

the inhabitants of a state or of a city constitute a *society*, having common interests; and hence it is called a *community*. In a more enlarged sense, the whole race or family of man is a *society*, and called *human society*.

The true and natural foundations of *society*, are the wants and fears of individuals.

Blackstone.

- Any number of persons associated for a particular purpose, whether incorporated by law, or only united by articles of agreement; a fraternity. Thus we have bible *societies*, missionary *societies*, and charitable *societies* for various objects; *societies* of mechanics, and learned *societies*; *societies* for encouraging arts, &c.
- Company; a temporary association of persons for profit or pleasure. In this sense, *company* is more generally used.
- Company; fellowship. We frequent the *society* of those we love and esteem.
- Partnership; fellowship; union on equal terms.

Among unequals what *society* can sort?

Milton.

Heav'n's greatness no *society* can bear.

Dryden.

- Persons living in the same neighborhood, who frequently meet in company and have fellowship. Literary *society* renders a place interesting and agreeable.
- In *Connecticut*, a number of families united and incorporated for the purpose of supporting public worship, is called an *ecclesiastical society*. This is a parish, except that it has not territorial limits. In Massachusetts, such an incorporated society is usually called a *parish*, though consisting of persons only, without regard to territory.

SOCIN'IAN, *a.* [from *Socinus*, a native of Sienna, in Tuscany, the founder of the sect of Socinians in the 16th century.]

Pertaining to Socinus, or his religious creed.

SOCIN'IAN, *n.* One of the followers of Socinus.

Encyc.

SOCIN'IANISM, *n.* The tenets or doctrines of Socinus, who held Christ to be a mere man inspired, denied his divinity and atonement, and the doctrine of original depravity.

Encyc.

SOCK, *n.* [Sax. *socce*; L. *soccus*; Sw. *soccka*; G. *socke*; D. *zok*; Dan. *sok*; Fr. *soeque*; It. *socco*; Sp. *zoco*, *zueco*, a wooden shoe, a plinth, whence *zocalo*, Fr. *socle*.]

- The shoe of the ancient actors of comedy. Hence the word is used for comedy, and opposed to *buskin* or tragedy.

Great Fletcher never treads in buskin here,
Nor greater Jonson dares in *socks* appear.

Dryden.

- A garment for the foot, like the foot of a stocking.

SOCK/ET, *n.* [Ir. *soccad*.] The little hollow tube or place in which a candle is fixed in the candlestick.

And in the *sockets* oily bubbles dance.

Dryden.

- Any hollow thing or place which receives and holds something else; as the *sockets* of the teeth or of the eyes.

His eyeballs in their hollow *sockets* sink.

Dryden.

Gomphosis is the connection of a tooth to its *socket*.

Wiseman.

SOCK/ET-CHISEL, *n.* A chisel made with a socket; a stronger sort of chisel.

Moxon.

SOCK/LESS, *a.* Destitute of socks or shoes.

Beaum.

SO/CLÉ, *n.* [See *Sock*.] In architecture, a flat square member under the basis of pedestals of vases and statues, serving as a foot or stand.

SOC/MAN, *n.* [See *Socage*.] One who holds lands or tenements by socage.

Cowel.

SOC/MANRY, *n.* Tenure by socage. [Not in use.]

Cowel.

SOC/OME, *n.* A custom of tenants to grind corn at the lord's mill. [Not used.]

Cowel.

SOC/OTORINE, *a.* Socotorine or socotrine aloes, a fine kind of aloes from Socotra, an isle in the Indian ocean.

Encyc.

SOCRAT'IC, *a.* Pertaining to Socrates, the Grecian sage, or to his language or manner of teaching and philosophizing. The *Socratic* method of reasoning and instruction was by interrogatories.

SOCRAT'ICALLY, *adv.* In the Socratic method.

Goodman.

SOCRATISM, *n.* The doctrines or philosophy of Socrates.

SOCRATIST, *n.* A disciple of Socrates.

Martin.

SOD, *n.* [D. *zoode*; G. *sode*. I suspect the radical sense is *set*, fixed; W. *sodi*, to set.] Turf; sward; that stratum of earth on the surface which is filled with the roots of grass, or any portion of that surface. It differs from *clod*, which may be a compact mass of earth without roots; but *sod* is formed by earth held together by roots.

SOD, *a.* Made or consisting of sod.

SOD, *v. t.* To cover with sod; to turf.

SOD, *pret. of seethe*; also the passive participle. [See *Sodden*.]

SO'DA, *n.* [G. *soda*; D. *souda*; It. *soda*; Sp. *soda* or *sosa*, glasswort, barilla.]

Mineral fixed alkali; natron; so called because it forms the basis of marine salt. It is found native in Egypt; but it is generally obtained from the *salsola kali*. Soda is an oxyd, or the protoxyd of sodium, a metal.

Davy.

SO'DALITE, *n.* A mineral; so called from the large portion of mineral alkali which enters into its composition. It is of a bluish green color, and found crystalized or in masses.

Dict.

SODAL'ITY, *n.* [L. *sodalitas*, from *sodalis*, a companion.] A fellowship or fraternity.

Stillingfleet.

SO'DA-WATER, *n.* A very weak solution of soda in water supersaturated with carbonic acid, and constituting a favorite beverage.

SOD/DEN, *pp. of seethe*. Boiled; seethed.

SOD'DY, *a.* [from *sod*.] Turfy; consisting of sod; covered with sod.

SOD/ER, *v. t.* [W. *sawd*, juncture; *sawdriane*, to join, to solder; Fr. *souder*; Arm. *souda* or *soudta*; It. *sodare*, to make firm.

It has been taken for granted that this is a contracted word, from L. *solido*, and hence written *solder*. The fact may be doubted; but if true, the settled pronunciation seems to render it expedient to let the contracted orthography remain undisturbed.]

To unite and make solid, as metallic substances; to join separate things or parts of the same thing by a metallic substance in a state of fusion, which hardens in cooling, and renders the joint solid.

SOD/ER, *n.* Metallic cement; a metal or metallic composition used in uniting other metallic substances.

SOD'IDIUM, *n.* The metallic base of soda. It is soft, sectile, white and opaque, and very malleable. It is lighter than water.

Davy.

SOD'OMITE, *n.* An inhabitant of Sodom.

2. One guilty of sodomy.

SOD'OMY, *n.* A crime against nature.

SOE, *n.* [Scot. *sae*; perhaps *sea*.] A large wooden vessel for holding water; a cowl. [Local.]

More.

Sae, so and ever, found in compounds, as in *whosoever*, *whatsoever*, *wheresoever*. See these words. It is sometimes used separate from the pronoun; as, in what things *soever* you undertake, use diligence and fidelity.

SO'FA, *n.* [probably an oriental word. Qu. Sw. *söfa*, to lull to sleep.]

An elegant long seat, usually with a stuffed bottom. Sofas are variously made. In the United States, the frame is of mahogany, and the bottom formed of stuffed cloth, with a covering of silk, chintz, calico or hair-cloth. The sofa of the orientals is a kind of alcove raised half a foot above the floor, where visitors of distinction are received. It is also a seat by the side of the room covered with a carpet.

SOFFIT, *n.* [It. *soffitta*.] In architecture, any timber ceiling formed of cross beams, the compartments of which are enriched with sculpture, painting or gilding.

2. The under side or face of an architrave, enriched with compartments of roses.

Encyc.

SOFT, *a.* [Sax. *softe*, *softa*. The D. has *zagt*, Sw. *sackta*, D. *sagte*, and the G. *sansf*, in a like sense, but whether allied to *soft*, may be questioned.]

- Easily yielding to pressure; the contrary of *hard*; as a *soft* bed; a *soft* peach; *soft* earth.

- Not hard; easily separated by an edged instrument; as *soft* wood. The chestnut is a *soft* wood, but more durable than hickory, which is a very hard wood. So we say, a *soft* stone, when it breaks or is hewed with ease.

- Easily worked; malleable; as *soft* iron.
- Not rough, rugged or harsh; smooth to the touch; delicate; as *soft* silk; *soft* raiment; a *soft* skin.

- Delicate; feminine; as the *softer* sex.

- Easily yielding to persuasion or motives flexible; susceptible of influence or passion. In both these senses, *soft* is applied to females, and sometimes to males; as a divine of a *soft* and servile temper.

K. Charles.

One king is too *soft* and easy. *L'Estrange.*

- Tender; timorous.

However *soft* within themselves they are.

To you they will be valiant by despair. *Dryden.*

- Mild; gentle; kind; not severe or unfeeling; as a person of a *soft* nature.

- Civil; complaisant; courteous; as a per-