

My lords, no time should be lost, which may prove to *improve* this disposition in America.

Lord Chatham.

If we neglect to *improve* our knowledge to the ends for which it was given—

Locke.

It is the fault of persons not *improving* that light.

S. Clarke.

The shorter the time—the more eager were they to *improve* it.

Lockard.

A young minister wishing to *improve* the occasion—

C. Simcox.

3. To apply to practical purposes; as, to *improve* a discourse, or the doctrines stated and proved in a sermon.

Owen.

4. To advance or increase by use; in a bad sense.

I fear we have not a little *improved* the wretched inheritance of our ancestors.

[Ill.] Porteus.

5. To use; to employ; as, to *improve* a witness or a deposition.

Let even the coach, the inns, or the ships be *improved* as openings for useful instruction.

T. Scott.

6. To use; to occupy; to cultivate. The house or the farm is now *improved* by an industrious tenant.

This application is perhaps peculiar to some parts of the U. States. It however deviates little from that in some of the foregoing definitions.

IMPROVE, *v. i. improv'*. To grow better or wiser; to advance in goodness, knowledge, wisdom or other excellence. We are pleased to see our children *improve* in knowledge and virtue. A farm *improves* under judicious management. The artisan *improves* by experience. It is the duty, as it is the desire of a good man, to be *improved* in grace and piety.

We take care to *improve* in our frugality and diligence.

Atterbury.

2. To advance in bad qualities; to grow worse.

Domitian *improved* in cruelty toward the end of his reign.

Milner.

[I regret to see this word thus used, or rather perverted.]

3. To increase; to be enhanced; to rise. The price of cotton *improves*, or is *improved*. [A mercantile and modern use of the word.]

To *improve* on, to make useful additions or amendments to; to bring nearer to perfection; as, to *improve* on the mode of tillage usually practiced.

IMPROVED, *pp.* Made better, wiser or more excellent; advanced in moral worth, knowledge or manners.

2. Made better; advanced in fertility or other good qualities.

3. Used to profit or good purpose; as opportunities of learning *improved*.

4. Used; occupied; as *improved* land.

IMPROVEMENT, *n. improv'ment*. Advancement in moral worth, learning, wisdom, skill or other excellence; as the *improvement* of the mind or of the heart by cultivation; *improvement* in classical learning, science or mechanical skill; *improvement* in music; *improvement* in holiness.

2. Melioration; a making or growing better, or more valuable; as the *improvement* of barren or exhausted land; the *improvement* of the roads; the *improvement* of the breed of horses or cattle.

3. A valuable addition; excellence added, or a change for the better; sometimes with *on*.

The parts of Simon, Camilla, and some few others, are *improvements* on the Greek poet.

Addison.

4. Advance or progress from any state to a better.

There is a design of publishing the history of architecture, with its several *improvements* and decays.

Addison.

5. Instruction; growth in knowledge or refinement; edification.

I look upon your city as the best place of *improvement*.

South.

6. Use or employment to beneficial purposes; a turning to good account; as the *improvement* of natural advantages or spiritual privileges.

A good *improvement* of his reason.

S. Clarke.

7. Practical application; as the *improvement* of the doctrines and principles of a sermon.

I shall make some *improvement* of this doctrine.

Tillotson.

Hence,

8. The part of a discourse intended to enforce and apply the doctrines, is called the *improvement*.

9. Use; occupancy.

10. *Improvements*, plu., valuable additions or melioration, as buildings, clearings, drains, fences, &c., on a farm.

Kent.

IMPROVER, *n.* One who improves; one who makes himself or any thing else better; as an *improver* of horses or cattle.

2. That which improves, enriches or meliorates; as, chalk is an *improver* of lands.

Mortimer.

IMPROVIDED, *a.* [L. *improvidus*; in and *providere*, to foresee or provide.] Unforeseen; unexpected; not provided against.

Spenser.

IMPROVIDENCE, *n.* [L. *in* and *providens*, *providentia*, from *pro*, before, and *video*, to see.] Want of providence or forecast; neglect of foresight, or of the measures which foresight might dictate for safety or advantage. Half the inconveniences and losses which men suffer are the effects of *improvidence*.

IMPROVIDENT, *a.* [L. *in* and *providens*; *pro* and *video*, supra.] Wanting forecast; not foreseeing what will be necessary or convenient, or neglecting the measures which foresight would dictate; wanting care to make provision for future exigences. Seamen are proverbially *improvident*. It is sometimes followed by *of*; as *improvident of* harm.

IMPROVIDENTLY, *adv.* Without foresight or forecast; without care to provide against future wants.

IMPROVING, *ppr.* Making better; growing better; using to advantage.

IMPROVISION, *n.* *s* as *z*. [in and *provisio*.]

Want of forecast; improvidence. [Little used.]

Brown.

IMPRUDENCE, *n.* [Fr. from L. *imprudens*; *in* and *prudens*, prudence.] Want of prudence; indiscretion; want of caution, circumspection, or a due regard to the consequences of words to be uttered or actions to be performed, or their

probable effects on the interest, safety, reputation or happiness of one's self or others; heedlessness; inconsiderateness; rashness. Let a man of sixty attempt to enumerate the evils which his *imprudence* has brought on himself, his family, or his neighbors.

IMPRUDENT, *a.* [Fr. from L. *imprudens*; in and *prudens*, prudent.]

Wanting prudence or discretion; indiscrete; injudicious; not attentive to the consequences of words or actions; rash; heedless. The *imprudent* man often laments his mistakes, and then repeats them.

IMPRUDENTLY, *adv.* Without the exercise of prudence; indiscretely.

IMPUDENT, *n.* [Fr. from L. *impudens*; in and *prudens*, from *prudeo*, to be ashamed.]

Shamelessness; want of modesty; effrontery; assurance accompanied with a disregard of the opinions of others.

Those clear truths, that either their own evidence forces us to admit, or common experience makes it *impudent* to deny.

Locke.

IMPUDENT, *a.* [Fr. from L. *impudens*.] Shameless; wanting modesty; bold with contempt of others; saucy.

When we behold an angel, not to fear is to be *impudent*.

Dryden.

IMPUDENTLY, *adv.* Shamelessly; with indecent assurance.

At once assail

With open mouths, and *impudently* rail.

Sandys.

IMPUDICITY, *n.* [L. *impudicitia*.] Immudesty.

Sheldon.

IMPUGN, *v. t. impu'ne*. [Fr. *impugner*; Sp. *impugnar*; L. *impugno*; in and *pugno*, to fight or resist.]

To oppose; to attack by words or arguments; to contradict. The lawfulness of lots is *impugned* by some, and defended by others.

The truth hereof I will not rashly *impugn*, or over-boldly affirm.

Peacham.

IMPUGNATION, *n.* Opposition. [Little used.]

Bp. Hall.

IMPUGNED, *pp.* Opposed; contradicted; disputed.

IMPUGNER, *n.* One who opposes or contradicts.

IMPUGNING, *ppr.* Opposing; attacking; contradicting.

IMPUSANCE, *n.* [Fr.; in and *puissance*.] Impotence; weakness.

Bacon.

IMPULSE, *n. impuls.* [L. *impulsus*, from *impello*. See *Impel*.]

1. Force communicated; the effect of one body acting on another. *Impulse* is the effect of motion, and is in proportion to the quantity of matter and velocity of the impelling body.

2. Influence acting on the mind; motive.

These were my natural *impulses* for the undertaking.

Dryden.

3. Impression; supposed supernatural influence on the mind.

Meantime, by Jove's *impulse*, Mezentius armed.

Succeeded Turnus—

Dryden.

IMPULSION, *n.* [Fr. from L. *impulsio*. See *Impel*.]

1. The act of driving against or impelling; the agency of a body in motion on another body.

Bacon.