

ers; a low word and not used in the United States.

CLICK-ET, n. The knocker of a door. [Not used in the United States.]

CLICKING, pp. Making small sharp noises.

CLIENT, n. [Fr. *client*; It. *cliente*; Sp. *id.*: L. *cliens*.]

1. Among the Romans, a citizen who put himself under the protection of a man of distinction and influence, who, in respect to that relation, was called his *patron*. Hence in modern usage,

2. One who applies to a lawyer or counsel for advice and direction in a question of law, or commits his cause to his management in prosecuting a claim, or defending against a suit, in a court of justice.

Bacon. Taylor.

3. A dependent. B. Jonson.

CLIENTAL, a. Dependent. [Unusual.] Burke.

CLIENTED, a. Supplied with clients. Carew.

CLIENTSHIP, n. The condition of a client; a state of being under the protection of a patron. [Clientele is not used.] Dryden.

CLIFF, n. [Sax. *clif*, *cluf*, or *cleaf*; D. *klij*, or *klijp*; G. and Dan. *klipe*; Sw. *klipta*; W. *clip*; L. *clivus*; probably from *clearing*, Sax. *clifian*, *cleofian*.]

1. A steep bank; as the cliffs of Dover. So in *Saxon, the cliffs of the Red Sea*.

2. A high and steep rock; any precipice. Orosius, supposed by Alfred.

Bacon. Dryden.

This word has been sometimes written *clif*, and if from *clearing*, *rending*, coincides with *clift* in origin.

CLIFF, in music. [See *Clef*.]

CLIFFY, a. Having cliffs; broken; craggy. Harnar.

CLIFTED, a. Broken. Congreve.

CLIMAC'TER, n. [Gr. *κλιμακ'tηρ*, the step of a ladder, from *κλιμαξ*, a ladder or scale; L. *climacter*.]

1. A critical year in human life; but *climacteric* is more generally used.

2. A certain space of time. [Not used.] Brown.

CLIMAC'TERIC, a. [Gr. *κλιμακ'tηριος*; L. *climactericus*, from *climax*, a ladder. See *Climax*.]

Literally, noting a scale, progression, or gradation; appropriately, denoting a critical period of human life, or a certain number of years, at the end of which a great change is supposed to take place in the human constitution. [See the *Nom.*.]

CLIMAC'TERIC, n. A critical period in human life, or a period in which some great change is supposed to take place in the human constitution. The critical periods are supposed by some persons to be the years produced by multiplying 7 into the odd numbers 3, 5, 7, and 9; to which others add the 81st year. The 63d year is called the grand climacteric. It has been supposed that these periods are attended with some remarkable change in respect to health, life or fortune.

Brown. Dryden. Pope.

CLIMATARCHIC, a. [Gr. *κλιμα*, climate, and *αρχη*, dominion.] Presiding over climates. Paus. Trans. Note.

CLIMATE, n. [Gr. *κλιμα*; whence L. *clima*; It. Sp. *clima*; Fr. *climat*. Qu. from Gr. *κλιμα*, to lean or incline, or the root of *climax*.]

1. In geography, a part of the surface of the earth, bounded by two circles parallel to the equator, and of such a breadth that the longest day in the parallel nearest the pole is half an hour longer than that nearest to the equator. The beginning of a climate is a parallel circle in which the longest day is half an hour shorter than that at the end. The climates begin at the equator, where the day is 12 hours long; and at the end of the first climate the longest day is 12½ hours long, and this increase of half an hour constitutes a climate, to the polar circles; from which climates are measured by the increase of a month. Johnson. Encycy.

2. In a popular sense, a tract of land, region or country, differing from another in the temperature of the air; or any region or country with respect to the temperature of the air, the seasons, and their peculiar qualities, without any regard to the length of the days, or to geographical position. Thus we say, a warm or cold climate; a moist or dry climate; a happy climate; a genial climate; a mountainous climate.

CLIMATE, v. i. To dwell; to reside in a particular region. Shak. Hist. of St. Domingo.

[Little used, and hardly legitimate.]

CLIMATIC, a. Pertaining to a climate.

CLIMATICAL, a. or climates; limited by a climate. S. S. Smith.

CLIMATEURE, n. A climate. [Little used.] Shak.

CLIMAX, n. [Gr. *κλιμαξ*, a scale or ladder; L. *climax*; perhaps from the root of the W. *llam*, to step, stride, leap, *llam*, a step, stride, leap, Ir. *leimim*, *leim*, or from the root of *climb*.]

1. Gradation; ascent; a figure of rhetoric in which a sentence rises as it were, step by step; or in which the expression which ends one member of the period, begins the second, and so on, till the period is finished; as in the following: "When we have practiced good actions a while, they become easy; and when they are easy, we begin to take pleasure in them; and when they please us, we do them frequently; and by frequency of acts, they grow into a habit." Tillotson.

2. A sentence, or series of sentences, in which the successive members or sentences rise in force, importance or dignity, to the close of the sentence or series. Dryden.

CLIMB, v. i. *clime*, pret. and pp. *climbed*, or *clomb*, but the latter is not elegant. [Sax. *climan*, or *climban*; D. *klommen*; G. *id.* The corresponding word in Dan. is *klyber*; Sw. *klyfva*.]

1. To creep up by little and little, or step by step; to mount or ascend, by means of the hands and feet; to rise on any fixed object, by seizing it with the hands and lifting the body, and by thrusting with the feet; as, to climb a tree or a precipice.

And he ran before and climbed up into a sycamore tree. Luke xix.

2. To mount or ascend with labor and difficulty. Shak.

3. To rise or ascend with a slow motion.

Black vapors climb aloft. Dryden.

CLIMB, v. t. To ascend by means of the hands and feet, implying labor, difficulty and slow progress; as, to climb a wall, or a steep mountain. Prior.

2. To mount or ascend, with labor or a slow motion; as, to climb the ascents of fame. Prior.

CLIMBABLE, a. That may be climbed. Sherwood.

CLIMBED, pp. Ascended by the use of the hands and feet; ascended with labor.

CLIMBER, n. One who climbs, mounts or rises, by the hands and feet; one who rises by labor or effort.

2. A plant that creeps and rises on some support. Mortimer.

CLIMBER, r. i. [from *climb*, or a different orthography of *clamber*.]

To climb; to mount with effort. [Not used.] Tassier.

CLIMBING, pp. Ascending by the use of the hands and feet; ascending with difficulty.

CLIMBING, n. The act of ascending.

CLIME, n. [from *climate*, or directly from Gr. and L. *clima*.]

A climate; a tract or region of the earth; a poetical word, but sometimes used in prose. [See *Climate*.]

Whatever climate the sun's bright circle warms. Milton.

CLINCH, v. t. [D. *klinken*, to clink or rivet; *klink*, a latch, a rivet; Dau. *klinke*, a latch; Sw. *klinka*; Fr. *clenche*; allied to *cling*, *link*, W. *cliech*, a latch.]

1. To gripe with the hand; to make fast by bending over, folding, or embracing closely. Thus, to clinch a nail, is to bend the point and drive it closely. To clinch the hand or fist, is to contract the fingers closely into the palm of the hand. To clinch an instrument, is to close the fingers and thumb round it, and hold it fast.

2. To fix or fasten; to make firm; as, to clinch an argument.

CLINCH, n. A word used in a double meaning; a pun; an ambiguity; a duplicity of meaning, with identity of expression. Johnson.

Here one poor word a hundred clinches makes. Pope.

2. A witty, ingenious reply. Bailey.

3. In *seamen's language*, the part of a cable which is fastened to the ring of an anchor; a kind of knot and seizings, used to fasten a cable to the ring of an anchor, and the brithing of a gun to the ring bolts in a ship's side. Mar. Dict.

CLINCHED, pp. Made fast by doubling or embracing closely.

CLINCHER, n. That which clinches; a cramp or piece of iron bent down to fasten any thing. Pope.

2. One who makes a smart reply.

3. That which makes fast.

CLINCHER-BUILT, a. Made of clinch-

CLINKER-BUILT, a. er work.

CLINCHER-WORK, n. In ship building, the disposition of the planks in the side of a boat or vessel, when the lower edge of every plank overlays the next below it, like slates on the roof of a house. Mar. Dict.