

fortunately confounded; and a column consisting of a single piece of timber is absurdly called a *pillar* or *pile*.

2. An erect or elevated structure resembling a column in architecture; as the *astronomical column* at Paris, a kind of hollow tower with a spiral ascent to the top; *gnomonic column*, a cylinder on which the hour of the day is indicated by the shadow of a style; *military column*, among the Romans; *triumphal column*; &c.

3. Any body pressing perpendicularly on its base, and of the same diameter as its base; as a *column* of water, air or mercury.

4. In the *military art*, a large body of troops drawn up in order; as a *solid column*.

5. Among *printers*, a division of a page; a perpendicular set of lines separated from another set by a line or blank space. In manuscript books and papers, any separate perpendicular line or row of words or figures. A page may contain two or more *columns*; and in arithmetic, many *columns* of figures may be added.

COLUMNAR, *a.* Formed in columns; having the form of columns; like the shaft of a column; as *columnar* spar.

COLUMNARISH, *a.* Somewhat resembling a column. [*A bad word.*]

Fam. of Plants. Vol. ii. 454.

COLURE, *n.* [*Gr. κοῦρος; κοῦρος*, mutilated, and *κῶρα*, a tail; so named because a part is always beneath the horizon.]

In *astronomy* and *geography*, the colures are two great circles supposed to intersect each other at right angles, in the poles of the world, one of them passing through the solstitial and the other through the equinoctial points of the ecliptic, viz. Cancer and Capricorn, Aries and Libra, dividing the ecliptic into four equal parts. The points where these lines intersect the ecliptic are called *cardinal points*.

Encyc. Harris.

COM, in composition as a prefix, *Ir. comh*, or *coimh*, *W. cym* or *cyr*, *L. com* or *cum*, denotes *with*, or *to* or *against*.

COMA, *n.* [*Gr. κομα, lethargy.*] Lethargy; dozing; a preternatural propensity to sleep; a kind of stupor of diseased persons.

Coze.

COMA, *n.* [*L. from Gr. κομη, a head of hair.*] In *botany*, a species of branch, terminating the stem of a plant, in a tuft or bush; as in crown-imperial.

Martyn.

2. In *astronomy*, hairiness; the hairy appearance that surrounds a comet, when the earth or the spectator is between the comet and the sun.

COMART, *n.* [*con and mart.*] A treaty; article; agreement. *Obs.*

Shak.

COMATE, *a.* [*L. comatus, from coma; Ir. ciambh, ciabh.*] Hairy; encompassed with a coma, or bushy appearance, like hair.

Shak.

CO-MATE, *n.* [*co and mate.*] A fellow mate, or companion.

Shak.

COMATOSE, *a.* [*See Comate.*] Preter-comatose, naturally disposed to sleep; drowsy; dozing, without natural sleep; lethargic.

Coze.

COMB, *n.* [*Sax.*] A valley between hills or mountains. [*Not in use.*]

Brown.

COMB, *n.* *b* silent. [*Sax. camb, a comb; camban, to comb; G. kamm; D. kam; Sw. kamm; Dan. kam, a comb; Ir. cionain, to*

comb or card. *Qu. L. como, to dress, trim or comb, which seems to be allied to the Gr. κομω.* But the noun may be the radical word in our language, and from scratching, scraping; *Eth. ἰσο gamea*, to shave or scrape.]

1. An instrument with teeth, for separating, cleansing and adjusting hair, wool, or flax. Also, an instrument of horn or shell, for keeping the hair in its place when dressed.

2. The crest, caruncle or red fleshy tuft, growing on a cock's head; so called from its indentures which resemble the teeth of a comb.

3. The substance in which bees lodge their honey, in small hexagonal cells.

4. A dry measure of four bushels. [*Not used in U. States.*]

COMB, *v. t.* To separate, disentangle, cleanse, and adjust with a comb, as to comb hair; or to separate, cleanse and lay smooth and straight, as to comb wool.

COMB, *v. i.* In the language of seamen, to roll over, as the top of a wave; or to break with a white foam. [*Qu. Sp. combar, to bend, or from the English Comb.*]

COMB-BIRD, *n.* A gallinaceous fowl of Africa, of the size of a turkey-cock.

COMB-BRUSH, *n.* A brush to clean combs.

COMB-MAKER, *n.* One whose occupation is to make combs.

COMBAT, *v. i.* [*Fr. combattre, com and batre, to beat with or against; It. combattere; Sp. combatir; Port. combater; Arm. combatdi or combatin. See Beat.*]

1. To fight; to struggle or contend with an opposing force.

Pardon me; I will not combat in my shirt.

Shak.

This word is particularly used to denote private contest, or the fighting of two persons in a duel; but it is used in a general sense for the contention of bodies of men, nations, armies, or any species of animals.

After the fall of the republic, the Romans combated only for the choice of masters.

Gibbon.

2. To act in opposition. It is followed by *with* before the person, and *for* before the thing sought.

Milton.

A combat with B for his right

COMBAT, *v. t.* To fight with; to oppose by force; as, to combat an antagonist.

2. To contend against; to oppose; to resist; as, to combat arguments or opinions.

COMBAT, *n.* A fighting; a struggling to resist, overthrow or conquer; contest by force; engagement; battle; as the combat of armies.

4. A duel; a fighting between two men; formerly, a formal trial of a doubtful cause, or decision of a controversy between two persons, by swords or bastons.

COMBATANT, *a.* Contending; disposed to contend.

B. Jonson.

COMBATANT, *n.* A person who combats; any person who fights with another, or in an army, or fleet.

2. A duellist; one who fights or contends in battle, for the decision of a private quarrel or difference; a champion.

3. A person who contends with another in argument, or controversy.

COMBATED, *pp.* Opposed; resisted.

Locke.

COMBATER, *n.* One who fights or contends. *Shervood.*

COMBATING, *ppr.* Striving to resist; fighting; opposing by force or by argument.

COMBED, *pp.* Separated, cleaned, or dressed with a comb.

COMBER, *n.* One who combs; one whose occupation is to comb wool, &c.

COMBER, *n.* Incumbence. [*Not used.*]

COMBER, *n.* A long slender fish with a red back, found in Cornwall, England.

COMBINABLE, *a.* Capable of combining. *Chesterfield.*

COMBINATE, *a.* [*See Combine.*] Espoused; betrothed. [*Not used.*]

COMBINATION, *n.* [*Fr. combinaison. See Combine.*] In general, close union or connection. Hence,

1. Intimate union, or association of two or more persons or things, by set purpose or agreement, for effecting some object, by joint operation; in a good sense, when the object is laudable; in an ill sense, when it is illegal or iniquitous. It is sometimes equivalent to league, or to conspiracy. We say, a combination of men to overthrow government, or a combination to resist oppression.

2. An assemblage; union of particulars; as a combination of circumstances.

3. Commixture; union of bodies or qualities in a mass or compound; as, to make new compounds by new combinations. *Boyle.*

4. Chemical union; union by affinity.

Mix dry acid of tartar with dry carbonate of potash; no combination will ensue, till water is added.

5. In *mathematics*, the union of numbers or quantities in every possible manner; or the variation or alteration of any number of quantities, letters, sounds, or the like, in all the different manners possible. The number of possible changes or combinations is found by multiplying the terms 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. continually into each other. Thus 1 x 2 = 2; 2 x 3 = 6; 6 x 4 = 24; 24 x 5 = 120. &c. So the permutations of five quantities amount to 120. The changes that may be rung on twelve bells amount to 479,001,600.

And the twenty four letters of the alphabet admit of 62,044,840,173,323,943,936,000 changes or combinations. *Encyc.*

COMBINE, *v. t.* [*Fr. combiner. It. combinare; Sp. combinar; from the Low Latin combino, of com and binus, two and two, or double.*]

1. To unite or join two or more things; to link closely together.

Friendship combines the hearts of men.

Anon.

2. To agree; to accord; to settle by compact. [*Not used.*]

3. To join words or ideas together; opposed to analyze. *Johnson.*

4. To cause to unite; to bring into union or confederacy.

The violence of revolutionary France combined the powers of Europe in opposition.

COMBINE, *v. i.* To unite, agree or coalesce.

Honor and policy combine to justify the measure.

2. To unite in friendship or design; to league together.

You with your foes combine. *Dryden.*

3. To unite by affinity, or natural attraction. *Locke.*