

3. Becoming a virgin; maidenly; modest; indicating modesty; as a *virgin* blush; *virgin* shame. Cowley.

4. Pure; chaste.

VIR'GIN, *v. i.* To play the virgin; *a cant word.* Shak.

VIR'GINAL, *a.* Pertaining to a virgin; maidenly; as *virginal* chastity. Hammond.

VIR'GINAL, *n.* A keyed instrument of one string, jack and quill to each note, like a spinet, but in shape resembling the forte piano; *out of use.* Cyc. Bacon.

VIR'GINAL, *v. i.* To pat; to strike as on a virginal. [A cant word.] Shak.

VIRGIN'ITY, *n.* [L. *virginitas*.] Maidenhood; the state of having had no carnal knowledge of man.

VIR'GIN'S BOWER, *n.* A plant of the genus Clematis.

VIR'GO, *n.* [L.] A sign of the zodiac which the sun enters in August; a constellation, containing according to the British catalogue, one hundred and ten stars. Cyc.

VIRID'ITY, *n.* [L. *viriditas*, from *virco*, to be green.]

Greenness; verdure; the color of fresh vegetables. Evelyn.

VIR'ILE, *a.* [L. *virilis*, from *vir*, a man, Sax. *wer*; Sans. *vira*, strong; from the root of L. *virco*.]

1. Pertaining to a man, in the eminent sense of the word, [not to man, in the sense of the human race;] belonging to the male sex; as *virile* age.

2. Masculine; not *puerile* or *feminine*; as *virile* strength or vigor.

VIRIL'ITY, *n.* [Fr. *virilité*; L. *virilitas*.]

1. Manhood; the state of the male sex, which has arrived to the maturity and strength of a man, and to the power of procreation.

2. The power of procreation.

3. Character of man. [Unusual.]

VIR'TU, *n.* [It.] A love of the fine arts; a taste for curiosities. Chesterfield.

VIR'TUAL, *a.* [Fr. *virtuel*; from *virtue*. See *Virtue*.]

1. Potential; having the power of acting or of invisible efficacy without the material or sensible part.

Every kind that lives,

Fomented by his *virtual* power, and warm'd. Milton.

Neither an actual nor *virtual* intention of the mind, but only that which may be gathered from the outward acts. Stillingfleet.

2. Being in essence or effect, not in fact; as the *virtual* presence of a man in his agent or substitute.

VIRTUAL'ITY, *n.* Efficacy. Brown.

VIR'TUALLY, *adv.* In efficacy or effect only; by means of some virtue or influence, or the instrumentality of something else. Thus the sun is *virtually* on earth by its light and heat. The citizens of an elective government are *virtually* present in the legislature by their representatives. A man may *virtually* agree to a proposition by silence or withholding objections. Addison. Cyc.

VIR'TUATE, *v. t.* To make efficacious. [Not in use.] Harvey.

VIR'TUE, *n.* *vir'tu*. [Fr. *vertu*; It. *virtu*; Sp. *vertud*; L. *virtus*, from *virco*, or its root. See *Fort*. The radical sense is

strength, from straining, stretching, extending. This is the primary sense of L. *vir*, a man. Class Br.]

1. Strength; that substance or quality of physical bodies, by which they act and produce effects on other bodies. In this literal and proper sense, we speak of the *virtue* or *virtues* of plants in medicine, and the *virtues* of drugs. In decoctions, the *virtues* of plants are extracted. By long standing in the open air, the *virtues* are lost.

2. Bravery; valor. This was the predominant signification of *virtus* among the Romans.

Trust to thy single *virtue*. Shak. [This sense is nearly or quite obsolete.]

3. Moral goodness; the practice of moral duties and the abstaining from vice, or a conformity of life and conversation to the moral law. In this sense, *virtue* may be, and in many instances must be, distinguished from *religion*. The practice of moral duties merely from motives of convenience, or from compulsion, or from regard to reputation, is *virtue*, as distinct from *religion*. The practice of moral duties from sincere love to God and his laws, is *virtue* and *religion*. In this sense it is true,

That *virtue* only makes our bliss below. Pope.

*Virtue* is nothing but voluntary obedience to truth. Dwight.

4. A particular moral excellence; as the *virtue* of temperance, of chastity, of charity.

Remember all his *virtues*. Addison.

5. Acting power; something efficacious.

Jesus, knowing that *virtue* had gone out of him, turned— Mark iii.

6. Secret agency; efficacy without visible or material action.

She moves the body which she doth possess, Yet no part toucheth, but by *virtue's* touch. Davies.

7. Excellence; or that which constitutes value and merit.

—Terence, who thought the sole grace and *virtue* of their fable, the sticking in of sentences. B. Jonson.

8. One of the orders of the celestial hierarchy.

Thrones, dominations, principdoms, *virtues*, powers. Milton.

9. Efficacy; power.

He used to travel through Greece by *virtue* of this fable, which procured him reception in all the towns. Addison.

10. Legal efficacy or power; authority. A man administers the laws by *virtue* of a commission.

In *virtue*, in consequence; by the efficacy or authority.

This they shall attain, partly in *virtue* of the promise of God, and partly in *virtue* of piety. Atterbury.

VIR'TUELESS, *a.* Destitute of virtue.

2. Destitute of efficacy or operating qualities.

*Virtueless* she wish'd all herbs and charms. Fairfax.

VIR'TUOSO, *n.* [It.] A man skilled in the fine arts, particularly in music; or a man skilled in antiquities, curiosities and the like.

*Virtuoso* the Italians call a man who loves the noble arts, and is a critic in them. Dryden.

VIR'TUO/SOSHIP, *n.* The pursuits of a virtuoso. Hurd.

VIR'TUOUS, *a.* Morally good; acting in conformity to the moral law; practicing the moral duties, and abstaining from vice; as a *virtuous* man.

2. Being in conformity to the moral or divine law; as a *virtuous* action; a *virtuous* life.

The mere performance of *virtuous* actions does not denominate an agent *virtuous*. Price.

3. Chaste; applied to women.

4. Efficacious by inherent qualities; as *virtuous* herbs; *virtuous* drugs. [Not in use.] Chapman.

5. Having great or powerful properties; as *virtuous* steel; a *virtuous* staff; a *virtuous* ring. [Not in use.] Milton. Spenser.

6. Having medicinal qualities. [Not used.] Bacon.

VIR'TUOUSLY, *adv.* In a virtuous manner; in conformity with the moral law or with duty; as a life *virtuously* spent. Denham.

A child *virtuously* educated. Addison.

VIR'TUOUSNESS, *n.* The state or character of being virtuous. Spenser.

VIR'ULENCE, *n.* [from *virulent*.] That VIR'ULENCY, *n.* quality of a thing which renders it extremely active in doing injury; acrimony; malignancy; as the *virulence* of poison.

2. Acrimony of temper; extreme bitterness or malignity; as the *virulence* of enmity or malice; the *virulence* of satire; to attack a man with *virulence*. Addison.

VIR'ULENT, *a.* [L. *virulentus*, from *virus*, poison, that is, strength, from the same root as *vir*, *virco*. See *Fenom*.]

1. Extremely active in doing injury; very poisonous or venomous. No poison is more *virulent* than that of some species of serpents.

2. Very bitter in enmity; malignant; as a *virulent* invective.

VIR'ULENTLY, *adv.* With malignant activity; with bitter spite or severity.

VIR'US, *n.* [L. See *Virulent*.] Foul or contagious matter of an ulcer, pustule, &c.; poison.

VIS'AGE, *n.* *s* as *z*. [Fr.; from It. *visaggio*; from L. *visus*, *video*.]

The face; the countenance or look of a person, or of other animal; chiefly applied to human beings; as a wolfish *visage*. Shak.

Love and beauty still that *visage* grace. Waller.

His *visage* was so marred, more than any man. Is. lii.

VIS'AGED, *a.* Having a visage or countenance. Milton.

VIS-A-VIS, *n.* [Fr. opposite, face to face.] A carriage in which two persons sit face to face.

VIS'CERA, *n.* [L.] The bowels or intestines; the contents of the abdomen and thorax.

In its most general sense, the organs contained in any cavity of the body, particularly in the three venters, the head, thorax and abdomen. Cyc. Parr.

VISCERAL, *a.* [L. *viscera*.] Pertaining to the viscera or intestines.

2. Feeling; having sensibility. [Unusual.] Reynolds.