

2. Eagerness; intenseness of desire; *applied to the mind.*

AVIGA TO, } *n.* The Persea, or alligator-  
AVOCA DO, } pear, a species ranked  
under the genus *Laurus*, a native of the  
W. Indies. The tree has a straight trunk,  
long oval pointed leaves, and flowers of  
six petals disposed like a star, produced  
in clusters, on the extremities of the  
branches. The fruit is insipid.

*Avignon-berry*, the fruit of a species of *Vincum*,  
so called from the city, Avignon, in France.  
The berry is less than a pea, of a yellow-  
ish green color, and bitter astringent taste;  
used by dyers and painters for staining  
yellow. *Encyc.*

AVILE, *v. t.* [Fr. *avilir*. See *Vile*.] To  
depreciate. [Not in use.] *B. Jonson.*

AVISE, *v. n.* [Fr. *avis*.] Advice; intelligence.  
[Not in use.]

AVISE, *v. i. s. z.* To consider. [Not in use.]  
*Spenser.*

AVISEMENT, *n.* Advise. [See *Ad-  
vice* and *Advise*.]

AVOCATE, *v. i.* [L. *avoco*, from *a* and  
*voco*, to call. See *Voice* and *Vocal*.]  
To call off, or away. [Not used.] *Boyle.*

AVOCATION, *n.* [See *Vocation*, *Voice*,  
*Vocal*.]

1. The act of calling aside, or diverting from  
some employment; as, an *avocation* from  
sin or from business.  
2. The business which calls aside. The  
word is generally used for the smaller af-  
fairs of life, or occasional calls which sum-  
mon a person to leave his ordinary or  
principal business. The use of this word  
for *vocation* is very improper.

AVOCATIVE, *a.* Calling off. [Not used.]

AVOID, *v. t.* [Fr. *eviter*, or *vider*; *vider*,  
void, empty; Eng. *vide*, void, *vider*, *vider*.]  
*vidua*. See *Void*. It coincides also with  
*L. vito*, *evito*; Fr. *eviter*. See Class Bt.]

1. To shun; to keep at a distance from; as,  
to *avoid*, literally, to go or be wide from; as,  
to *avoid* the company of gamblers.  
2. To shift off, or clear off; as, to *avoid*  
expense.  
3. To quit; to evacuate; to shun by leaving;  
as, to *avoid* the house.  
4. To escape; as, to *avoid* danger. *Shak.*  
5. To omit or throw out; as, to *avoid* ex-  
cretions. For this, *void* is now generally used.  
6. To make void; to annul or vacate.

The grant cannot be *avoided* without injustice  
to the grantee. *Anon.*

7. In *pleading*, to set up some new matter or  
distinction, which shall *avoid*, that is, de-  
feat or evade the allegation of the other  
party. Thus, in a replication, the plaintiff  
may deny the defendant's plea, or confess  
it, and *avoid* it by stating new matter.

*Blackstone.*

AVOID, *v. i.* To retire; to withdraw.  
David *avoided* out of his presence. 1 Sam.  
xviii. [Improper.]

2. To become void, vacant or empty.  
A benefice *avoids* by common law. *Ayliffe.*

AVOIDABLE, *a.* That may be avoided,  
left at a distance, shunned or escaped.

2. That may be vacated; liable to be an-  
nulled.

AVOIDANCE, *n.* The act of avoiding, or  
shunning.

2. The act of vacating, or the state of being

vacant. It is appropriately used for the  
state of a benefice becoming void, by the  
death, deprivation, or resignation of the  
incumbent. *Cowel. Encyc.*

3. The act of annulling.

4. The course by which any thing is car-  
ried off. *Bacon.*

AVOID-ED, *pp.* Shunned; evaded; made  
void; ejected.

AVOIDER, *n.* One who avoids, shuns or  
escapes.

2. The person who carries any thing away;  
the vessel in which things are carried  
away. *Johnson.*

AVOIDING, *pp.* Shunning; escaping;  
keeping at a distance; ejecting; evacua-  
ting; making void, or vacant.

AVOID-LESS, *a.* That cannot be avoided;  
inevitable. *Dryden.*

AVOIRDUPOIS, *n. s. z.* [Fr. *avoir du  
poids*, to have weight. See *Poise*.]

A weight, of which a pound contains 16  
ounces. Its proportion to a pound Troy  
is as 17 to 14. This is the weight for the  
larger and coarser commodities, as hay,  
iron, cheese, groceries, &c. *Chambers.*

AVOLATION, *n.* [L. *avolo*, to fly away, of  
a and *volo*. See *Volatile*.]

The act of flying away; flight; escape. [Lit-  
tle used.]

AVOSET, *n.* In ornithology, a species  
AVOSETA, *n.* of fowls, arranged under  
the genus, *recurvirostra*, and placed by  
Linne in the grallie order, but by Pennant  
and Latham, among the palmipeds. The  
bill is long, slender, flexible and bent up-  
ward towards the tip. This bird is of the  
size of a lapwing, with very long legs, and  
the feathers variegated with black and  
white. It is found both in Europe and  
America. *Encyc.*

AVOUCH, *v. t.* [Norm. *voucher*, to call, to  
touch; L. *voco*, *advoco*. See *Voice*.]

1. To affirm; to declare or assert with  
positiveness. *Hooker.*  
2. To produce or call in; to affirm in favor  
of, maintain or support.

Such antiquities could be *avouched* for the  
Ish. *Spenser.*

3. To maintain, vindicate or justify. *Shak.*

AVOUCH, *n.* Evidence; testimony; declara-  
tion. [Little used.] *Shak.*

AVOUCHABLE, *a.* That may be avouched.  
[Little used.]

AVOUCH-ED, *pp.* Affirmed; maintained;  
called in to support.

AVOUCHER, *n.* One who avouches.

AVOUCHING, *pp.* Affirming; calling in  
to maintain; vindicating.

AVOUCHMENT, *n.* Declaration; the act  
of avouching. *Shak.*

AVOW, *v. t.* [Fr. *avouer*; Arm. *avoi*;  
Norm. *avouer*; L. *voveo*.]

1. To declare openly, with a view to justify,  
maintain or defend; or simply to own,  
acknowledge or confess frankly; as, a  
man *avows* his principles or his crimes.

2. In *law*, to acknowledge and justify; as,  
when the distrainer of goods defends in an  
action of replevin, and *avows* the taking,  
but insists that such taking was legal.

*Blackstone.*

AVOW, *n.* A vow or determination. [Not  
used.] *Gower.*

AVOWABLE, *a.* That may be avowed, or  
openly acknowledged with confidence. *Donne.*

AVOW'AL, *n.* An open declaration; frank  
acknowledgment. *Hume.*

AVOW'ANT, *n.* The defendant in replevin,  
who *avows* the distress of the goods, and  
justifies the taking. *Cowel.*

AVOW-ED, *pp.* Openly declared; owned;  
frankly acknowledged.

AVOW-EDLY, *adv.* In an open manner;  
with frank acknowledgment.

AVOW-EE, *n.* Sometimes used for *advocate*,  
the person who has a right to present to a  
benefice, the patron. [See *Advocate*.]

*Cowel.*

AVOWER, *n.* One who avows, owns, or  
asserts.

AVOW ING, *pp.* Openly declaring; frank-  
ly acknowledging; justifying.

AVOW'RY, *n. in law*, the act of the dis-  
trainer of goods, who, in an action of re-  
plevin, *avows* and justifies the taking; the  
act of maintaining the right to distrain, by  
the distrainer, or defendant in replevin.

*Blackstone.*

AVOW'TRY, [See *Advowtry*.]

AVULS ED, *a.* [See *Avulsion*.] Plucked or  
pulled off. *Shenstone.*

AVULSION, *n.* [L. *avulsio*, from *avello*, a  
and *vello*, to pull, coinciding with Heb.  
and *valla*, to separate; Eng. *pull*.]

A pulling or tearing asunder; a rending or  
violent separation.

AWAIT, *v. t.* [a and *wait*. See *Wait*. Fr.  
*guetter*, to watch; *guet*, a watch; It. *guar-  
tare*, to look or watch.]

Literally, to remain, hold or stay.

1. To wait for; to look for, or expect.  
Betwixt the rocky pillars, Gabriel sat,  
Chief of the Angelic guards, awaiting night.

*Milton.*

2. To be in store for; to attend; to be ready  
for; as, a glorious reward *awaits* the  
good.

AWAIT, *n.* Ambush; in a state of waiting  
for. *Spenser.*

AWAITING, *pp.* Waiting for; looking  
for; expecting; being ready or in store for.

AWAKE, *v. t.* pret. *awoke*, *awaked*; *pp.* *awak-  
ed*. [Sax. *gewacan*, *wacian*, or *wecan*;  
D. *wekken*; Ger. *wekken*; Sw. *upvacka*;  
Dan. *wækker*. The *L. vigilo* seems to be  
formed on this root. See *Wake*.]

1. To rouse from sleep.  
I go that I may *awake* him out of sleep.  
John xi.

2. To excite from a state resembling sleep,  
as from death, stupidity or inaction; to  
put into action, or new life; as, to *awake*  
the dead; to *awake* the dormant faculties.

AWAKE, *v. i.* To cease to sleep; to come  
from a state of natural sleep.

*Jacob awaked* out of sleep. Gen. xxviii.

3. To bestir, revive or rouse from a state of  
inaction; to be invigorated with new life;  
as, the mind *awakes* from its stupidity.

*Awake*, O sword, against my shepherd.  
Zech. xii.

4. To rouse from spiritual sleep.

*Awake* thou that sleepest, and arise from the  
dead, and Christ shall give thee light. Eph. v.

*Awake* to righteousness. 1 Cor. xv.

5. To rise from the dead. Job xiv.

AWAKE, *a.* Not sleeping; in a state of  
vigilance or action.