

NUN'CUPATE, *v. t.* [*L. nuncupo.*] To declare publicly or solemnly. [*Not used.*]

Barrow.

NUNCUPA'TION, *n.* A naming.

Chaucer.

NUNCUPATIVE, } [*It. nuncupativo*; *Fr.*
NUNCUPATORY, } *a. nuncupatif*; from *L.*
nuncupo, to declare.]

1. Nominal; existing only in name.

Encyc.

2. Publicly or solemnly declaratory.

Fotherby.

3. Verbal, not written. A *nuncupative* will or testament is one which is made by the verbal declaration of the testator, and depends merely on oral testimony for proof, though afterwards reduced to writing.

Blackstone.

NUNDINAL, *a.* [*L. nundinalis*, from *nundina*, a fair or market, quasi *novem-dina*, every nine days.]

1. Pertaining to a fair or to a market day.

2. A *nundinal* letter, among the Romans, was one of the eight first letters of the alphabet, which were repeated successively from the first to the last day of the year. One of these always expressed the market days, which returned every nine days.

NUNDINAL, *n.* A *nundinal* letter.

NUNDINATE, *v. i.* To buy and sell at fairs. [*Not used.*]

NUNDINATION, *n.* Traffick in fairs. [*Not used.*]

NUNNA'TION, *n.* In *Arabic grammar*, from the name of *N*, the pronunciation of *n* at the end of words.

NUNNERY, *n.* A house in which nuns reside; a cloister in which females under a vow of chastity and devoted to religion, reside during life.

NUP'TIAL, *a.* [*L. nuptialis*, from *nuptus*, *nubo*, to marry.]

1. Pertaining to marriage; done at a wedding; as *nuptial* rites and ceremonies; *nuptial* torch.

2. Constituting marriage; as the *nuptial* knot or band.

The Bible has mitigated the horrors of war; it has given effectual obligation to the *nuptial* vow.

G. Spring.

NUP'TIALS, *n. plu.* Marriage, which see.

Dryden.

NURSE, *n. nurs.* [*Fr. nourrice*, from *nourrir*, to nourish.]

1. A woman that has the care of infants, or a woman employed to tend the children of others.

2. A woman who suckles infants.

3. A woman that has the care of a sick person.

4. A man who has the care of the sick.

5. A person that breeds, educates or protects; hence, that which breeds, brings up or causes to grow; as Greece, the *nurse* of the liberal arts.

6. An old woman; in contempt.

Blackmore.

7. The state of being nursed; as, to put a child to *nurse*.

Cleveland.

8. In *composition*, that which supplies food; as a *nurse-pond*.

Falton.

NURSE, *v. t. nurs.* To tend, as infants; as, to *nurse* a child.

2. To suckle; to nourish at the breast.

3. To attend and take care of in child-bed; as, to *nurse* a woman in her illness.

4. To tend the sick; applied to males and females.

5. To feed; to maintain; to bring up. *Is. lx.*

6. To cherish; to foster; to encourage; to promote growth in. We say, to *nurse* a feeble animal or plant.

By what hands has vice been *nursed* into so uncontrolled a dominion? *Locke.*

7. To manage with care and economy, with a view to increase; as, to *nurse* our national resources.

NURS'ED, *pp.* Tended in infancy or sickness; nourished from the breast; maintained; cherished.

NURS'ER, *n.* One that cherishes or encourages growth.

NURS'ERY, *n.* The place or apartment in a house appropriated to the care of children.

Bacon.

2. A place where young trees are propagated for the purpose of being transplanted; a plantation of young trees.

Bacon.

3. The place where anything is fostered and the growth promoted.

To see fair Padua, *nursery* of arts. *Shak.*

So we say, a *nursery* of thieves or of rogues. Alehouses and dram-shops are the *nurseries* of intemperance.

Christian families are the *nurseries* of the church on earth, as she is the *nursery* of the church in heaven.

J. M. Mason.

4. That which forms and educates. Commerce is the *nursery* of seamen.

5. The act of nursing. [*Little used.*]

Shak.

6. That which is the object of a nurse's care.

Milton.

NURS'ING, *ppr.* Tending; nourishing at the breast; educating; maintaining.

NURS'LING, *n.* An infant; a child.

Dryden.

2. One that is nursed.

Spenser.

NURTURE, *n.* [*Fr. nourriture*, from *nourrir*, to nourish.]

1. That which nourishes; food; diet.

Milton.

2. That which promotes growth; education; instruction. *Eph. vi.*

NURTURE, *v. t.* To feed; to nourish.

2. To educate; to bring or train up.

He was *nurtured* where he was born.

Wotton.

NUSANCE. [*See Nuisance.*]

NUT, *n.* [*Sax. hnūt*; *D. noot*; *G. nuss*; *Sw. nōt*; *Dan. nōdd*; *Ir. cnudh*; *W. ena, cnau*.]

It seems to be allied to *knot*, a bunch or hard lump.]

1. The fruit of certain trees and shrubs, consisting of a hard shell inclosing a kernel. A nut is properly the pericarp of the fruit. Various kinds of *nuts* are distinguished; as *walnut*, *chestnut*, *hazlenut*, *butternut*.

2. In *mechanics*, a small cylinder or other body, with teeth or projections corresponding with the teeth or grooves of a wheel.

Wilkins. Ray.

3. The projection near the eye of an anchor.

Mar. Dict.

NUT, *v. t.* To gather nuts.

Wood.

NUTA'TION, *n.* [*L. nutatio*, a nodding, from *nuto*, to nod.]

In *astronomy*, a kind of tremulous motion of the axis of the earth, by which in its annual revolution it is twice inclined to the ecliptic, and as often returns to its former position.

Encyc.

NUT-BREAKER. [*See Nutcracker.*]

NUT'-BROWN, *a.* Brown as a nut long kept and dried.

Milton.

NUT'-CRACKER, *n.* An instrument for cracking nuts.

Addison.

2. A bird of the genus *Corvus*; the nut-breaker.

Pennant.

NUT GALL, *n.* An excrescence of the oak.

Brown.

NUT'-HATCH, *n.* The common name of birds of the genus *Sitta*. The common European nut-hatch is called also *nut-jobber* and *nut-pecker*.

Encyc. Johnson.

NUT'-HOOK, *n.* A pole with a hook at the end to pull down boughs for gathering the nuts; also, the name given to a thief that stole goods from a window by means of a hook.

Shak.

NUTMEG, *n.* [*L. nux moscata*; *It. noc moscada*; *Port. noz moscada*; *Fr. muscade* or *noir muscade*. But it may be questioned whether the last syllable in English, *meg*, is not from *L. macis*, mace, the bark that envelops the nut.]

The fruit of a tree of the genus *Myristica*, growing in the isles of the East Indies and South Sea. The tree grows to the height of thirty feet, producing numerous branches. The color of the bark of the trunk is a reddish brown; that of the young branches a bright green. The fruit is of the kind called *drupe*, that is, a pulpy pericarp without valves, containing a nut or kernel. The covering of this nut is the mace. The nutmeg is an aromatic, very grateful to the taste and smell, and much used in cookery.

NUTRICATION, *n.* Manner of feeding or being fed. [*Not in use.*]

NUTRIENT, *a.* [*L. nutritio*.] Nourishing; promoting growth.

NUTRIENT, *n.* Any substance which nourishes by promoting the growth or repairing the waste of animal bodies.

NUTRIMENT, *n.* [*L. nutrimentum*, from *nutrio*, to nourish.]

1. That which nourishes; that which promotes the growth or repairs the natural waste of animal bodies, or that which promotes the growth of vegetables; food; aliment.

South.

2. That which promotes enlargement or improvement; as the *nutriment* of the mind.

NUTRIMENTAL, *a.* Having the qualities of food; alimental.

Arbuthnot.

NUTRI'TION, *n.* [*L. nutritio*, from *nutrio*, to nourish.]

1. The act or process of promoting the growth or repairing the waste of animal bodies; the act or process of promoting growth in vegetables.

Darwin.

2. That which nourishes; nutriment.

Fixed like a plant on his peculiar spot,

To draw *nutrition*, propagate, and rot.

Pope.

There is no *nutrition* in ardent spirits.

L. Beecher.

NUTRI'TIOUS, *a.* Nourishing; promoting the growth or repairing the waste of animal bodies. Milk is very *nutritious*.

NUTRITIVE, *a.* Having the quality of nourishing; nutrimental; alimental; as a *nutritive* food.

NUTRITURE, *n.* The quality of nourishing. [*Not used.*]

Harvey.