

Glossary

B

back friend, pretended friend

baffle, disgrace

bait, set dogs on, worry, persecute, entice with bait, feed, feast

balk, let slip, quibble, heap

ballow, cudgel

ban, to curse

Banbury cheese, proverbially thin

bandog, fierce chained dog

banquet, dessert, light meal of fruit and sweetmeats

bases, skirt-like garment worn by a knight

Basilisco-like, like Basilisco, a braggart knight in the play *Soliman and Perseda*

basilisk, fabulous reptile whose look was fatal, large cannon

basta, enough!

bastard, sweet Spanish wine

bastinado, beating

bate, trouble; beat wings ready for flight, blunt, reduce, grow less, deduct

bateless, not to be blunted

bat-fowling, catching birds at night

batlet, bat used in washing clothes

bauble, jester's stick

bavin, brush-wood

bawd, procurer (male or female)

beadle, parish officer with power to punish

beadsman, one who prays for another

bearherd, bear-keeper

bearing cloth, christening garment

beaver, visor, helmet

bedlam, lunatic hospital, lunatic

beetle, heavy hammer-like tool; overhang

beldam, grandmother, hag

bell-wether, castrated ram with a bell round its neck

be-mete, measure

bemoiled, covered with mud
bench, raise to authority, sit as judge
bench-hole, privy
bend, look, glance; to turn, incline, direct, strain, submit
bent, inclination, direction, tension, force, range, aim
berayed, defiled
bergamask, a rustic dance
besonian, beggar, scoundrel
besort, suitable company; to suit
beteem, pour over, grant
bewray, reveal
bias, in bowls, weight which makes a bowl swerve; natural bent, inclination, compelling influence
bigamy, marriage with widow(er)
biggin, nightcap
bilbo, finely-tempered sword
bilboes, shackles
bill, halberd, pike, note, catalogue, label
birdbolt, blunt-headed arrow for shooting birds
bisson, partly blind, blinding
blank, blank page or charter, white mark in centre of target, aim, range; to make pale
blazon, coat of arms, description, proclamation; to proclaim, praise
blood-battered, stained with clots of blood
blow, swell, blossom, (of flies) deposit eggs (on), defile
blowse, chubby girl
bluecap, Scotsman
blurt, make light of
board, to address, make advances to, mount sexually
bob, taunt, mock, cheat, get by trickery, pummel
bodkin, dagger, hair-pin or ornament
boll'n, swollen
bolt, broad-headed arrow, shackle; to sieve, fether
bolter, sieve
bolting-hutch, sifting-bin
bombard, leather jug or bottle
bombast, cotton-wool padding for clothes, bombastic
bona-roba, well dressed prostitute
bone-ache, syphilis
boot, booty, profit, advantage, help, use, avail, addition; to be of use, profit,

present in addition

Boreas, north wind

borrow, receive, assume, counterfeit

bosky, wooded

botchy, ulcerous

bots, disease of horses caused by worms

bottom, ship, valley, bobbin; to wind on a bobbin

bounce, bang

brabble, brawl

brace, suit of armour, readiness

brach, hound, bitch

braid, deceitful; to reproach

branched, patterned as with branches

brave, finely dressed, splendid, excellent; bravado or threat; to adorn, challenge, defy, swagger, taunt

bravery, bravado, finery, splendour, ostentation, defiance

brawl, French dance; quarrel

break-neck, ruinous course of action

breast, voice

breathe, speak, exercise, rest

breathed, exercised, valiant, inspired

breese, gadfly

Briareus, hundred-handed giant

brief, letter, summary

broke, bargain

broken, (of music) in parts, scored for different instruments

broker, agent, go-between

Brownist, member of a Puritan sect founded by Robert Browne

bruit, rumour, report; to announce

bubuncle, facial eruption

buck, washing, dirty clothes for washing

buckler, shield

Bucklersbury, street of apothecaries' and druggists' shops off Cheapside

budget, wallet, bag

buff, strong leather used for coats of bailiffs and legal officers

bug, bogey, terror

bugle, bead, hunting-horn

bulk, body, stall in front of a shop

bully, friend, fine fellow

bung, pickpocket

burgonet, helmet

burn, infect with venereal disease

buss, kiss