

PRESIDENT, *n.* [Fr. from *L. presidens.*]

1. An officer elected or appointed to preside over a corporation, company or assembly of men, to keep order, manage their concerns or govern their proceedings; as the *president* of a banking company; the *president* of a senate, &c.
2. An officer appointed or elected to govern a province or territory, or to administer the government of a nation. The *president* of the United States is the chief executive magistrate.
3. The chief officer of a college or university. *U. States.*
4. A tutelar power.

Just Apollo, *president* of verse. *Waller.*
Vice-president, one who is second in authority to the president. The *vice-president* of the United States is president of the senate *ex officio*, and performs the duties of president when the latter is removed or disabled.

PRESIDENTIAL, *a.* Pertaining to a president; as the *presidential* chair. *Walsh.*

2. Presiding over. *Glanville.*

PRESIDENTSHIP, *n.* The office and place of president. *Hooker.*

2. The term for which a president holds his office.

PRESIDIAL, } *a.* [*L. presidium*, a gar-
 PRESIDARY, } rison; *præ* and *sedeo*.]
 Pertaining to a garrison; having a garri-
 son. *Howell.*

PRESIGNIFICATION, *n.* [from *presignify*.]

The act of signifying or showing beforehand. *Barrow.*

PRESIGNIFY, *v. t.* [*pre* and *signify*.]
 To intimate or signify beforehand; to show previously. *Pearson.*

PRESS, *v. t.* [Fr. *presser*; It. *pressione*, to press, crowd, urge, hurry; D. G. *pressen*; Sw. *pråssa*; Dan. *presser*; W. *brysiaw*, to hurry, formed from *rhys*, extreme ardency, a *rushing*. Here we have proof that *press* is formed from the root of *rush*, with a prefix. The Spanish has *apretar*, *prensar* and *aprensar*. The *L. pressus* is from the same root.]

1. To urge with force or weight; a word of extensive use, denoting the application of any power, physical or moral, to something that is to be moved or affected. We *press* the ground with the feet when we walk; we *press* the couch on which we repose; we *press* substances with the hands, fingers or arms; the smith *presses* iron with his vise; we are *pressed* with the weight of arguments or of cares, troubles and business.

2. To squeeze; to crush; as, to *press* grapes. *Gen. xl.*

3. To drive with violence; to hurry; as, to *press* a horse in motion, or in a race.

4. To urge; to enforce; to inculcate with earnestness; as, to *press* divine truth on an audience.

5. To embrace closely; to hug.
 Leucothoe shook
 And *press'd* Palemon closer in her arms. *Pope.*

6. To force into service, particularly into naval service; to impress. *Clarendon. Dryden.*

7. To straiten; to distress; as, to be *pressed* with want or with difficulties.

8. To constrain; to compel; to urge by authority or necessity.

The posts that rode on mules and camels went out, being hastened and *pressed* on by the king's commandment. *Esth. viii.*

9. To urge; to impose by importunity.
 He *pressed* a letter upon me, within this hour, to deliver to you. *Dryden.*

10. To urge or solicit with earnestness or importunity. He *pressed* me to accept of his offer.

11. To urge; to constrain.
 Paul was *pressed* in spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. *Acts xviii.*
 Wickedness *pressed* with conscience, forecasteth grievous things. *Wisdom.*

12. To squeeze for making smooth; as cloth or paper.

Press differs from *drive* and *strike*, in usually denoting a slow or continued application of force; whereas *drive* and *strike* denote a sudden impulse of force.

PRESS, *v. i.* To urge or strain in motion; to urge forward with force.

I *press* towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. *Phil. iii.*
 Th' insulting victor *presses* on the more. *Dryden.*

2. To bear on with force; to encroach.
 On superior powers
 Were we to *press*, inferior might on ours. *Pope.*

3. To bear on with force; to crowd; to throng.
 Thronging crowds *press* on you as you pass. *Dryden.*

4. To approach unseasonably or importunately.

Not *press* too near the throne. *Dryden.*

5. To urge with vehemence and importunity.

He *pressed* upon them greatly, and they turned in to him. *Gen. xix.*

6. To urge by influence or moral force.

When arguments *press* equally in matters indifferent, the safest method is to give up ourselves to neither. *Addison.*

7. To push with force; as, to *press* against the door.

PRESS, *n.* [It. *pressa*, haste, hurry, a crowd; Sp. *pressa*; Fr. *presse*, *pressoir*; Sw. *pråss*; Dan. G. *presse*.]

1. An instrument or machine by which any body is squeezed, crushed or forced into a more compact form; as a *wine-press*, *cider-press* or *cheese-press*.

2. A machine for printing; a printing-press. Great improvements have been lately made in the construction of *presses*.

3. The art or business of printing and publishing. A free *press* is a great blessing to a free people; a licentious *press* is a curse to society.

4. A crowd; a throng; a multitude of individuals crowded together.

And when they could not come nigh to him for the *press*— Mark ii.

5. The act of urging or pushing forward.
 Which in their throng and *press* to the last hold,
 Confound themselves. *Shak.*

6. A wine-vat or cistern. *IIag. ii.*

7. A case or closet for the safe keeping of garments. *Shak.*

8. Urgency; urgent demands of affairs; as a *press* of business.

9. A commission to force men into public

service, particularly into the navy; for *impress*. *Raleigh.*

Press of sail, in navigation, is as much sail as the state of the wind will permit.

Mar. Dict.

Liberty of the press, in civil policy, is the free right of publishing books, pamphlets or papers without previous restraint; or the unrestrained right which every citizen enjoys of publishing his thoughts and opinions, subject only to punishment for publishing what is pernicious to morals or to the peace of the state.

PRESS'-BED, *n.* A bed that may be raised and inclosed in a case.

PRESS'-ED, *pp.* Urged by force or weight; constrained; distressed; crowded; embraced; made smooth and glossy by pressure, as cloth.

PRESS'-ER, *n.* One that presses.

PRESS'-GANG, *n.* [*press* and *gang*.] A detachment of seamen under the command of an officer, empowered to impress men into the naval service.

PRESS'-ING, *ppr.* Urging with force or weight; squeezing; constraining; crowding; embracing; distressing; forcing into service; rolling in a press.

2. *a.* Urgent; distressing.

PRESS'-ING, *n.* The act or operation of applying force to bodies. The *pressing* of cloth is performed by means of the screw, or by a calendar.

PRESS'-INGLY, *adv.* With force or urgency; closely. *Howell.*

PRESS'-ION, *n.* [It. *pressione*.] The act of pressing. But *pressure* is more generally used. *Newton.*

2. In the *Cartesian philosophy*, an endeavor to move.

PRESS'-ITANT, *a.* Gravitating; heavy. [*Not in use.*] *Morc.*

PRESS'-MAN, *n.* In *printing*, the man who manages the press and impresses the sheets.

2. One of a press-gang, who aids in forcing men into the naval service. *Chapman.*

PRESS'-MONEY, *n.* Money paid to a man impressed into public service. [See *Press-money*.] *Gay.*

PRESS'-URE, *n.* [It. *L. pressura*.] The act of pressing or urging with force.

2. The act of squeezing or crushing. Wine is obtained by the *pressure* of grapes.

3. The state of being squeezed or crushed.

4. The force of one body acting on another by weight or the continued application of power. *Pressure* is occasioned by weight or gravity, by the motion of bodies, by the expansion of fluids, by elasticity, &c.

Mutual pressure may be caused by the meeting of moving bodies, or by the motion of one body against another at rest, and the resistance or elastic force of the latter. The degree of *pressure* is in proportion to the weight of the pressing body, or to the power applied, or to the elastic force of resisting bodies. The screw is a most powerful instrument of *pressure*. The *pressure* of wind on the sails of a ship is in proportion to its velocity.

5. A constraining force or impulse; that which urges or compels the intellectual or moral faculties; as the *pressure* of motives on the mind, or of fear on the conscience.