

T O R

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- Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously *tormented*. Matt. viii.
3. To tease; to vex; to harass; as, to be *tormented* with importunities, or with petty annoyances.
4. To put into great agitation.

They soaring on main wing
Tormented all the air. [Unusual.] Milton.
TORMENTED, *pp.* Pained to extremity; teased; harassed.

TORMENTIL, *n.* [Fr. *tormentille*; It. *tormentilla*.]

A genus of plants, the septfoil. The root is used in medicines as a powerful astringent, and for alleviating gripes or *tormina*, whence its name. *Cyc.*

TORMENTING, *ppr.* Paining to an extreme degree; inflicting severe distress and anguish; teasing; vexing.

TORMENTING, *n.* In agriculture, an imperfect sort of horse-hoeing. *Cyc.*

TORMENT'OR, *n.* He or that which torments; one who inflicts penal anguish or tortures. Milton. Dryden.

2. In agriculture, an instrument for reducing a stiff soil. *Cyc.*

TORN, *pp.* of *tear*.

Neither shall ye eat any flesh that is *torn* by the beasts in the field. Ex. xxii.

TORNA'DO, *n.* [from the root of *turn*; that is, a whirling wind. The Sp. Port. *tornado* is a return.]

A violent gust of wind, or a tempest, distinguished by a whirling motion. Tornadoes of this kind happen after extreme heat, and sometimes in the United States, rend up fences and trees, and in a few instances have overthrown houses and torn them to pieces. Tornadoes are usually accompanied with severe thunder, lightning and torrents of rain; but they are of short duration, and narrow in breadth.

TOR'ROUS, *a.* [L. *torosus*.] In botany, protuberant; swelling in knobs, like the veins and muscles; as a *torous* pericarp. Martyn.

TORPE'DO, *n.* [L. from *torpeo*, to be numb.] The cramp fish or electric ray, *Raja torpedo*. This fish is usually taken in forty fathoms water, on the coast of France and England, and in the Mediterranean. A touch of this fish occasions a numbness in the limb, accompanied with an indescribable and painful sensation, and is really an electric shock. When dead, the fish loses its power of producing this sensation. *Cyc.*

TOR'PENT, *a.* [L. *torpens*, *torpeo*.] Benumbed; torpid; having no motion or activity; incapable of motion.

A frail and *torpent* memory. Evelyn.

TOR'PENT, *n.* In medicine, that which diminishes the exertion of the irritative motions. Darwin.

TORPES'CENCE, *n.* A state of insensibility; torpidness; numbness; stupidity.

TORPES'CENT, *a.* [L. *torpescens*.] Becoming torpid or numb. Shenstone.

TORPID, *a.* [L. *torpidus*, *torpeo*; perhaps W. *torp*, a lump.]

1. Having lost motion or the power of exertion and feeling; numb; as a *torpid* limb. Without heat all things would be *torpid*. Ray.

2. Dull; stupid; sluggish; inactive. The mind as well as the body becomes *torpid*

by indolence. Impenitent sinners remain in a state of *torpid* security. Barrington.

TORPIDITY, *n.* Torpidness.

TORPIDNESS, } The state of being torpid; numbness. Torpidness may amount to total insensibility or loss of sensation.

2. Dullness; inactivity; sluggishness; stupidity.

TORPOR, *n.* [L.] Numbness; inactivity; loss of motion, or of the power of motion. Torpor may amount to a total loss of sensation, or complete insensibility. It may however be applied to the state of a living body which has not lost all power of feeling and motion.

2. Dulness; laziness; sluggishness; stupidity.

TORPORIFIC, *a.* [L. *torpor* and *facio*.]

Tending to produce torpor.

TORREFACTION, *n.* [Fr. from L. *torrefacio*; *torridus* and *facio*.]

1. The operation of drying by a fire.

2. In metallurgy, the operation of roasting ores.

3. In pharmacy, the drying or roasting of drugs on a metalline plate, placed over or before coals of fire, till they become friable to the fingers, or till some other desired effect is produced. *Cyc.*

TORREFIED, *pp.* Dried; roasted; scorched. *Torrefied* earth, in agriculture, is that which has undergone the action of fire. *Cyc.*

TORREFY, *v. t.* [L. *torrefacio*; L. *torridus*, *torreo*, and *facio*; Fr. *torrefier*.]

1. To dry by a fire. Brown.

2. In metallurgy, to roast or scorch, as metallic ores.

3. In pharmacy, to dry or parch, as drugs, on a metalline plate till they are friable, or are reduced to any state desired.

TORREFYING, *ppr.* Drying by a fire; roasting; parching.

TORRENT, *n.* [L. *torrens*.] This is the participle of *torreo*, to parch. But the sense of the word *torrent*, allies it to the W. *tori*, to break, and the Eng. *tear*. They are all of one family, denoting violent action.]

1. A violent rushing stream of water or other fluid; a stream suddenly raised and running rapidly, as down a precipice; as a *torrent* of lava.

2. A violent or rapid stream; a strong current; as a *torrent* of vices and follies; a *torrent* of corruption.

Erasmus, that great injur'd name,
 Stem'd the wild *torrent* of a barbarous age.

Pope.

TORRENT, *a.* Rolling or rushing in a rapid stream; as waves of *torrent* fire.

TORRICELLIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Torricelli, an Italian philosopher and mathematician, who discovered the true principle on which the barometer is constructed.

Torricellian tube, is a glass tube thirty or more inches in length, open at one end, and hermetically sealed at the other.

Torricellian vacuum, a vacuum produced by filling a tube with mercury, and allowing it to descend till it is counterbalanced by the weight of an equal column of the atmosphere, as in the barometer.

TORRID, *a.* [L. *torridus*, from *torreo*, to roast.]

1. Parched; dried with heat; as a *torrid* plain or desert.

2. Violently hot; burning or parching; as a *torrid* heat. Milton.

Torrid zone, in geography, that space or broad belt of the earth included between the tropics, over which the sun is vertical at some period every year, and where the heat is always great.

TORRIDNESS, *n.* The state of being very hot or parched.

TORSE, *n.* [Fr. *torse*; L. *tortus*.] In heraldry, a wreath.

TORSEL, *n.* [supra.] Anything in a twisted form; as *torsels* for mantle-trees. Moron.

TOR'SION, *n.* [L. *torsio*, from *torqueo*, to twist.] The act of turning or twisting.

Torsion balance, an instrument for estimating very minute forces by the motion of an index attached to the ends of two fine wires, which twist around each other. D. Olmsted.

TOR'SO, *n.* [It.] The trunk of a statue, mutilated of head and limbs; as the *torso* of Hercules.

TOR'STEN, *n.* An iron ore of a bright bluish black, &c.

TORT, *n.* [Fr. from L. *tortus*, twisted, from *torqueo*.] The primary sense is to turn or strain, hence to twist.]

1. In law, any wrong or injury. *Torts* are injuries done to the person or property of another, as trespass, assault and battery, defamation and the like. Blackstone.

2. Mischief; calamity. [Except in the legal sense above explained, it is obsolete.] Spenser.

TORT'ILE, } *a.* [L. *tortilis*.] Twisted;

TORT'IL, } *a.* wreathed; coiled. In botany, coiled like a rope; as a *tortile* awn. Martyn.

TORT'ION, *n.* [L. *tortus*.] Torment; pain. [Not in use.] Bacon.

TORT'IOUS, *a.* [from *tort*.] Injurious; done by wrong.

2. In law, implying tort, or injury for which the law gives damages.

TORT'IVE, *a.* [L. *tortus*.] Twisted; wreathed. Shak.

TORTOISE, *n.* *tor'tis*. [from L. *tortus*, twisted.]

1. An animal of the genus *Testudo*, covered with a shell or crust.

2. In the military art, a defense used by the ancients, formed by the troops arranging themselves in close order and placing their bucklers over their heads, making a cover resembling a tortoise-shell.

TORTOISE-SHELL, *n.* [tortoise and shell.] The shell or rather scales of the tortoise, used in inlaying and in various manufactures. *Cyc.*

TORTUOS'ITY, *n.* [from *tortuosus*.] The state of being twisted or wreathed; wreath; flexure. Brown.

TORT'UOUS, *a.* [L. *tortuosus*; Fr. *tortueux*.]

1. Twisted; wreathed; winding; as a *tortuous* train; a *tortuous* leaf or coral, in botany. Milton. Martyn.

2. Tortious. [Not used.] [See *Tortious*.] Spenser.

TORT'UOUSNESS, *n.* The state of being twisted.

TORT'URE, *n.* [Fr. *torture*; It. Sp. *tortura*; from L. *tortus*, *torqueo*, to twist, W. *torci*; probably from the root of *turn*. See *Tour*.]