

take. Class Rb. The first writing was probably engraving on wood or stone.]

1. In a general sense, a writer. Hence,
2. A notary; a public writer.
3. In ecclesiastical meetings and associations in America, a secretary or clerk; one who records the transactions of an ecclesiastical body.
4. In *Scripture and the Jewish history*, a clerk or secretary to the king. Seraiah was scribe to king David. 2 Sam. viii.
5. An officer who enrolled or kept the rolls of the army, and called over the names and reviewed them. 2 Ch. xxvi. 2 Kings xxv.
6. A writer and a doctor of the law; a man of learning; one skilled in the law; one who read and explained the law to the people. Ezra vii.

SCRIBE, *v. t.* To mark by a model or rule; to mark so as to fit one piece to another; *a term used by carpenters and joiners.*

SCRIMER, *n.* [Fr. *escrimeur*. See *Skirmish*.] A fencing-master. *Obs.* *Shak.*

SCRIMP, *v. t.* [Sw. *skruppen*, shriveled; D. *krimpen*, to shrink, *crimp*, shrivel; G. *scrumpfen*; W. *crimpiau*, to pinch.]

To contract; to shorten; to make too small or short; to limit or straiten; as, to *scrimp* the pattern of a coat. *New England.*

SCRIMP, *a.* Short; scanty.

SCRIMP, *n.* A pinching miser; a niggard; a close fisted person. *New England.*

SCRINE, *n.* [L. *scrinium*; Norm. *escrin*; probably from L. *cerno*, *scerno*.]

A shrine; a chest, book-case or other place where writings or curiosities are deposited. [See *Shrine*, which is generally used.]

SCRINGE, *v. i.* To cringe, of which this word is a corruption.

SCRIP, *n.* [W. *ysgrab*, *ysgrepan*, something puckered or drawn together, a wallet, a scrip; Sw. *skrappa*. This belongs to the root of *gripe*, our vulgar *grab*, that is, to seize or press.]

A small bag; a wallet; a satchel. David put five smooth stones in a *scrip*. 1 Sam. xvii. Matt. x.

SCRIP, *n.* [L. *scriptum*, *scriptio*, from *scribo*, to write.]

A small writing, certificate or schedule; a piece of paper containing a writing.

Bills of exchange cannot pay our debts abroad, till *scrips* of paper can be made current coin. *Locke.*

A certificate of stock subscribed to a bank or other company, or of a share of other joint property, is called in America a *scrip*.

SCRIPPAGE, *n.* That which is contained in a scrip. [Not in use.] *Dict.*

SCRIPT, *n.* A scrip. [Not in use.]

Chaucer.

SCRIPTORY, *a.* [L. *scriptorius*. See *Scribe*.]

Written; expressed in writing; not verbal. [Little used.] *Swift.*

SCRIPTURAL, *a.* [from *scripture*.] Contained in the Scriptures, so called by way of eminence, that is, in the Bible; as a *scriptural* word, expression or phrase.

2. According to the Scriptures or sacred oracles; as a *scriptural* doctrine.

SCRIPTURALIST, *n.* One who adheres literally to the Scriptures and makes them the foundation of all philosophy.

SCRIPTURE, *n.* [L. *scriptura*, from *scribo*, to write.]

1. In its *primary sense*, a writing; any thing written. *Raleigh.*

2. *Appropriately, and by way of distinction*, the books of the Old and New Testament; the Bible. The word is used either in the singular or plural number, to denote the sacred writings or divine oracles, called *sacred* or *holy*, as proceeding from God and containing sacred doctrines and precepts.

There is not any action that a man ought to do or forbear, but the *Scripture* will give him a clear precept or prohibition for it. *South.*

Compared with the knowledge which the *Scriptures* contain, every other subject of human inquiry is vanity and emptiness. *Buckminster.*

SCRIPTURIST, *n.* One well versed in the Scriptures. *Newcombe.*

SCRIVENER, *n.* [W. *ysgrivewor*, from *ysgrivenu*, to write; It. *scrivano*; Fr. *ecrivain*. See *Scribe*.]

1. A writer; one whose occupation is to draw contracts or other writings. *Encyc.*

2. One whose business is to place money at interest. *Dryden.*

SCROFULA, *n.* [L. In G. *kropf* is crop, craw, and scrofula. In D. it is *kroppeer*, neck-sore.]

A disease, called vulgarly the king's evil, characterized by hard, scirrous, and often indolent tumors in the glands of the neck, under the chin, in the arm-pits, &c. *Encyc.*

SCROFULOUS, *a.* Pertaining to scrofula, or partaking of its nature; as *scrofulous* tumors; a *scrofulous* habit of body.

2. Diseased or affected with scrofula. *Scrofulous* persons can never be duly nourished. *Arbuthnot.*

SCROLL, *n.* [probably formed from *roll*, or its root; Fr. *ecroue*, a contracted word, whence *escrow*.]

A roll of paper or parchment; or a writing formed into a roll.

Here is the *scroll* of every man's name. *Shak.*

The heavens shall be rolled together as a *scroll*. Is. xxxiv.

SCROTUM, *n.* The bag which contains the testicles.

SCROYLE, *n.* [In Fr. *ecrouelles*, the king's evil; or D. *schraal*, thin, lean, meager.] A mean fellow; a wretch. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

SCRUB, *v. t.* [Sw. *skrubba*, to scrub, to rebuke; Dan. *skrubber*; D. *schrobben*; G. *scrubben*. This word is probably formed on *rub*, or its root, and perhaps *scrape*, L. *scribo*, may be from the same radix; It. *scribam*.]

To rub hard, either with the hand or with a cloth or an instrument; usually, to rub hard with a brush, or with something coarse or rough, for the purpose of cleaning, scouring or making bright; as, to *scrub* a floor; to *scrub* a deck; to *scrub* vessels of brass or other metal.

SCRUB, *v. i.* To be diligent and penurious; as, to *scrub* hard for a living.

SCRUB, *n.* A mean fellow; one that labors hard and lives meanly.

2. Something small and mean.

No little *scrub* joint shall come on my board. *Swift.*

3. A worn out brush. *Ainsworth.*

SCRUBBED, { *a.* Small and mean; stunted in growth; as a scrubbed boy; a scrubby cur; a scrubby tree. *Shak. Swift.*

SCRUF, for *scurf*, not in use.

SCRUPLE, *n.* [Fr. *scrupule*, from L. *scrupulus*, a doubt; *scrupulum*, the third part of a dram, from *scrupus*, a chess-man; probably a piece, a small thing, from *scraping*, like *scrap*. Qu. Gr. *αἰσχύς*. Is not the sense of doubt from being very nice?] 1. Doubt; hesitation from the difficulty of determining what is right or expedient; backwardness; reluctance to decide or to act. A man of fashionable honor makes no *scruple* to take another's life, or expose his own. He has no *scruples* of conscience, or he despises them.

2. A weight of twenty grains, the third part of a dram; among goldsmiths, the weight of 24 grains.

3. Proverbially, a very small quantity.

4. In *Chaldean chronology*, the $\frac{1}{60}$ part of an hour; a division of time used by the Jews, Arabs, &c. *Encyc.*

Scruple of half duration, an arch of the moon's orbit, which the moon's center describes from the beginning of an eclipse to the middle.

Scruples of immersion or incidence, an arch of the moon's orbit, which her center describes from the beginning of the eclipse to the time when its center falls into the shadow.

Scruples of emersion, an arch of the moon's orbit, which her center describes in the time from the first emersion of the moon's limb to the end of the eclipse. *Encyc.*

SCRUPLE, *v. i.* To doubt; to hesitate.

He *scrupl'd* not to eat,

Against his better knowledge. *Milton.*

SCRUPLE, *v. t.* To doubt; to hesitate to believe; to question; as, to *scruple* the truth or accuracy of an account or calculation.

SCRUPLED, *pp.* Doubted; questioned.

SCRUPLER, *n.* A doubter; one who hesitates.

SCRUPLING, *ppr.* Doubting; hesitating; questioning.

SCRUPULOSITY, *n.* [L. *scrupulositas*.]

1. The quality or state of being scrupulous; doubt; doubtfulness respecting some difficult point, or proceeding from the difficulty or delicacy of determining how to act; hence, the caution or tenderness arising from the fear of doing wrong or offending.

The first sacrilege is looked upon with some horror; but when they have once made the breach, their *scrupulosity* soon retires. *Decay of Piety.*

2. Nicety of doubt; or nice regard to exactness and propriety.

So careful, even to *scrupulosity*, were they to keep their sabbath. *South.*

3. Niceness; preciseness. *Johnson.*

SCRUPULOUS, *a.* [L. *scrupulosus*; Fr. *scrupuleux*.]

1. Nicely doubtful; hesitating to determine or to act; cautious in decision from a fear of offending or doing wrong. Be careful in moral conduct, not to offend *scrupulous* brethren.