

- of any tribunal. We say, read the *decisions* of the Court of King's Bench.
5. Act of separation; division. [*Not used.*]
- DECISSIVE**, *a.* Having the power or quality of determining a question, doubt, or any subject of deliberation; final; conclusive; putting an end to controversy; as, the opinion of the court is *decisive* of the question.
2. Having the power of determining a contest or event; as, the victory of the allies was *decisive*.
- DECISSIVELY**, *adv.* In a conclusive manner; in a manner to end deliberation, controversy, doubt or contest. *Chesterfield.*
- DECISSIVENESS**, *n.* The power of an argument or of evidence to terminate a difference or doubt; conclusiveness.
2. The power of an event to put an end to a contest.
- DECISSORY**, *a.* Able to decide or determine. *Sherwood.*
- DECK**, *v. t.* [*D. dekken*; *G. decken*; *Sw. täcka*; *Dan. tækker*; *Sax. gedecan*, and *theacan* and *theacan*; *L. tego*, to cover, whence *tectum*, a roof, *Fr. toit*. The *Gr.* has *tyros*, a roof, but the verb has a prefix, *tyro*, to cover. Hence *L. tegula*, a tile. The *Ir. teach*, a house, contracted in Welsh to *ty*, may be of the same family. In *Ger. dach* is a roof, and *thatch* may be also of this family. Class Dg. No. 2. 3. 10. The primary sense is to put on, to throw over, or to press and make close.
1. Primarily, to cover; to overspread; to put on. Hence.
2. To clothe; to dress the person; but usually, to clothe with more than ordinary elegance; to array; to adorn; to embellish. The dew with spangles *decked* the ground. *Dryden.*
3. To furnish with a deck, as a vessel.
- DECK**, *n.* The covering of a ship, which constitutes a floor, made of timbers and planks. Small vessels have only one deck; larger ships have two or three decks. A *flush deck* is a continued floor from stem to stern, on one line.
2. A pack of cards piled regularly on each other. *Grew.*
- DECKED**, *pp.* Covered; adorned; furnished with a deck.
- DECKER**, *n.* One who decks or adorns; a coverer; as a *table-decker*.
2. Of a ship, we say, she is a *two-decker* or a *three-decker*, that is, she has two decks or three decks.
- DECKING**, *ppr.* Covering; arraying; adorning.
- DECKING**, *n.* Ornament; embellishment. *Homilies.*
- DECLAIM**, *v. i.* [*L. declamo*; *de* and *clamo*, to cry out. See *Claim* and *Clamor*.]
1. To speak a set oration in public; to speak rhetorically; to make a formal speech, or oration; as, the students *declaim* twice a week.
2. To harangue; to speak loudly or earnestly, to a public body or assembly, with a view to convince their minds or move their passions.
- DECLAIM**, *v. t.* To speak in public.
2. To speak in favor of; to advocate. [*Not in use.*]
- DECLAIMANT**, } *n.* One who declaims;
DECLAIMER, } *n.* a speaker in public;

- one who attempts to convince by a harangue.
2. One who speaks clamorously.
- DECLAMING**, *ppr.* Speaking rhetorically; haranguing.
- DECLAMING**, *n.* A harangue. *Bp. Taylor.*
- DECLAMATION**, *n.* [*L. declamatio*.] A speech made in public, in the tone and manner of an oration; a discourse addressed to the reason or to the passions; a set speech; a harangue. This word is applied especially to the public speaking and speeches of students in colleges, practiced for exercises in oratory. It is applied also to public speaking in the legislature, and in the pulpit. Very often it is used for a noisy harangue, without solid sense or argument; as, *mere declamation*; *empty declamation*.
2. A piece spoken in public, or intended for the public.
- DECLAMATOR**, *n.* A declaimer. [*Not used.*] *Taylor.*
- DECLAMATORY**, *a.* [*L. declamatorius*.] 1. Relating to the practice of declaiming; pertaining to declamation; treated in the manner of a rhetorician; as a *declamatory* theme. *Watson.*
2. Appealing to the passions; noisy; rhetorical without solid sense or argument; as a *declamatory* way or style.
- DECLARABLE**, *a.* [*See Declare*.] That may be declared, or proved.
- DECLARATION**, *n.* [*L. declaratio*.] An affirmation; an open expression of facts or opinions; verbal utterance; as, he declared his sentiments, and I rely on his *declaration*.
2. Expression of facts, opinions, promises, predictions, &c., in writings; records or reports of what has been declared or uttered. The scriptures abound in *declarations* of mercy to penitent sinners.
3. Publication; manifestation; as the *declaration* of the greatness of Mordecai. *Esth. x.*
4. A public annunciation; proclamation; as the *Declaration* of Independence, July 4, 1776.
5. *In law*, that part of the process or pleadings in which the plaintiff sets forth at large his cause of complaint; the narration or count.
- DECLARATIVE**, *a.* Making declaration; explanatory; making show or manifestation; as, the name of a thing may be *declarative* of its form or nature. *Grew.*
2. Making proclamation, or publication.
- DECLARATORILY**, *adv.* By declaration, or exhibition.
- DECLARATORY**, *a.* Making declaration, clear manifestation, or exhibition; expressive; as, this clause is *declaratory* of the will of the legislature. The *declaratory* part of a law, is that which sets forth and defines what is right and what is wrong. A *declaratory* act, is an act or statute which sets forth more clearly and explains the intention of the legislature in a former act.
- DECLARE**, *v. t.* [*L. declaro*; *de* and *claro*, to make clear; *Fr. gluar*, or *glair*; *W. eglur*, clear, bright; *egluar*, to make clear or plain, to manifest, to explain. *Fr. déclarer*; *Sp. declarar*; *It. dichiarare*. See *Clear* and *Glory*. The sense is to open, to separate, or to spread.]

1. To clear; to free from obscurity; to make plain. *Boyle.*
[In this literal sense, the word is no longer in use.]
2. To make known; to tell explicitly; to manifest or communicate plainly to others by words.
I will declare what he hath done for my soul. *Ps. lvi.*
3. To make known; to show to the eye or to the understanding; to exhibit; to manifest by other means than words.
The heavens declare the glory of God. *Ps. xix.*
4. To publish; to proclaim.
Declare his glory among the heathen. *1 Chron. xvi.*
5. Declaring the conversion of the Gentiles. *Acts xv.*
2. To assert; to affirm; as, he declares the story to be false.
- To declare one's self, to throw off reserve and avow one's opinion; to show openly what one thinks, or which side he espouses.
- DECLARE**, *v. i.* To make a declaration; to proclaim or avow some opinion or resolution in favor or in opposition; to make known explicitly some determination; with *for* or *against*; as, the prince declared for the allies; the allied powers declared against France.
Like fawning courtiers, for success they wait;
And then come snailing, and declare for late. *Dryden.*
2. *In law*, to recite the causes of complaint against the defendant; as, the plaintiff declares in debt or trespass.
3. To show or manifest the issue or event; to decide in favor of; as, victory had not declared for either party.
- DECLARED**, *pp.* Made known; told explicitly; avowed; exhibited; manifested; published; proclaimed; recited.
- DECLAREDLY**, *adv.* Avowedly; explicitly.
- DECLARER**, *n.* One who makes known or publishes; that which exhibits.
- DECLARING**, *ppr.* Making known by words or by other means; manifesting; publishing; affirming; reciting the cause of complaint.
- DECLARING**, *n.* Declaration; proclamation.
- DECLENSION**, *n.* [*L. declinatio*, from *declino*. See *Decline*.]
1. Literally, a leaning back or down; hence, a falling or declining towards a worse state; a tendency towards a less degree of excellence or perfection. The *declension* of a state is manifested by corruption of morals. We speak of the *declension* of virtue, of manners, of taste, of the sciences, of the fine arts, and sometimes of life or years; but in the latter application, *decline* is more generally used.
2. Declination; a declining; descent; slope; as the *declension* of the shore towards the sea. *Burnet.*
3. In grammar, inflection of nouns, adjectives and pronouns; the declining, deviation or leaning of the termination of a word from the termination of the nominative case; change of termination to form the oblique cases. Thus from *rex* in the nominative case, are formed *regis* in the genitive, *regi* in the dative, *regem* in the accusative, and *rege* in the ablative.