

descension in manners. *Affability* of countenance is that mildness of aspect, which invites to free social intercourse.

AFFABLE, a. [L. *affabilis*, of ad and *facilis*.] See *Facile*.

1. Easy of conversation; admitting others to free conversation without reserve; courteous; complaisant; of easy manners; condescending; usually applied to superiors; as, an *affable* prince.
2. Applied to external appearance, *affable* denotes that combination of features, which invites to conversation, and renders a person accessible, opposed to a forbidding aspect; mild; benign; as, an *affable* countenance.

AFFABLENESS, n. Affability.

AFFABLY, adv. In an *affable* manner; courteously; invitingly.

AFFAIR, n. [Fr. *affaire*, from *faire*, to make or do; L. *facere*; Sp. *hacer*; It. *fare*.] The primary sense of *facio* is to urge, drive, impel.]

1. Business of any kind; that which is done, or is to be done; a word of very indefinite and undefinable signification. In the plural, it denotes transactions in general; as human affairs; political or ecclesiastical affairs; also the business or concerns of an individual; as, his affairs are embarrassed.
2. Matters; state; condition of business or concerns.

I have sent that ye may know our affairs. Eph. vi.

3. In the singular, it is used for a private dispute, or duel; as, an affair of honor; and sometimes a partial engagement of troops.

In the phrase, at the head of affairs, the word means, the public concerns of executing the laws, and administering the government.

AFFECT, v. t. [L. *affecto*, *affectum*, of ad and *facio*, to make; L. *affecto*, to desire, from the same root. *Affect* is to desire, to, or upon, to press upon.]

1. To act upon; to produce an effect or change upon; as, cold affects the body; loss affects our interests.
2. To act upon, or move the passions; as, affected with grief.
3. To aim at; aspire to; desire or entertain pretension to; as, to affect imperial sway. [See the etymology of *Affair*.]
4. To tend by natural affinity or disposition; as, the drops of a fluid affect a spherical form.
5. To love, or regard with fondness.

Think not that wars we love and strife affect. Fairfax.

[This sense is closely allied to the third.]
To make a show of; to attempt to imitate, in a manner not natural; to study the appearance of what is not natural, or real; as, to affect to be grave; affected friendship.

It seems to have been used formerly for *convict* or *attain*, as in Ayliffe's Paragon; but this sense is not now in use.

AFFECTATION, n. [L. *affectio*.]

1. An attempt to assume or exhibit what is not natural or real; false pretence; artificial appearance, or show; as, an *affectation* of wit, or of virtue.
2. Fondness; affection. [Not used.] Hooker. Hall.

AFFECTED, pp. Impressed; moved, or

touched, either in person or in interest; having suffered some change by external force, loss, danger, and the like; as, we are more or less affected by the failure of the bank.

2. Touched in the feelings; having the feelings excited; as, affected with cold or heat.

3. Having the passions moved; as, affected with sorrow or joy.

4. a. Inclined, or disposed; followed by to; as, well affected to government.

5. a. Given to false show; assuming, or pretending to possess what is not natural or real; as, an affected lady.

6. a. Assumed artificially; not natural; as, affected airs.

AFFECTEDLY, adv. In an affected manner; hypocritically; with more show than reality; formally; studiously; unnatural; as, to walk affectedly; affectedly civil.

AFFECTEDNESS, n. The quality of being affected; affectation.

AFFECTING, pp. Impressing; having an effect on; touching the feelings; moving the passions; attempting a false show; greatly desiring; aspiring to possess.

2. a. Having power to excite, or move the passions; tending to move the affections; pathetic; as, an affecting address.

The most affecting music is generally the most simple. Milford.

AFFECTINGLY, adv. In an affecting manner; in a manner to excite emotions.

AFFECTION, n. The state of being affected. [Little used.]

2. Passion; but more generally, a bent of mind towards a particular object, holding a middle place between disposition, which is natural, and passion, which is excited by the presence of its exciting object. *Affection* is a permanent bent of the mind, formed by the presence of an object, or by some act of another person, and existing without the presence of its object. Encyc.

4. In a more particular sense, a settled goodwill, love or zealous attachment; as, the affection of a parent for his child. It was formerly followed by to or towards, but is now more generally followed by for.

5. Desire; inclination; propensity, good or evil; as, virtuous or vile affections. Rom. i. Gal. 5.

6. In a general sense, an attribute, quality or property, which is inseparable from its object; as, love, fear and hope are affections of the mind; figure, weight, &c., are affections of bodies.

7. Among physicians, a disease, or any particular morbid state of the body; as, a gouty affection; hysteric affection.

8. In painting, a lively representation of passion.

Shakespeare uses the word for *affectation*; but this use is not legitimate.

AFFECTIONATE, a. [Fr. *affectueux*.]

1. Having great love, or affection; fond; as, an affectionate brother.

2. Warm in affection; zealous.

Man, in his love to God, and desire to please him, can never be too affectionate. Spat.

3. Proceeding from affection; indicating love; benevolent; tender; as, the affectionate care of a parent; an affectionate countenance.

4. Inclined to; warmly attached. [Little used.] Bacon.

AFFECTIONATELY, adv. With affection; fondly; tenderly; kindly. 1. Thes. ii.

AFFECTIONATENESS, n. Fondness; goodwill; affection.

AFFECTEDLY, a. Disposed; having an affection of heart.

Be ye kindly affectioned one to another. Rom. xii.

2. Affected; concealed. Obs. Shak.

AFFECTIVELY, adv. In an affective or impressive manner.

AFFECTOR, n. One that affects; one

AFFECTER, n. That practices affection.

AFFECTUOUS, a. Full of passion. [Not used.] Leland.

AFFEEER, v. t. [Fr. *affeer*, to set.] To confirm. [Not used.]

AFFEEER, v. t. [Fr. *affeer*, *affewer*, or *affower*, to assess or value.]

In law, to assess or reduce an arbitrary penalty or amercement to a precise sum; to reduce a general amercement to a sum certain, according to the circumstances of the case. Blackstone.

AFFEEERED, pp. Moderated in sum; assessed; reduced to a certainty.

AFFEEERMENT, n. The act of affeering, or assessing an amercement, according to the circumstances of the case.

AFFEEEROR, n. One who affeers; a person sworn to assess a penalty, or reduce an uncertain penalty to a certainty. Cowell.

AFFETTUOSO, or con affecto, [It., from L. *affectus*.]

In music, a direction to render notes soft and affecting.

AFFIANCE, n. [Norm. *affiance*, confidence; Fr. *fiance*, to betroth; Sp. *fianza*, security in bail, *afianzar*, to give security or bail, from *fian*, to trust, to bail, to confide in; Port. *afid*; Fr. *fier*, to trust; It. *fidare*, *affidare*, to trust, *fidanza*, confidence, *fidanzare*, to betroth, from L. *fido*, *fides*.]

1. The marriage contract or promise; faith pledged.

2. Trust in general; confidence; reliance.

The Christian looks to God with implicit affection. Hammond.

AFFIANCE, v. t. To betroth; to pledge one's faith or fidelity in marriage, or to promise marriage.

To me, sad maid, he was affianced. Spenser.

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