

And Moses said to Aaron, go to the altar, and offer thy sin-offering, and by burnt-offering, and make an *atonement* for thyself and for the people. Lev. ix.

When a man has been guilty of any vice, the best *atonement* he can make for it is, to warn others not to fall into the like. *Spect.* No. 8.

The Phocians behaved with so much gallantry, that they were thought to have made a sufficient *atonement* for their former offense.

*Potter. Antiq.*

3. In *theology*, the expiation of sin made by the obedience and personal sufferings of Christ.

ATONER, *n.* He who makes atonement.

ATONIC, *a.* Relaxed; debilitated.

ATONING, *ppr.* Reconciling. *Obs.*

2. Making amends, or satisfaction.

ATONY, *n.* [Gr. *ατῶνα*, defect, of a priv. and *τρον*, tone, from *τείνω*, to stretch.]

Debility; relaxation; a want of tone or tension; defect of muscular power; palsy.

*Wilson. Core.*

ATOP' *adv.* [a and top. See *Top*.] On or at the top.

*Milton.*

ATRABILARIAN, } *a.* [L. *atra bilis*,

ATRABILIARIOUS, } *a.* black bile.]

Affected with melancholy, which the ancients attributed to the bile; replete with black bile.

ATRABILARIOUSNESS, *n.* The state of being melancholy, or affected with disordered bile.

ATRAMENTAL, } *a.* [L. *atramentum*, ink,

ATRAMENTOUS, } *a.* from *ater*, black.]

Inky; black like ink.

ATRAMENTARIOUS, *a.* Like ink; suitable for making ink. The sulphate of iron, or green copperas, is called *atramentarius*, as being the material of ink.

*Fourcroy.*

ATRIP', *adv.* [a and trip. See *Trip*.]

In *nautical language*, the anchor is *atrip*, when drawn out of the ground in a perpendicular direction. The topsails are *atrip*, when they are hoisted to the top of the mast, or as high as possible. *Mar. Dict.*

ATROCIOUS, *a.* [L. *atrox*, *trux*, fierce, cruel.]

Extremely heinous, criminal or cruel; enormous; outrageous; as *atrocious* guilt or offense.

ATROCIOUSLY, *adv.* In an atrocious manner; with enormous cruelty or guilt.

ATROCIOUSNESS, *n.* The quality of being enormously criminal or cruel.

ATROCITY, *n.* Enormous wickedness; extreme heinousness or cruelty; as the *atrociousness* of murder.

ATROPHY, *n.* [Gr. *a*. priv. and *τροφος*, to nourish.]

A consumption or wasting of the flesh, with loss of strength, without any sensible cause or hectic fever; a wasting from defect of nourishment.

*Encyc. Core.*

ATROPIA, *a.* A new vegetable alkali extracted from the *atropa belladonna*, or deadly nightshade. It is white, brilliant and crystallizes in long needles.

*Ure.*

ATTACH, *v. t.* [Fr. *attacher*, to tie or fasten, to apply, to engage, to stick; Arm. *staga*; It. *attaccare*; Norm. *attacher*, to attach; *tack*, tied, fixed, tacked together; Port. Sp. *atacar*. It seems to be allied to *attack*, and the sense is to put, throw or fall on, hence to seize, and stop, coinciding with the Eng. *take*; Sw. *taga*; Dan.

*tager*; Sax. *tæcan*; Gr. *δέχομαι*; L. *tango*, for *tago*; Eng. *tack*; &c. Class, Dg. See *Attack* and *Tack*.]

1. To take by legal authority; to arrest the person by writ, to answer for a debt; applied to a taking of the person by a *civil* process; being never used for the arrest of a criminal. It is applied also to the taking of goods and real estate by an officer, by virtue of a writ or precept, to hold the same to satisfy a judgment to be rendered in the suit.

2. To take, seize and lay hold on, by moral force, as by affection or interest; to win the heart; to fasten or bind by moral influence; as, *attached* to a friend; *attaching* others to us by wealth or flattery.

3. To make to adhere; to tie, bind or fasten; as, to *attach* substances by any glutinous matter; to *attach* one thing to another by a string.

ATTACHABLE, *a.* That may be legally attached; liable to be taken by writ or precept.

ATTACHED, *pp.* Taken by writ or precept; drawn to and fixed, or united by affection or interest.

ATTACHING, *ppr.* Taking or seizing by commandment or writ; drawing to, and fixing by influence; winning the affections.

ATTACHMENT, *n.* A taking of the person, goods or estate by a writ or precept in a civil action, to secure a debt or demand.

2. A writ directing the person or estate of a person to be taken, to secure his appearance before a court. In *England*, the first notice to appear in court is by *summons*; and if the defendant disobeys this monition, a writ of attachment issues, commanding the sheriff to *attach* him, by taking gage, or security in goods, which he forfeits by non-appearance, or by making him find safe pledges or sureties for his appearance. But in trespasses, an attachment is the first process. In this country, attachment is more generally the first process, and in some states, the writ of attachment issues at first against the property or person of the defendant. In *Connecticut*, this writ issues against the person, goods or land, in the first instance, commanding to take the goods and estate of the defendant, if to be found; or otherwise, to take his body. In *England*, witnesses not appearing upon a summons, may be taken by *attachment*; a process called with us a *capias*. Attachments also issue against persons for contempt of court. The court of attachments, in *England*, is held before the verderors of the forest, to *attach* and try offenders against vert and venison.

Foreign attachment is the taking of the money or goods of a debtor in the hands of a stranger; as when the debtor is not within the jurisdiction of the court or has absconded. Any person who has goods or effects of a debtor, is considered in law as the agent, attorney, factor or trustee of the debtor; and an attachment served on such person binds the property in his hands to respond the judgment against the debtor.

3. Close adherence or affection; fidelity;

regard; any passion or affection that binds a person; as, an *attachment* to a friend, or to a party.

ATTACK', *v. t.* [Fr. *attaquer*; Arm. *attacq*; It. *attaccare*, to fasten, to engage in battle; *attacco*, a sticking; Sp. *atacar*, to assault, to fasten or make close, to cram; Port. *atacar*, to attack, to seize, to fasten; Heb. and Ch. *פָּרַר*, to thrust, to drive, to strike.

It seems to be allied to *attach*; but the latter verb agrees better with the Eth.

( $\Pi \Theta \Phi$  to press, whence  $\Lambda \Theta \Phi$  to press, to make close; and the Ch.  $\rho \omega$ , to accuse, to unite. Class Dg.)

1. To assault; to fall upon with force; to assail, as with force and arms. It is the appropriate word for the commencing act of hostility between armies and navies.

2. To fall upon, with unfriendly words or writing; to begin a controversy with; to attempt to overthrow or bring into disrepute, by satire, calumny or criticism; as, to *attack* a man or his opinions in a pamphlet.

ATTACK', *n.* An onset; first invasion; a falling on, with force or violence, or with calumny, satire or criticism.

ATTACKED, *pp.* Assaulted; invaded; fallen on by force or enmity.

ATTACKER, *n.* One who assaults or invades.

ATTACKING, *ppr.* Assaulting; invading; falling on with force, calumny or criticism.

ATTACOT'TIC, *a.* Pertaining to the Attacotti, a tribe of ancient Britons, allies of the Scots. *Pinkerton.*

ATTAGEN, *n.* A beautiful fowl, resembling the pheasant, with a short black bill and a fine crest of yellow feathers, variegated with black and white spots, found in the mountains of Sicily.

*Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

ATTAIN, *v. i.* [Fr. and Norm. *atteindre*; L. *attingo*, to reach, come to or overtake; *ad* and *tango*, to touch, reach or strike; that is, to thrust, urge or push to. It has no connection with L. *attineo*. See *Class*, Dg.]

1. To reach; to come to or arrive at, by motion, bodily exertion, or efforts towards a place or object.

If by any means they might attain to Phenice. Acts xxviii.

2. To reach; to come to or arrive at, by an effort of mind.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain to it. Ps. cxxxix. Regularly this verb should be always followed by *to*; the omission of *to*, and the use of the verb, in a transitive sense, may have originated in mistake, from the opinion that the verb is from the L. *attingo*, and equivalent to *obtain*.

ATTAIN, *v. t.* To gain; to compass; to achieve or accomplish, that is, to reach by efforts; without to following.

Is he wise who hopes to attain the end without the means? *Tillotson.*

This use of the verb is now established; but in strictness it is here implied; *attain* to the end. The real sense, as in the intransitive use of the verb, is, to reach or come to the end or purpose in view. This word always implies an effort towards an object. Hence it is not synonymous with *obtain*.