

GLOSSARY

- Abatement.**—A reduction. To abate a nuisance is to discontinue it.
- Acceptance.**—Name given to a draft after it has been accepted.
- Accommodation Paper.**—A promissory note or bill given without value.
- Acquittance.**—A release.
- Ad valorem.**—According to value.
- Alias.**—(1) Otherwise. (2) Assumed name.
- (3) A second or farther writ after a first writ has expired.
- Alibi.**—In another place.
- Alimony.**—Allowance made by court to a wife out of the husband's estate.
- Annulment.**—Cancellation; the act of making void.
- Anno Domini.**—In the year of our Lord.
- Appraise.**—To set a price upon; arbitration and award.
- Assets.**—Available means for the payment of debt.
- Assignee.**—One to whom property is assigned.
- Attachment.**—Seizure of goods by a judge's order or other legal process.
- Attorney.**—A person appointed to act in place of another.
- Bailment.**—The receiving and keeping of goods for a time by one person from another.
- Barter.**—Traffic by exchange of commodities.
- Bequest.**—A gift by will of personal property.
- Bill.**—A general name for negotiable paper.
- Bill of exchange.**—A draft.
- Bill of lading.**—A receipt from the master of a ship acknowledging the shipment of goods.
- Bona-fide.**—In good faith.
- Capias.**—A writ authorizing the arrest of a person.
- Causa mortis.**—On account of death.
- Caveat.**—Meaning "to take care"; a warning.
- Certiorari.**—A writ from a superior court commanding the records of a cause pending in a lower court to be brought before such higher court.
- Chattels.**—Every species of personal property.
- Cheque.**—A demand draft on a bank.
- Chose in Action.**—Personal property not in actual possession, but which the owner has a right of action to recover, as a debt, etc.
- Codicil.**—A supplement under seal to a will for the purpose of altering or adding to its contents.
- Collateral.**—Additional security by depositing stocks, mortgages, etc.
- Consignee.**—One to whom goods are consigned.
- Contra.**—Opposite.
- Contra bonos mores.**—Inconsistent with good morals.
- Coverture.**—The legal state of a married woman.
- Curtesy.**—A husband's life interest in the estate of his deceased wife.
- Debenture.**—A bond on which incorporated companies and municipalities borrow money.
- De facto.**—In fact; actually existing or done.
- De jure.**—By right; by law.
- De novo.**—Anew; from the beginning.
- Deposition.**—Written testimony given under oath.
- Detinet.**—Action at law to recover possession of specific property; replevin.
- Devise.**—A gift by will of real estate.
- Dies non.**—A court holiday; a day on which the judges do not sit.
- Domicile.**—The place where a person permanently resides.
- Donatio mortis causa.**—A gift of personal property made in contemplation of death.
- Duplicate.**—A copy; twofold.
- Easement.**—A privilege which the owner of one adjacent tenement has over another.
- Effects.**—Money and personal property of every kind.
- Entail.**—Property limited in descent to a particular heir or heirs.
- Escheat.**—Property reverting to the original owner or the Crown through failure of heirs.
- Escrow.**—A deed signed and left with a third party to be delivered to the grantee when he has performed some stipulated act.
- Estoppel.**—A bar to an action arising from a party's own action or neglect.
- Equity of Redemption.**—A right allowed the mortgagor for a certain time in which to redeem lands mortgaged.
- Ex officio.**—By virtue of the office.
- Ex parte.**—On one part.
- Ex post facto.**—After the act has been performed.
- Ex tempore.**—Without premeditation; off-hand.
- Fac simile.**—An exact copy.
- Fee simple.**—Title to property without any restrictions or conditions.
- Feme covert.**—A married woman.
- Feme sole.**—An unmarried woman.
- Fera natura.**—Wild animals or birds in which no person can claim property.
- Fiat.**—An imperative command; decree.
- Fieri facias.**—A writ of execution.
- Flotsam.**—Goods found floating in the sea.
- Foreclosure.**—Suit brought on a mortgage to compel the mortgagor to either pay the debt or lose his equity of redemption.
- Franchise.**—A privilege; freedom; exemption.
- Garnishment.**—A process of attachment securing money due a debtor in the hands of a third party.