

ACIDIMETER, *n.* [*Acid* and Gr. *μετρον*, measure.]

An instrument for ascertaining the strength of acids. *Ure.*

ACIDITY, *n.* [*Fr. acide*, from *acid*.]

The quality of being sour; sourness; tartness; sharpness to the taste.

ACIDNESS, *n.* The quality of being sour; acidity.

ACIDULATE, *v. t.* [*L. acidulus*, slightly sour; *Fr. aciduler*, to make sour. See *Acid*.]

To tinge with an acid; to make acid in a moderate degree. *Arbuthnot.*

ACIDULATED, *pp.* Tinged with an acid; made slightly sour.

ACIDULATING, *pp.* Tinging with an acid.

ACIDULE, *n.* In chemistry, a compound

ACIDULUM, *salt*, in which the alkaline base is supersaturated with acid; as, tartareous acidulum; oxalic acidulum.

ACIDULOUS, *a.* [*L. acidulus*. See *Acid*.]

Slightly sour; sub-acid, or having an excess of acid; as, acidulous sulphate.

ACINACIFORM, *a.* [*L. acinaces*, a cimeter, *Gr. ακινάξ*, and *L. forma*, form.]

In botany, formed like, or resembling a cimeter. *Martyn.*

ACINIFORM, *a.* [*L. acinus*, a grape stone, and *forma*, shape.]

Having the form of grapes; in clusters like grapes. The uvula or posterior lamina of the iris in the eye, is called the aciniform tunic. Anatomists apply the term to many glands of a similar formation. *Quincy. Hooper.*

ACINOSE, *a.* [*From L. acinus*. See *Acinuous*.]

ACINOUS, *a.* [*From L. acinus*. See *Acinuous*.]

Consisting of minute granular concretions; used in mineralogy. *Kriewen.*

ACINUS, *n.* [*L.*] In botany, one of the small grains, which compose the fruit of the blackberry, &c.

ACIPENSER, *a.* In ichthyology, a genus of fishes, of the order chondropterygii, having an obtuse head; the mouth under the head, retractile and without teeth.

To this genus belong the sturgeon, sterlet, huso, &c. *Cyc.*

ACITILL, *n.* A name of the water hare, or great crested grebe or diver.

Diet. of Nat. Hist.

ACKNOWLEDGE, *v. t.* *Aknowledge*, [*ad* and *knowledge*. See *Know*.]

1. To own, avow or admit to be true, by a declaration of assent; or as to acknowledge the being of a God.

2. To own or notice with particular regard. In all thy ways acknowledge God. *Prov. iii. 1. Ps. xxxiii.*

3. To own or confess, as implying a consciousness of guilt.

I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. *Ps. li. and xxxii.*

4. To own with assent; to admit or receive with approbation.

He that acknowledged the son, hath the father also. 1 John ii. 2 Tim. ii.

5. To own with gratitude; to own as a benefit; as, to acknowledge a favor, or the receipt of a gift.

They his gifts acknowledged not. *Milton.*

6. To own or admit to belong to; as, to acknowledge a son.

7. To receive with respect.

All that see them shall acknowledge that

they are the seed which the Lord hath blessed. *Isa. vi. 1 Cor. xvi.*

8. To own, avow or assent to an act in a legal form, to give it validity; as, to acknowledge a deed before competent authority.

ACKNOWLEDGED, *pp.* Owned; confessed; noticed with regard or gratitude; received with approbation; owned before authority.

ACKNOWLEDGING, *pp.* Owning; confessing; approving; grateful; but the latter sense is a gallicism, not to be used.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT, *n.* The act of owning; confession; as, the acknowledgment of a fault.

2. The owning, with approbation, or in the true character; as the acknowledgment of a God, or of a public minister.

3. Concession; admission of the truth; as, of a fact, position, or principle.

4. The owning of a benefit received, accompanied with gratitude; and hence it combines the ideas of an expression of thanks. Hence, it is used also for something given or done in return for a favor.

5. A declaration or avowal of one's own act, to give it legal validity; as the acknowledgment of a deed before a proper officer.

Acknowledgment-money, in some parts of England, is a sum paid by tenants, on the death of their landlord, as an acknowledgment of their new lords. *Encyc.*

ACME, *n.* *Acmy*, [*Gr. ἀκμῆ*.]

The top or highest point. It is used to denote the maturity or perfection of an animal. Among physicians, the crisis of a disease, or its utmost violence. Old medical writers divided the progress of a disease into four periods, the *arche*, or beginning, the *anabasis*, or increase, the *acme*, or utmost violence, and the *paracme*, or decline. But *acme* can hardly be considered as a legitimate English word.

ACNE, *n.* *Acny*, [*Gr.*]

A small hard pimple or tubercle on the face. *Quincy.*

ACNESTIS, *n.* [*Gr.* a priv. and *αἶμα*, to rub or gnaw.]

That part of the spine in quadrupeds which extends from the metaphrenon, between the shoulder blades, to the loins; which the animal cannot reach to scratch. *Cole. Quincy.*

ACO, *n.* A Mediterranean fish, called also sarachus.

ACOLIN, *n.* A bird of the partridge kind in Cuba. Its breast and belly are white; its back and tail of a dusky yellow brown. *Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

ACOLUTHIS, *n.* [*Gr. ἀκολούθῳ*.]

ACOLYTE, *n.* [*Gr. ἀκολούθῳ*.]

In the ancient church, one of the subordinate officers, who lighted the lamps, prepared the elements of the sacraments, attended the bishops, &c. An officer of the like character is still employed in the Romish Church. *Encyc.*

ACONITE, *n.* [*L. aconitum*; *Gr. ἀκονίτιον*.]

The herb wolf's bane, or monk's-hood, a poisonous plant; and in poetry, used for poison in general.

ACONTIAS, *n.* [*Gr. ἀκοντίας*; *ακοντίον*, a dart, from *ακων*.]

1. A species of serpent, called dart-snake, or jaculum, from its manner of darting on its prey. This serpent is about three feet in

length; of a light gray color with black spots, resembling eyes; the belly perfectly white. It is a native of Africa and the Mediterranean isles; is the swiftest of its kind, and coils itself upon a tree, from which it darts upon its prey.

2. A conical or meteor resembling the serpent.

ACOP, *adv.* [*a and cope*.]

At the top. *Obs. Jonson.*

ACORN, *n.* [*Sax. acern*, from *ace* or *ac*, oak, and *corn*, a grain.]

1. The seed or fruit of the oak; an oval nut which grows in a rough permanent cup.

The first settlers of Boston were reduced to the necessity of feeding on clams, mussels, ground nuts, and acorns. *B. Trumbull.*

2. In marine language, a small ornamental piece of wood, of a conical shape, fixed on the point of the spindle above the vane, on the mast head, to keep the vane from being blown off. *Mur. Diet.*

3. In natural history, the Lepas, a genus of shells of several species found on the British coast. The shell is multivalvular, unequal, and fixed by a stem; the valves are parallel and perpendicular, but they do not open, so that the animal performs its functions by an aperture on the top. These shells are always fixed to some solid body.

ACORNED, *a.* Furnished or loaded with acorns.

ACORUS, *n.* [*L.* from *Gr. ακορον*.]

1. Aromatic Calamus, sweet flag, or sweet rush.

2. In natural history, blue coral, which grows in the form of a tree, on a rocky bottom, in some parts of the African seas. It is brought from the Camarones and Benin. *Encyc.*

3. In medicine, this name is sometimes given to the great galangal. *Encyc.*

ACOTYLEDON, *n.* [*Gr.* a priv. and *ακω*, *ακω*, without, a hollow.]

In botany, a plant whose seeds have no side lobes, or cotyledons. *Martyn.*

ACOTYLEDONOUS, *a.* Having no side lobes.

ACOUSTIC, *a.* [*Gr. ακουστικός*, from *ακω*, to hear.]

Pertaining to the ears, to the sense of hearing, or to the doctrine of sounds.

Acoustic duct, in anatomy, the meatus auditorius, or external passage of the ear.

Acoustic vessels, in ancient theaters, were brazen tubes or vessels, shaped like a bell, used to propel the voice of the actors, so as to render them audible to a great distance; in some theaters at the distance of 400 feet. *Encyc.*

Acoustic instrument, or auricular tube, called in popular language, a speaking trumpet. *Encyc.*

Acoustics, or acoustics, was a name given to such of the disciples of Pythagoras, as had not completed their five years probation.

ACOUSTICS, *n.* The science of sounds, teaching their cause, nature, and phenomena. This science is, by some writers, divided into *diacoustics*, which explains the properties of sounds coming directly from the sonorous body to the ear; and *catacoustics*, which treats of reflected sounds. But the distinction is considered of little real utility.

In medicine, this term is sometimes used