

POT

podach. This is a more correct orthography than *potage*.]

A species of food made of meat boiled to softness in water, usually with some vegetables or sweet herbs.

POT'AGER, *n.* [from *potage*.] A porringer.

POTAG'RO, } *n.* A kind of pickle imported
POTAR'GO, } from the West Indies.

PO'TANCE, *n.* With *watchmakers*, the stud in which the lower pivot of the verge is placed.

POT'ASH, *n.* [*pot* and *ashes*; D. *potasch*; G. *pottasche*; Dan. *potaske*; Fr. *potasse*.]

The popular name of vegetable fixed alkali in an impure state, procured from the ashes of plants by lixiviation and evaporation. The matter remaining after evaporation is refined in a crucible or furnace, and the extractive substance burnt off or dissipated. Refined potash is called *pearlash*. The plants which yield the greatest quantity of potash are wormwood and fumitory.

By recent discoveries of Sir H. Davy, it appears that potash is a metallic oxyd; the metal is called *potassium*, and the alkali, in books of science, is called *potassa*.

POTAS'SA, *n.* The scientific name of vegetable alkali or potash.

POTAS'SIUM, *n.* A name given to the metallic basis of vegetable alkali. According to Dr. Davy, 100 parts of potash consist of 86.1 parts of the basis, and 13.9 of oxygen.

Potassium has the most powerful affinity for oxygen of all substances known; it takes it from every other compound, and hence is a most important agent in chemical analysis.

POTA'TION, *n.* [L. *potatio*. See *Potable*.]

1. A drinking or drinking bout.
2. A draught.
3. A species of drink.

POTA'TO, *n.* [Ind. *batatas*.] A plant and esculent root of the genus *Solanum*, a native of America. The root of this plant, which is usually called *potatoe*, constitutes one of the cheapest and most nourishing species of vegetable food; it is the principal food of the poor in some countries, and has often contributed to prevent famine. It was introduced into the British dominions by Sir Walter Raleigh or other adventurers in the 16th century; but it came slowly into use, and at this day is not much cultivated and used in some countries of Europe. In the British dominions and in the United States, it has proved one of the greatest blessings bestowed on man by the Creator.

POT'BELLIED, *a.* Having a prominent belly.

POT'BELLY, *n.* A protuberant belly.

POTCH, *v. t.* [Fr. *pocher*, Eng. to *poke*.] To thrust; to push.

2. To poach; to boil slightly.

POT-COMPAN'ION, *n.* An associate or companion in drinking; applied generally to habitual hard drinkers.

PO'TELOF, *n.* [Qu. G. *potlloth*, D. *potlood*, black lead.]

The sulphuret of molybden.

POT

PO'TENCE, *n.* In *heraldry*, a cross whose ends resemble the head of a crutch.

PO'TENCY, *n.* [L. *potentia*, from *potens*; *possum*, *posse*. See *Power*.]

1. Power; physical power, energy or efficacy; strength.
2. Moral power; influence; authority.

Now arriving
At place of *potency* and sway o' th' state.

PO'TENT, *a.* [L. *potens*.] Powerful; physically strong; forcible; efficacious; as a *potent* medicine.

Moses once more his *potent* rod extends.

2. Powerful, in a moral sense; having great influence; as *potent* interest; a *potent* argument.
3. Having great authority, control or dominion; as a *potent* prince.

PO'TENT, *n.* A prince; a potentate.

2. A walking staff or crutch.

PO'TENTACY, *n.* Sovereignty.

PO'TENTATE, *n.* [Fr. *potentat*; It. *potentato*.]

A person who possesses great power or sway; a prince; a sovereign; an emperor, king or monarch.

Exalting him not only above earthly princes and *potentates*, but above the highest of the celestial hierarchy.

POTEN'TIAL, *a.* [L. *potentialis*.] Having power to impress on us the ideas of certain qualities, though the qualities are not inherent in the thing; as *potential* heat or cold.

2. Existing in possibility, not in act.

This *potential* and imaginary *materia prima*, cannot exist without form.

3. Efficacious; powerful.

Potential cautery, in medicine, is the consuming or reducing to an eschar, any part of the body by a caustic alkaline or metallic salt, &c. instead of a red hot iron, the use of which is called *actual cautery*.

Potential mode, in grammar, is that form of the verb which is used to express the power, possibility, liberty or necessity of an action or of being; as, *I may go*; he *can write*. This, in English, is not strictly a distinct mode, but the indicative or declarative mode, affirming the *power* to act, instead of the act itself. *I may go* or *can go*, are equivalent to, *I have power to go*.

POTEN'TIAL, *n.* Any thing that may be possible.

POTENTIAL'ITY, *n.* Possibility; not actuality.

POTEN'TIALLY, *adv.* In possibility; not in act; not positively.

This duration of human souls is only *potentially* infinite.

2. In efficacy, not in actuality; as *potentially* cold.

PO'TENTLY, *adv.* Powerfully; with great force or energy.

You are *potently* opposed.

POTENT'NESS, *n.* Powerfulness; strength; might.

PO'TESTATIVE, *a.* [from L. *potestas*.] Authoritative.

POU

POTGUN, for *paggun*. [Not used.]

POT'-HANGER, *n.* [*pot* and *hanger*.] A

pot-hook.

POTH'EARY, contracted from *apothecary*, and very vulgar. [See the latter.]

POTH'ER, *n.* [This word is vulgarly pronounced *bother*. Its origin and affinities are not ascertained.]

1. Bustle; confusion; tumult; flutter.
2. A suffocating cloud.

POTH'ER, *v. i.* To make a blustering ineffectual effort; to make a stir.

POTH'ER, *v. t.* To harass and perplex; to puzzle.

POT'HERB, *n.* An herb for the pot or for cookery; a culinary plant.

POT'-HOOK, *n.* A hook on which pots and kettles are hung over the fire.

2. A letter or character like a pot-hook; a scrawled letter.

PO'TION, *n.* [Fr. from L. *potio*; *poto*, to drink.]

A draught; usually, a liquid medicine; a dose.

POT'LID, *n.* The lid or cover of a pot.

POT'-MAN, *n.* A pot companion.

POT'SHERD, *n.* [*pot* and Sax. *sceard*, a fragment, from *secean*, to *shear*; D. *potscherf*; G. *scherbe*.]

A piece or fragment of a broken pot.

POT'STONE, *n.* Potstone appears to be indurated black talc, passing into serpentine. It has a curved and undulating lamellar structure, passing into slaty. Potstone is of a greenish gray color. It occurs massive, or in granular concretions.

Potstone is a variety of *steatite*.

POT'TAGE, *n.* Broth; soup.

POT'TED, *pp.* Preserved or inclosed in a pot; drained in a cask.

POT'TER, *n.* [from *pot*.] One whose occupation is to make earthen vessels.

POTTERN-ORE, *n.* A species of ore, which, from its aptness to vitrify like the glazing of potter's ware, the miners call by this name.

POT'TERY, *n.* [Fr. *poterie*; from *pot*.] The vessels or ware made by potters; earthen ware, glazed and baked.

2. The place where earthen vessels are manufactured.

POT'TING, *n.* [from *pot*.] Drinking; tipping.

2. In the W. Indies, the process of putting sugar in casks for draining.

POT'TING, *ppr.* Preserving in a pot; draining, as above; drinking.

POT'TLE, *n.* [W. *potel*, a bottle; from *pot*.]

1. A liquid measure of four pints.
2. A vessel; a pot or tankard.

POT-VAL'ANT, *a.* [*pot* and *valiant*.] Courageous over the cup; heated to valor by strong drink.

POUCH, *n.* [Fr. *poche*, a pocket or bag, a purse-net, the paunch; Fr. *pucan*; G. *bauch*, D. *buik*, Sw. *buk*, Dan. *bug*, the belly, from bulging and extending.]

1. A small bag; usually, a leathern bag to be carried in the pocket.
2. A protuberant belly.