

who uses; one who engages or keeps in service.

EMPLOYING, *ppr.* Occupying; using; keeping busy.

EMPLOYMENT, *n.* The act of employing or using.

2. Occupation; business; that which engages the head or hands; as agricultural employments; mechanical employments. Men, whose employment is to make sport and amusement for others, are always despised.

3. Office; public business or trust; agency or service for another or for the public. The secretary of the treasury has a laborious and responsible employment. He is in the employment of government.

EMPLUGNE. [See *Plunge*.]

EMPOISON, *v. t. s. as z.* [Fr. *empoisonner*. See *Poison*.]

1. To poison; to administer poison to; to destroy or endanger life by giving or causing to be taken into the stomach any noxious drug or preparation. [In this sense, *poison* is generally used; but *empoison* may be used, especially in poetry.]

2. To taint with poison or venom; to render noxious or deleterious by an admixture of poisonous substance. [This may be used, especially in poetry.]

3. To embitter; to deprive of sweetness; as, to *empoison* the joys and pleasures of life.

EMPOISONED, *ppr.* Poisoned; tainted with venom; embittered.

EMPOISONER, *n.* One who poisons; one who administers a deleterious drug; he or that which embitters.

EMPOISONING, *ppr.* Poisoning; embittering.

EMPOISONMENT, *n.* The act of administering poison, or causing it to be taken; the act of destroying life by a deleterious drug.

EMPORIUM, *n.* [L. from the Gr. *εμποριον*, from *εμπορος*, to buy; *ε* and *πορος*, to pass or go, *Sax. faran*.]

1. A place of merchandize; a town or city of trade; particularly, a city or town of extensive commerce, or in which the commerce of an extensive country centers, or to which sellers and buyers resort from different countries. Such are London, Amsterdam and Hamburg. New York will be an *emporium*.

2. In medicine, the common sensory in the brain.

EMPOVERISH. [See *Impoverish*.]

EMPOWER, *v. t.* [from *en* or *in* and *power*.]

1. To give legal or moral power or authority to; to authorize, either by law, commission, letter of attorney, natural right, or by verbal license. The supreme court is *empowered* to try and decide all cases, civil or criminal. The attorney is *empowered* to sign an acquittance and discharge the debtor.

2. To give physical power or force; to enable. [In this sense the use is not frequent, and perhaps not used at all.]

EMPOWERED, *pp.* Authorized; having legal or moral right.

EMPOWERING, *ppr.* Authorizing; giving power.

EMPRESS, *n.* [contracted from *empress*. See *Emperor*.] The consort or spouse of an emperor.

2. A female who governs an empire; a female invested with imperial power or sovereignty.

EMPRISE, *n. s. as z.* [Norm.; *em, en*, and *prise*, from *prendre*, to take.] An undertaking; an enterprise.

Spenser. Pope.
[This word is now rarely or never used, except in poetry.]

EMPTIER, *n.* One that empties or exhausts.

EMPTINESS, *n.* [from *empty*.] A state of being empty; a state of containing nothing except air; destitution; absence of matter; as the *emptiness* of a vessel.

2. Void space; vacuity; vacuum. *Dryden.*

3. Want of solidity or substance; as the *emptiness* of light and shade. *Dryden.*

4. Unsatisfactoriness; inability to satisfy desire; as the *emptiness* of earthly things.

5. Vacuity of head; want of intellect or knowledge. *Pope.*

EMPTION, *n.* [L. *emptio*, from *emo*, to buy.] The act of buying; a purchasing. [Not much used.]

EMPTY, *a.* [Sax. *amtig* or *amti*, from *amian*, to be idle, to be vacant, to evacuate, *amta*, ease, leisure, quiet.]

1. Containing nothing, or nothing but air; as an *empty* chest; *empty* space; an *empty* purse is a serious evil.

2. Evacuated; not filled; as *empty* shackles. *Spenser.*

3. Unfurnished; as an *empty* room.

4. Void; devoid.

In civility thou seemest so *empty*. *Shak.*

5. Void; destitute of solid matter; as *empty* air.

6. Destitute of force or effect; as *empty* words.

7. Unsubstantial; unsatisfactory; not able to fill the mind or the desires. The pleasures of life are *empty* and unsatisfying.

Pleased with empty praise. *Pope.*

8. Not supplied; having nothing to carry. They beat him, and sent him away *empty*. *Mark xii.*

9. Hungry.

My falcon now is sharp and passing *empty*. *Shak.*

10. Unfurnished with intellect or knowledge; vacant of head; ignorant; as an *empty* comb.

11. Unfruitful; producing nothing. Israel is an *empty* vine. *Hosea x.*

Seven *empty* ears blasted with the east wind. *Gen. xli.*

12. Wanting substance; wanting solidity; as *empty* dreams.

13. Destitute; waste; desolate. Nineveh is *empty*. *Nah. ii.*

14. Without effect. The sword of Saul returned not *empty*. *2 Sam. i.*

15. Without a cargo; in ballast; as, the ship returned *empty*.

EMPTY, *v. t.* To exhaust; to make void or destitute; to deprive of the contents; as, to *empty* a vessel; to *empty* a well or a cistern.

2. To pour out the contents. The clouds *empty* themselves on the earth. *Eccles. xi.*

Rivers *empty* themselves into the ocean.

3. To waste; to make desolate. *Jer. li.*

EMPTY, *v. i.* To pour out or discharge its contents.

The Connecticut *empties* into the Sound.

2. To become empty.

EMPTYING, *ppr.* Pouring out the contents; making void.

EMPTYINGS, *n.* The lees of beer, cider, &c.

EMPURPLE, *v. t.* [from *purple*.] To tinge or dye of a purple color; to discolor with purple.

The deep *empurpled* ran. *Philips.*

EMPURPLED, *pp.* Stained with a purple color.

EMPURPLING, *ppr.* Tinging or dyeing of a purple color.

EMPUSE, *n.* [Gr. *εμψυα*.] A phantom or specter. [Not used.] *Bp. Taylor.*

EMPUZZLE. [See *Puzzle*.]

EMPYREAL, *a.* [Fr. *empyre*; Sp. *It. empyreo*; L. *empyreus*; from Gr. *εμψυρος*; *ε* and *ρυς*, fire.]

1. Formed of pure fire or light; refined beyond aerial substance; pertaining to the highest and purest region of heaven.

Go, soar with Plato to the *empyrean* sphere. *Pope.*

2. Pure; vital; dephlogisticated; an epithet given to the air, or rather gas, now called oxygen.

EMPYREAL, *a.* *Empyrean.* *Akenside.*

EMPYREAN, *n.* [See *Empyrean*.] The highest heaven, where the pure element of fire has been supposed to subsist.

The *empyrean* rung With hallichuahs. *Milton.*

EMPYREUMA, *n.* [Gr. from *ε* and *ρυς*, fire.]

In chemistry, a disagreeable smell produced from burnt oils, in distillations of animal and vegetable substances.

Nicholson. Encyc.

EMPYREUMATIC, *a.* Having the

EMPYREUMATICAL, *a.* *Empyreumatic.* Having the smell of burnt oil, or of burning animal and vegetable substances.

EMPYREAL, *a.* Containing the combustible principle of coal. *Kirwan.*

EMPYROSIS, *n.* [Gr. *εμψυρος*, to burn.] A general fire; a conflagration. [Little used.] *Hale.*

EMRODS. [See *Emerods*.]

EMU, *n.* A large fowl of S. America, with wings unfit for flight.

This name properly belongs to the Cassowary, but has been erroneously applied, by the Brazilians, to the Rheo or S. American ostrich. *Cuvier.*

EMULATE, *v. t.* [L. *amulor*; Sp. *emular*; It. *emulare*. Qu. Gr. *αμύω*, strife, contest.]

1. To strive to equal or excel, in qualities or actions; to imitate, with a view to equal or excel; to vie with; to rival. Learn early to *emulate* the good and the great.

Emulate the virtues and shun the vices of distinguished men.

2. To be equal to.

Thy eye would *emulate* the diamond. *Shak.*

3. To imitate; to resemble. [Unusual.] Convulsion *emulating* the motion of laughter. *Arbuthnot.*

EMULATE, *a.* Ambitious. [Little used.] *Shak.*

EMULATED, *pp.* Rivalled; imitated.