *dölle* excavation, hollow: see Kluge *Nominal Stammbild.* 29.] A hole, hollow, depression.

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Biblew* in Wright *Voc.* 146 *Au cool trouerret la fosse*, a dalk in the necke. 1340 *Hampele Pr. Cons.* 647 For als a dalk es ewen Imydward þe yholke of þe egge, when it es hard, Ryght swa es helle pitte. . Ymddes þe erthe. c1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 607 Or brason scrapes out of euerie dalk Hem scrape. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 112 *Dalke*, *vallis*. 1688 *R. Holme Armoury* II. 85/1 *The dalk* . . is . . the Crown, top, or head of an apple, where the blossom is. c1825 *Forby Voc. E. Anglia*, *Delk*, a small cavity, in the soil, in the flesh of the body, or in any surface which ought to be quite level.

**Dalk**, in mining: see *DAUK*.

**Dall**, obs. Sc. spelling of *DAW v.*

**Dallastype** (dæl-lasteip). [f. proper name *Dallas* + *TYPE*.] (See *quat.*)

1875 *D. C. Dallas Circular*, I have . . perfected the method known as Dallastype—a process of Photographic Engraving by which can be produced as Blocks for Surface Printing. . copies of Wood-cuts, Type or MS. Matter. 1884 *Academy* 9 Feb. 94 The photographic process known as Dallastype.

† **Dalle** <sup>1</sup>. *Obs. rare*—1. [app. an infantile word. Cf. *DADDLE*.] The hand.

c1460 *Towneley Myst.* (Surtees) 118 Haylle! put furthe thy dalle, I bryng the bot a balle.

|| **Dalle** <sup>2</sup> (dal). [Fr., in both senses.]

It is probable that the two senses are really distinct words; in sense 2, the F. word is the same as *DALE*; in sense 1 Hatzfeld suggests connexion with Ger. *diele*, board, *DEAL*. 1. A flat slab of stone, marble, or terra cotta, used for flooring; *spec.* an ornamental or coloured slab for pavements in churches, etc.

1855 *Ecclesiologist* XVI. 200 The choir, the chapels . . were paved with these dalles.

2. *pl.* The name given (originally by French employés of the Hudson's Bay Company) in the Western U.S. to rapids where the rivers are compressed into long narrow trough-like channels.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 364/1 The Columbia River is there . . compressed into 'dalles', or long, narrow, and broken troughs. 1890 *M. Townsend U. S.* 137 *The Dalles* of the Columbia, Oregon; the *Dalles* of the Wisconsin, Minnesota. Hence **Dallage** [Fr.], flooring with dalles.

1856 *Ecclesiologist* XVII. 57 In the dallage the treatment is archaic.

**Daller**, obs. form of *DOLLAR*.

**Dalliance** (dæl-lians). Forms: 4-6 dalyaunce, daliaunce, 4-7 dalliance, (5- auns, -ans(e), 5-6 dalyance, 6 dally-, dalliaunce, 6- dalliance. [f. *DALLY v.* + *-ANCE*: prob. formed in OFr. or AngloFr., though not yet recorded.]

† 1. Talk, confabulation, converse, chat; usually of a light or familiar kind, but also used of serious conversation or discussion. *Obs.*

c1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1012 Pur3 her dere dalyaunce of her derne wordes. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 112 *Dalyaunce*, *confabulacio*, *colloquio*, *colloquium*. 1447 *Bokenham Scyntys* (Roxb.) 162 Marthe fyrst met hym (Christ). . And hadde wyth hym a long dalyaunce. 1496 *Dives & Panp.* (W. de W.) vi. xv. 259/1 Redyng & dalyaunce of holy wryt & of holy myenes lyues.

2. Sport, play (with a companion or companions); *esp.* amorous toying or caressing, flirtation; often, in bad sense, wanton toying.

c1385 *Chaucer L. G. W. Prol.* 332 (Cambr. MS) For to han with300 sum dalyaunce. c1386 — *Doctor's T.* 66 At festes, reueles, and at daunces, That ben occasions of daliaunces. c1400 *MAUNDE* (Roxb.) xxvi. 124 þai schall . . ete and drinke and hafe dalyaunce with wymmen. a1553 *UDALL Royster D.* IV. vi. (Arb.) 70 Dyd not I for the nonce . . Read his letter in a wrong sense for dalyance? 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* I. iii. 50 Whist like a pift and reckless Libertine Himselfe the Primrose path of dalliance treads. 1725 *POPE Odyss.* VIII. 348 The lewd dalliance of the queen of love. 1742 *FIELDING J. Andrews* III. vi. He, taking her by the hand, began a dalliance. 1820 *Scott Monst.* xxiv. Julian . . went on with his dalliance with his feathered favourite. 1860 *Motley Netherl.* (1868) I. vi. 346 The Earl's courtship of Elizabeth was anything . . but a gentle dalliance.

3. Idle or frivolous action, trifling; playing or trifling with a matter.

1548 *Becon Solace of Soul Catechism* (1844) 571 In health and prosperity Satan's assaults seem to be but trifles and things of dalliance. 1561 *T. Norton Calvin's Inst.* III. xii. § 1 When they come into the sight of God, such dalliances must auoide, because there is . . no trifling strife about words. 1627 *F. E. Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 16 Divine Justice, who admits no dalliance with Oaths. 1641 *Letl.* in Sir J. Temple *Irish Rebell.* II. 47 Now there is no dalliance with them; who . . declare themselves against the State. 1814 *Wordsw. Excursion* I. Wks. (1888) 423/2 Men whose hearts Could hold vain dalliance with the misery Even of the dead. 1843 *Prescott Mexico* (1850) I. 63 He continued to live in idle dalliance.

† 4. Waste of time in trifling, idle delay. *Obs.*

The first quot. prob. does not belong here: see *DELYANCE*.

[c1340 *Cursor M.* 26134 (Fairf.), & for-pink his lange daliaunce [Cott. deliaunce] þat he for-drawn has his penance.] 1547-64 *BAULDWIN Mor. Philos.* (Palf.) v. vi. Death deadly woundeth without dread or dalyance. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* IV. i. 59 My businesse cannot brooke this dalliance.

**Dallier** (dæl-liar). Also 6 dalier. [f. *DALLY v.* + *-ER* <sup>1</sup>.] One who dallies: see the verb.

1563-87 *FOXE A. & M.* (1596) 1553/2 To bee no dalliers in Gods matters, but to be . . earnest. a1568 *ASCHAM Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 85 The greatest makers of loue, the daylie dalliers. 1861 *GEN. P. THOMPSON in Bradford Advertiser* 19 Oct. 6/1, 'I will go so far', says the dallier with evil; and everybody knows where the dallier comes to.

**Dallop**, var. of *DOLLOP*.

**Dally** (dæl-li). *v.* Forms: 4-6 daly(e), daly(e), (5 dallyn), 6 dalie, dallye, 6-7 dallie, 6- dally. [a. OF. *dallier* to converse, chat, pass one's time in light social converse, etc.; common in AngloFr.: see *Glossary to Bozon* (ed. P. Meyer). Godef. has an instance of *dallier* trans. to 'chaff'.]

† 1. *intr.* To talk or converse lightly or idly; to chat. *Obs.*

c1300 *K. Alis.* 6991 Dysers dalye, reisons craken. c1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1114 Pay dronken & dalyeden, & daltam vntyztel. *Ibid.* 1253 To daly with derely your daynte wordes. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 112 *Dallyn* or talkyn, *fabulor*, *confabulor*, *colloquor*.

2. To act or speak sportively, make sport, amuse oneself; to toy, sport, play with, *esp.* in the way of amorous caresses; to flirt, wanton.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 112 *Dallyn*, or hallesyn, *amptector*. 1573 *G. Harvey Letter-bk.* (Camden) 105 Did you never see