

tion of some portion of land or water. But the word is applied particularly to the model of a building, showing the form, extent and divisions in miniature, and it may be applied to the draught or representation of any projected work on paper or on a plain surface; as the *plan* of a town or city, or of a harbor or fort. The form of a machine in miniature, is called a *model*.

2. A scheme devised; a project; the form of something to be done existing in the mind, with the several parts adjusted in idea, expressed in words or committed to writing; as the *plan* of a constitution of government; the *plan* of a treaty; the *plan* of an expedition.

PLAN, *v. t.* To form a draught or representation of any intended work.

2. To scheme; to devise; to form in design; as, to *plan* the conquest of a country; to *plan* a reduction of taxes or of the national debt.

PLANARY, *a.* Pertaining to a plane.

PLANCH, *v. t.* [Fr. *planche*, a plank. See *Plank*.] To plank; to cover with planks or boards.

PLANCHED, *pp.* Covered or made of planks or boards.

PLANCHER, *n.* A floor.

PLANCHET, *n.* [Fr. *planchette*. See *Plank*.] A flat piece of metal or coin.

PLANCHING, *n.* The laying of floors in a building; also, a floor of boards or planks.

PLANE, *n.* [from *L. planus*. See *Plain*.] In geometry, an even or level surface, like *plain* in popular language.

2. In astronomy, an imaginary surface supposed to pass through any of the curves described on the celestial sphere; as the *plane* of the ecliptic; the *plane* of a planet's orbit; the *plane* of a great circle.

3. In mechanics. [See *Plain figure*.]

4. In joinery and cabinet work, an instrument consisting of a smooth piece of wood, with an aperture, through which passes obliquely a piece of edged steel or chisel, used in paring or smoothing boards or wood of any kind.

PLANE, *v. t.* To make smooth; to pare off the inequalities of the surface of a board or other piece of wood by the use of a plane.

2. To free from inequalities of surface.

PLANED, *pp.* Made smooth with a plane; leveled.

PLANET, *n.* [Fr. *planete*; It. *pianeta*; L. Sp. Port. *planeta*; W. *planed*; Gr. *πλανήτης*, wandering, from *πλανάω*, to wander, allied to *L. planus*, Fr. *loin*. See *Plant*.]

A celestial body which revolves about the sun or other center, or a body revolving about another planet as its center. The planets which revolve about the sun as their center, are called *primary* planets; those which revolve about other planets as their center, and with them revolve about the sun, are called *secondary* planets, satellites or moons. The primary planets are named Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Herschell. Four small-

er planets, denominated by some, *asteroids*, namely, Ceres, Pallas, Juno and Vesta, have recently been discovered between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Herschell, being without the earth's orbit, are sometimes called the *superior* planets; Venus and Mercury, being within the earth's orbit, are called *inferior* planets. The planets are opaque bodies which receive their light from the sun. They are so named from their *motion* or *revolution*, in distinction from the *fixed* stars, and are distinguished from the latter by their not twinkling.

PLANETARIUM, *n.* An astronomical machine which, by the movement of its parts, represents the motions and orbits of the planets, agreeable to the Copernican system.

PLANETARY, *a.* [Fr. *planetaire*.] Pertaining to the planets; as *planetary* inhabitants; *planetary* motions.

2. Consisting of planets; as a *planetary* system.

3. Under the dominion or influence of a planet; as a *planetary* hour. [Astrology.]

4. Produced by planets; as *planetary* plague or influence.

5. Having the nature of a planet; erratic or revolving.

Planetary days, the days of the week as shared among the planets, each having its day, as we name the days of the week after the planets.

PLANETED, *a.* Belonging to planets.

PLANETICAL, *a.* Pertaining to planets. [Not used.]

PLANE-TREE, *n.* [L. *platanus*; Fr. *plane*, *platane*.] A tree of the genus *Platanus*. The oriental plane-tree is a native of Asia; it rises with a straight smooth branching stem to a great height, with palmated leaves and long pendulous peduncles, sustaining several heads of small close sitting flowers. The seeds are downy, and collected into round, rough, hard balls. The occidental plane-tree, which grows to a great height, is a native of N. America; it is called also *button-wood*.

PLANET-STUCK, *a.* Affected by the influence of planets; blasted.

PLANIFOLIUS, *a.* [L. *planus*, plain, and *folium*, leaf.] In botany, a *planifolious* flower is one made up of plain leaves, set together in circular rows round the center. [See *Planipetalous*.]

PLANIMETRIC, } *a.* Pertaining to the
PLANIMETRICAL, } mensuration of
plain surfaces.

PLANIMETRY, *n.* [L. *planus*, plain, and Gr. *μετρέω*, to measure.] The mensuration of plain surfaces, or that part of geometry which regards lines and plain figures, without considering their height or depth.

PLANIPETALOUS, *a.* [L. *planus*, plain, and Gr. *πέταλον*, a petal.] In botany, flat-leaved, as when the small flowers are hollow only at the bottom, but flat upwards, as in dandelion and succory.

PLANISH, *v. t.* [from *plane*.] To make smooth or plain; to polish; used by manufacturers. Henry's Chim.

PLANISHED, *pp.* Made smooth.

PLANISHING, *ppr.* Making smooth; polishing.

PLANISPHERE, *n.* [L. *planus*, plain, and *sphere*.]

A sphere projected on a plane, in which sense, maps in which are exhibited the meridians and other circles, are *planispheres*.

PLANK, *n.* [Fr. *planche*; Arm. *plancquenn*, plu. *plench*; W. *planc*; D. *plank*; G. Dan. *planke*; Sw. *planka*; Russ. *placha*, a board or plank. Probably *n* is casual and the word belongs to Class Lg.]

A broad piece of sawed timber, differing from a board only in being thicker. In America, broad pieces of sawed timber which are not more than an inch or an inch and a quarter thick, are called *boards*; like pieces from an inch and a half to three or four inches thick, are called *planks*. Sometimes pieces more than four inches thick are called *planks*.

PLANK, *v. t.* To cover or lay with planks; as, to *plank* a floor or a ship.

PLANED, *pp.* Devised; schemed.

PLANNER, *n.* One who plans or forms a plan; a projector.

PLAN'NING, *ppr.* Scheming; devising; making a plan.

PLANO-CONICAL, *a.* [plain and conical.] Plain or level on one side and conical on the other.

PLANO-CONVEX, *a.* [plain and convex.] Plain or flat on one side and convex on the other; as a *plano-convex* lens.

PLANO-HORIZONTAL, *a.* Having a level horizontal surface or position.

PLANO-SUBULATE, *a.* [See *Subulate*.] Smooth and awl-shaped.

PLANT, *n.* [Fr. *plante*; It. *pianta*; L. Sp. Port. Sw. *planta*; Ir. *planda*; D. *plant*; G. *pflanze*; Dan. *plante*; Arm. *plantenn*; W. *plant*, issue, offspring, children, from *plan*, a ray, a shoot, a plantation or planting, a plane; *planed*, a shooting body, a planet; *plenitaur*, to radiate; *plenig*, radiant, *splendid*; *plent*, that is rayed; *plenty*, a child; *planta*, to beget or to bear children. In It. Sp. and Port. *planta* signifies a plant and a plan. Here we find *plan*, *plune*, *plant*, *planet*, all from one stock, and the Welsh *plenitaur*, to radiate, shows that the L. *splendeo*, *splendor*, are of the same family. The Celtic clan is probably the Welsh *plan*, *plant*, with a different prefix. The radical sense is obvious, to shoot, to extend.]

1. A vegetable; an organic body, destitute of sense and spontaneous motion, adhering to another body in such a manner as to draw from it its nourishment, and having the power of propagating itself by seeds; "whose seed is in itself." Gen. i. This definition may not be perfectly correct, as it respects all plants, for some marine plants grow without being attached to any fixed body.

The woody or dicotyledonous plants consist of three parts; the bark or exterior coat, which covers the wood; the wood