

PEN'NILESS, *a.* [from *penny*.] Moneyless; destitute of money; poor. *Arbutnot.*

PEN'NING, *ppr.* Committing to writing.

PENNON. [See *Pennant*.]

PEN'NY, *n. plu.* pennies or pence. *Pennies* denotes the number of coins; *pence* the amount of pennies in value. [Sax. *penig*; D. Sw. *penning*; G. *pfennig*; Dan. *penge*, money.]

1. An ancient English silver coin; but now an imaginary money of account, twelve of which are equal to a shilling. It is the radical denomination from which English coin is numbered. *Johnson.*

2. In ancient English statutes, any or all silver money.

3. Proverbially, a small sum. He will not lend a *penny*.

4. Money in general.

Be sure to turn the *penny*. *Dryden.*

PEN'NYPOST, *n.* One that carries letters from the post office and delivers them to the proper persons for a penny or other small compensation.

PENNYROYAL, *n.* A plant of the genus *Mentha*. *Fam. of Plants.*

The English pennyroyal is the *Mentha pulegium*; the N. American pennyroyal is the *Cunila pulegioides*. *Parr. Bigelow.*

PEN'NYWEIGHT, *n.* A troy weight containing twenty four grains, each grain being equal in weight to a grain of wheat from the middle of the ear, well dried. It was anciently the weight of a silver penny, whence the name. Twenty pennyweights make an ounce troy.

PEN'NYWISE, *a.* Saving small sums at the hazard of larger; niggardly on improper occasions. *Bacon.*

PEN'NYWORTH, *n.* As much as is bought for a penny.

2. Any purchase; any thing bought or sold for money; that which is worth the money given. *South.*

3. A good bargain; something advantageously purchased, or for less than it is worth. *Dryden.*

4. A small quantity. *Swift.*

PEN'SILE, *a.* [*L. pensilis*, from *pendeo*, to hang.]

1. Hanging; suspended; as a *pensile* bell. *Bacon. Prior.*

2. Supported above the ground; as a *pensile* garden. *Prior.*

PEN'SILENESS, *n.* The state of hanging. *Bacon.*

PEN'SION, *n.* [Fr. *Sp. id.*; It. *pensione*; from *L. pensio*, from *pendo*, *pensum*, to pay.]

1. An annual allowance of a sum of money to a person by government in consideration of past services, civil or military. Men often receive *pensions* for eminent services on retiring from office. But in particular, officers, soldiers and seamen receive *pensions* when they are disabled for further services.

2. An annual payment by an individual to an old or disabled servant.

3. In *Great Britain*, an annual allowance made by government to indigent widows of officers killed or dying in public service.

4. Payment of money; rent. 1 Esdras.

5. A yearly payment in the inns of court. *Eng.*

6. A certain sum of money paid to a clergyman in lieu of tithes. *Cyc.*

7. An allowance or annual payment, considered in the light of a bribe.

PEN'SION, *v. t.* To grant a pension to; to grant an annual allowance from the public treasury to a person for past services, or on account of disability incurred in public service, or of old age.

PEN'SIONARY, *a.* Maintained by a pension; receiving a pension; as *pensionary* spies. *Donne.*

2. Consisting in a pension; as a *pensionary* provision for maintenance.

PEN'SIONARY, *n.* A person who receives a pension from government for past services, or a yearly allowance from some prince, company or individual.

2. The first minister of the states of the province of Holland; also, the first minister of the regency of a city in Holland. *Encyc.*

PEN'SIONED, *pp.* Having a pension.

PEN'SIONER, *n.* One to whom an annual sum of money is paid by government in consideration of past services.

2. One who receives an annual allowance for services.

3. A dependant.

4. In the university of Cambridge, and in that of Dublin, an undergraduate or bachelor of arts who lives at his own expense. *Encyc.*

5. One of an honorable band of gentlemen who attend on the king of England, and receive a pension or an annual allowance of a hundred pounds. This band was instituted by Henry VII. Their duty is to guard the king's person in his own house. *Encyc. Cyc.*

PEN'SIONING, *ppr.* Granting an annual allowance for past services.

PEN'SIVE, *a.* [It. *pensivo*, *penseroso*; Sp. *pensativo*; Fr. *pensif*, from *penser*, to think or reflect; *L. penso*, to weigh, to consider; *pendo*, to weigh.]

1. Literally, thoughtful; employed in serious study or reflection; but it often implies some degree of sorrow, anxiety, depression or gloom of mind; thoughtful and sad, or sorrowful.

Anxious cares the *pensive* nymph oppress'd. *Pope.*

2. Expressing thoughtfulness with sadness; as *pensive* numbers; *pensive* strains. *Prior.*

PEN'SIVELY, *adv.* With thoughtfulness; with gloomy seriousness or some degree of melancholy. *Spenser.*

PEN'SIVENESS, *n.* Gloomy thoughtfulness; melancholy; seriousness from depressed spirits. *Hooker.*

PEN'STOCK, *n.* [*pen* and *stock*.] A narrow or confined place formed by a frame of timber planked or bearded, for holding or conducting the water of a mill-pond to a wheel, and furnished with a flood gate which may be shut or opened at pleasure.

PENT, *pp.* of *pen*. Shut up; closely confined.

PENTACAP'SULAR, *a.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *capsular*.] In *botany*, having five capsules.

PENTACHORD, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *chord*.]

1. An instrument of music with five strings.

2. An order or system of five sounds. *Busby.*

PENTACOCOCCOUS, *a.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *L. coccus*, a berry.]

Having or containing five grains or seeds, or having five united cells with one seed in each. *Martyn.*

PEN'TACOSTER, *n.* [Gr.] In *ancient Greece*, a military officer commanding fifty men; but the number varied. *Mitford.*

PEN'TACOSTYS, *n.* [Gr.] A body of fifty soldiers; but the number varied. *Mitford.*

PENTACRINITE, *n.* The fossil remains of a zoophyte.

PENTACROS'TIC, *a.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *acrostic*.]

Containing five acrostics of the same name in five divisions of each verse.

PENTACROS'TIC, *n.* A set of verses so disposed as to have five acrostics of the same name in five divisions of each verse. *Encyc.*

PENTADACTYL, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *δακτυλος*, finger.]

1. In *botany*, a plant called *five fingers*; a name given to the Ricinus or Palma Christi, from the shape of its leaf. *Encyc.*

2. In *ichthyology*, the five fingered fish; a name given to a fish common in the East Indian seas, which has five black streaks on each side resembling the prints of five fingers. *Encyc.*

PEN'TAGON, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *γωνια*, a corner.]

1. In *geometry*, a figure of five sides and five angles. *Encyc.*

2. In *fortification*, a fort with five bastions. *Encyc.*

PENTAG'ONAL, } Having five corners

PENTAG'ONOUS, } *a.* or angles. *Woodward. Lee. Martyn.*

PEN'TAGRAPH, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *γραφω*, to write.]

An instrument for drawing figures in any proportion at pleasure, or for copying or reducing a figure, plan, print, &c. to any desired size.

PENTAGRAPH'IC, } Pertaining to

PENTAGRAPH'ICAL, } *a.* a pentagraph; performed by a pentagraph.

PEN'TAGYN, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *γυν*, a female.] In *botany*, a plant having five pistils.

PENTAGYN'IAN, *a.* Having five pistils.

PENTAHE'DRAL, } Having five equal

PENTAHE'DROUS, } *a.* sides. *Cleaveland.*

PENTAHE'DRON, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *εδρα*, a side or base.] A figure having five equal sides.

PENTAHEXAHEDRAL, *a.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *hexahedral*.]

In *crystallography*, exhibiting five ranges of faces one above another, each range containing six faces.

PENTAMETER, *n.* [Gr. *πεντε*, five, and *μετρον*, measure.]

In *ancient poetry*, a verse of five feet. The two first feet may be either dactyls or spondee; the third is always a spondee, and the two last anapests. A pentameter verse subjoined to a hexameter, constitutes what is called elegiac. *Encyc.*