

GLOSSARY OF GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS USED THE UNITED STATES.

- Agua, Aqua.** Water; a Spanish term used in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona; as, *Aguadulce*.
- Aiguilles.** Needle-like rocks. From French *aiguille*.
- Alluvions.** Bottom lands (Texas).
- Arroyo, Arroya.** Spanish for "creek;" as, *Arroyo Blanco*; *Arroya de la cuita*.
- Bad lands.** From French *Mauvaises terres*.
- Bahia.** Spanish for "bay;" as, *Bahia Ponce de Leon*.
- Banks.** Elevations of the sea-bottom; as, *Fishing Banks*.
- Barra.** Spanish for "bar;" as, *Barra de Santiago*.
- Barrenca.** Spanish for a "ravine."
- Barrenca.** French *barrenca*, "sterile."
- Basin.** French *bassin*, "a basin;" as, *The Great Basin*; *The Mississippi Basin*.
- Bay.** An arm of the prairie extending into the forest, or of water extending into the land.
- Bayou.** French *bayou*, a "gut" or "bowel." A water-channel in time of floods; as, *Bayou Tiehe*.
- Beach.** A section of the sandy coasts of Long Island and New Jersey; as, *Rockaway Beach*.
- Bend.** Deflection of a stream from a straight line; as, *Turkey Island Bend*, James River.
- Bight.** A broad open bay; as, *The Sleeping Bear Bight*, Lake Michigan.
- Block.** Dutch *blok*, "block." *Three Point Block*, a Colorado mountain.
- Bluff.** Dutch *blaf*, a high bank along a river; as, *Ball's Bluff*.
- Boca, Boga.** Spanish, "an entrance" or "inlet." Used in Florida and Texas.
- Bog.** An elevated spot in swamps, filled with roots and grass (Middle States).
- Bottom Lands.** The alluvial low lands along rivers (Western States).
- Branch.** An affluent of a larger stream; as, the *East Branch* of the Susquehanna.
- Broads.** Broadened-out sections of rivers (South Atlantic States).
- Buffalo Wallow.** A water-hole in the prairies. The bison, when shedding its hair, used to roll and rub itself in these hollows.
- Butte.** French, "a mound." Applied to detached, abrupt hills in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific regions; as, *Bear Butte*, Dakota.
- Cajon.** Spanish *caja*, "box." A dell leading to a mountain-park, or the pass itself; as, *Cajon Pass*, California.
- Canada.** Spanish, a narrow valley (California and New Mexico).
- Canal.** A channel on the coast; as, *Hood's Canal* (Oregon and Washington).
- Cane-brake.** A thicket of canes in the lowlands of streams (South Carolina to Louisiana).
- Canon.** Spanish *cañon*, "a reed" or "tube." A narrow, deep passage or ravine in mountain regions, usually made by streams; as, *Grand Canon of the Colorado*.
- Cap.** A barren peak; as, *Robin Cap*, North Carolina.
- Cascade.** A small waterfall.
- Cataract.** A great fall of waters.
- Cerro.** Spanish *cerro*, "hill;" as, *Cerro del Oro* (New Mexico).
- Chaparral.** Spanish *chaparra*, "an evergreen oak." A thicket closely grown with bushes and thorny briars (New Mexico and Texas).
- Chute.** French, "a falling." A side channel in a river, by which boats can make a short cut (Lower Mississippi).
- Cienaga, Cienega.** Spanish, "a marsh;" as, *Cienaga Amarilla* (New Mexico and Arizona).
- Cleneguita.** A small marsh.
- Clove.** Dutch *kloof*, "a cleft." A ravine. Much used in the Catskill Mountains; as, *Katerskill Clove*.
- Cobble.** German *kobbe*, "rock." A hill covered with loose or cobble stones; as, *Cobble Hill* (New York and Massachusetts).
- Comb.** The gradual rise of a valley into the hills. Also, in the Mississippi Valley, the river-bluffs; as, *Drury's Bluff* or *Comb*.
- Cordilleras.** Spanish *corda*, "string." A chain of mountains. Applied to the Rocky Mountains and the Andes.
- Contee.** French, "a path." A narrow, deep, rocky valley in Oregon; distinguished from a canon by having inclined instead of precipitous sides.
- County.** A political sub-division of a State. In Louisiana these are called *parishes*; in South Carolina, *districts*.
- Cove.** A small recess on a river's shore; as, *Sandy Cove*, Hudson River.
- Crag.** Applied to bare, steep, pointed peaks in the Rocky Mountains.
- Creek.** French *crique*, "a crack." A small river or brook.
- Crossing.** A ford.
- Cross Timbers.** A great forest extending between Trinity and Red Rivers, Texas.
- Cuesta.** Spanish, "rising ground." A gradual slope (California and Texas).
- Cut-offs.** Small lakes along the Mississippi and Red originally windings of the stream, which have been cut off by the changes of the channel and the deposit of silt.
- Dalles.** French *dalle*, "a flagstone." Rapids composed of ledges of stone; as, *Dalles of the Columbia*, Oregon.
- District.** A division of the country without effect, being directly under the control of Congress; as, *The District of Columbia*. In South Carolina, a county.
- Divide.** A ridge separating the tributaries of two streams; as, the *Atlantic and Pacific divide*, in New Mexico.
- Divort.** Used in Arizona and Texas in the same sense as *Divide*.
- Dome.** A hemispherical mountain peak; as *Glimman's Dome*, N. C.
- Drink.** Applied to streams in the South-West, the Mississippi being the *Big Drink*.
- Dunes.** Sand-hills made by wind action; as, *The Green Dunes*, Arizona.
- Elbow.** A sharp bend in a stream.
- Everglades.** Inundated tracts of land, with intergrass patches, in the Southern States. *The Everglades* of Florida form an extensive district.
- Falls.** A cataract; a descent of water down rocky ledges.
- Farallon.** A Spanish title given some small islands coast of California, *The Farallones*. The word means "islands in the sea."
- Fats.** Dutch, *plat*, "smooth." Low alluvial lands; as, *Fats*. Also, river shoals, where extended.
- Flume.** Applied to a narrow gorge in the White Mountains.
- Foot-hills.** Hills that extend like promontories into the sea, with depressions or bays between them.
- Fork, Fourche.** The place where streams combine or divide into branches; as, *North Fork of the Canadian*; *la Four*, Arkansas.
- Fresh.** A stream distinct from the tide-water. Used in Maryland, where the land is divided into *fresh water*; as, *Allen's Fresh*.
- Gall.** A lowland composed of a matted soil of vegetable matter called also "saw grass" (Florida).
- Gap.** An opening in a mountain-chain made by a river; as, *Water Gap of the Delaware*.
- Gate.** Dutch *gat*, "an opening." A water-channel; as, *the New York Gate*, New Jersey; *The Golden Gate*, San Francisco.
- Glades.** Tracts of land covered with water (Southern States).
- George.** A mountain divide; also a rushing stream; as, *the George* of the Niagara.
- Grounds.** Bottom lands (Virginia).
- Gut.** A deep mountain ravine (California).
- Gulf.** An indentation in the sea. Also, in New England, narrow, deep excavations made by streams; as, *Lonsdale Gulf*.
- Gully.** A channel worn in soft earth by a heavy rain; as, the *White Mountains*, a ravine.
- Hammock.** A thickly wooded tract of land in the thinly-grown pine or oak forests (Florida).
- Harbor.** Same as Bay. (Coast and Lake States).
- Haystack.** A mountain resembling a haystack in shape; as, *Haystack Mountain*, Yellowstone Park.
- Head.** The source of a river; a sea-shore headland; a prominent mountain-summit.
- Hog-back.** Applied in the West to ridges of broken rock along the eastern flank of the Rocky Mountains. Also, in the East, to *Great Hog back*, North Carolina (cheval-grays in Northern New England are often called *hog-backs*).
- Hog-wallow.** Applied to localities in Texas and elsewhere in the West, which resemble a place where hogs have wallowed.
- Hole.** Synonymous with *Harbor*, on the New England coast, as, *Holmes Hole*. In the West, hollows containing fresh water are called *water-holes*.
- Hollow.** A low spot or valley among hills; as, *Sleepy Hollow*, New York.
- Hammock.** Same as *Hammock*, but applied particularly to islands in the Everglades. In Mississippi the *Hammocks* are the second bottom lands.
- Hook.** Dutch *hoek*, "point." A word given to capes or points of land, as, *Sandy Hook*.