

הכר to break. The latter are the same word with different prefixes. See Class Br. No. 26. 27.]

1. To part or divide by violence; to separate by cutting or rending; as, to *sever* the body or the arm at a single stroke.

2. To part from the rest by violence; as, to *sever* the head from the body.

3. To separate; to disjoin, as distinct things, but united; as the dearest friends *severed* by cruel necessity.

4. To separate and put in different orders or places.

The angels shall come forth and *sever* the wicked from among the just. Matt. xiii.

5. To disjoin; to disunite; in a general sense, but usually implying violence.

6. To keep distinct or apart. Ex. viii.

7. In *law*, to disunite; to disconnect; to part possession; as, to *sever* an estate in joint-tenancy. Blackstone.

SEVER, v. i. To make a separation or distinction; to distinguish.

The Lord will *sever* between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt. Ex. ix.

2. To suffer disjunction; to be parted or rent asunder. Shak.

SEVERAL, a. [from *sever*.] Separate; distinct; not common to two or more; as a *several* fishery; a *several* estate. A *several* fishery is one held by the owner of the soil, or by title derived from the owner. A *several* estate is one held by a tenant in his own right, or a distinct estate unconnected with any other person. Blackstone.

2. Separate; different; distinct.

Divers sorts of beasts came from *several* parts to drink. Bacon.

Four *several* armies to the field are led. Dryden.

3. Divers; consisting of a number; more than two, but not very many. *Several* persons were present when the event took place.

4. Separate; single; particular.

Each *several* ship a victory did gain. Dryden.

5. Distinct; appropriate.

Each might his *several* province well command, Would all but stoop to what they understand. Pope.

A joint and *several* note or bond, is one executed by two or more persons, each of whom is bound to pay the whole, in case the others prove to be insolvent.

SEVERAL, n. Each particular, or a small number, singly taken.

*Several* of them neither rose from any conspicuous family, nor left any behind them. Addison.

There was not time enough to hear

The *severals*— Shak.

[This latter use, in the plural, is now infrequent or obsolete.]

2. An inclosed or separate place; inclosed ground; as, they had their *several* for the heathen, their *several* for their own people; put a beast into a *several*. [These applications are nearly or wholly obsolete.] Hooker. Bacon.

In *several*, in a state of separation.

Where pastures in *several* be. [Little used.] Tusser.

SEVERALITY, n. Each particular singly taken; distinction. [Not in use.] Bp. Hall.

SEVERALIZE, v. t. To distinguish. [Not in use.] Bp. Hall.

SEVERALLY, adv. Separately; distinctly; apart from others. Call the men *severally* by name.

I could not keep my eye steady on them *severally* so as to number them. Newton.

To be jointly and *severally* bound in a contract, is for each obligor to be liable to pay the whole demand, in case the other or others are not able.

SEVERALTY, n. A state of separation from the rest, or from all others. An estate in *severalty*, is that which the tenant holds in his own right, without being joined in interest with any other person. It is distinguished from joint-tenancy, coparcenary and common. Blackstone.

SEVERANCE, n. Separation; the act of dividing or disuniting. The *severance* of a jointure is made by destroying the unity of interest. Thus when there are two joint-tenants for life, and the inheritance is purchased by or descends upon either, it is a *severance*.

So also when two persons are joined in a writ, and one is nonsuited; in this case *severance* is permitted, and the other plaintiff may proceed in the suit. So also in assize, when two or more disseizes appear upon the writ, and not the other, *severance* is permitted. Blackstone. Encyc.

SEVERE, a. [Fr. from L. *severus*; It. Sp. *severo*.]

1. Rigid; harsh; not mild or indulgent; as severe words; severe treatment; severe wrath. Milton. Pope.

2. Sharp; hard; rigorous.

Let your zeal—be more *severe* against thyself than against others. Taylor.

3. Very strict; or sometimes perhaps, unreasonably strict or exact; giving no indulgence to faults or errors; as severe government; severe criticism.

4. Rigorous, perhaps cruel; as severe punishment; severe justice.

5. Grave; sober; sedate to an extreme; opposed to cheerful, gay, light, lively.

Your looks must alter, as your subject does, From kind to fierce, from wanton to severe. Walter.

6. Rigidly exact; strictly methodical; not lax or airy. I will not venture on so nice a subject with my *severe* style.

7. Sharp; afflictive; distressing; violent; as severe pain, anguish, torture, &c.

8. Sharp; biting; extreme; as severe cold.

9. Close; concise; not luxuriant.

The Latin, a most *severe* and compendious language— Dryden

10. Exact; critical; nice; as a severe test.

SEVERELY, adv. Harshly; sharply; as, to chide one *severely*.

2. Strictly; rigorously; as, to judge one *severely*.

To be or fondly or *severely* kind. Savage.

3. With extreme rigor; as, to punish *severely*.

4. Painfully; afflictively; greatly; as, to be *severely* afflicted with the gout.

5. Fiercely; ferociously.

More formidable Hydra stands within, Whose jaws with iron teeth *severely* grin. Dryden.

SEVERITE, n. A mineral found near St. Sever, in France, occurring in small mass-

es, white without luster, a little harder than lithomarge. Phillips.

SEVERITY, n. [L. *severitas*.] Harshness; rigor; austerity; want of mildness or indulgence; as the *severity* of a reprimand or reproof.

2. Rigor; extreme strictness; as *severity* of discipline or government.

3. Excessive rigor; extreme degree or amount. *Severity* of penalties or punishments often defeats the object by exciting pity.

4. Extremity; quality or power of distressing; as the *severity* of pain or anguish.

5. Extreme degree; as the *severity* of cold or heat.

6. Extreme coldness or inclemency; as the *severity* of the winter.

7. Harshness; cruel treatment; sharpness of punishment; as *severity* practiced on prisoners of war.

8. Exactness; rigor; niceness; as the *severity* of a test.

9. Strictness; rigid accuracy.

Confining myself to the *severity* of truth. Dryden.

SEVRUGA, n. A fish, the *accipenser stellatus*. Took. Pallas.

SEW, to follow. [Not used. See SVE.] Spenser.

SEW, v. t. pronounced so, and better written *sew*. [Sax. *siwian*, *siwian*; Goth. *siwyan*; Sw. *sy*; Dan. *syer*; L. *suo*. This is probably a contracted word, and if its elements are *Sb* or *Sf*, it coincides with the

Eth. ሰፈሶ *shafai*, to sew; and the Ar. has

سأف an awl. See Class Sb. No. 85. 100.

The Hindoo has *siwawa*, and the Gipsy *siwena*. But the elements are not obvious.]

To unite or fasten together with a needle and thread.

They sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. Gen. iii.

To *sew up*, to inclose by sewing; to inclose in any thing sewed.

Thou *sewest up* mine iniquity. Job xiv.

*Sew me up* the skirts of the gown. Shak.

SEW, v. i. To practice sewing; to join things with stitches.

SEW, v. t. [L. *sicco*, to dry.] To drain a pond for taking the fish. Obs.

SEWED, pp. United by stitches.

SEWEL, n. Among hunters, something hung up to prevent deer from entering a place.

SEWER, n. [G. *anzucht*; perhaps from the root of *suck*, or L. *sicco*.]

A drain or passage to convey off water under ground; a subterraneous canal, particularly in cities; corruptly pronounced *shore* or *soer*.

SEWER, n. [D. *schaffer*, from *schaffen*, to provide, to dish up; G. *schaffner*; Dan. *skaffer*; Sw. *skaffare*. See *Shapc*.]

An officer who serves up a feast and arranges the dishes. Obs. Milton.

SEWER, n. One who sews, or uses the needle.

SEWING, ppr. Joining with the needle or with stitches.

SEWSTER, n. A woman that sews or spins. Obs. B. Jonson.