

3. To rise in a winding current, and to roll over at the ends; as *curling* smoke.

4. To writhe; to twist itself.

Then round her slender waist he curled.

*Dryden.*

5. To shrink; to shrink back; to bend and sink. He *curled* down into a corner.

**CURL**, *n.* A ringlet of hair, or any thing of a like form.

2. Undulation; a waving; sinuosity; flexure.

*Newton.*

3. A winding in the grain of wood.

**CURLED**, *pp.* Turned or formed into ringlets; crisped; twisted; undulated.

**CURLEW**, *n.* [*Fr. curtis* or *corlieu*.] An aquatic fowl of the genus *Scolopax* and the grallie order. It has a long bill; its color is diversified with ash and black; and the largest species spread more than three feet of wing. It frequents the sea shore in winter, and in summer, retires to the mountains.

2. A fowl, larger than a partridge, with longer legs, which frequents the corn-fields in Spain.

*Trevour.*

**CURLINESS**, *n.* A state of being curly.

**CURLING**, *pp.* Bending; twisting; forming into ringlets.

**CURLING-IRONS**, *n.* An instrument

**CURLING-TONGS**, *n.* for curling the hair.

**CURLY**, *a.* Having curls; tending to curl; full of ripples.

**CURMUDGEON**, *n.* [*Fr. cœur*, heart, and *mechant*, evil. *Nares.* *Qu.*]

An avicious churlish fellow; a miser; a niggard; a churl.

*Hudibras.*

**CURMUDGEONLY**, *a.* Avicious; covetous; niggardly; churlish.

*L'Estrange.*

**CURRENT**, *n.* [*from Corinth*.] The fruit of a well known shrub belonging to the genus *Ribes*, of which *Grossularia* is now considered a species; the grossberry or gooseberry and the currant falling under the same genus.

Currents are of various species and varieties; as the common red and white currants, and the black currant.

2. A small kind of dried grape, imported from the Levant, chiefly from Zante and Cephalonia; used in cookery.

**CURRENCEY**, *n.* [*See Current*.] Literally, a flowing, running or passing; a continued or uninterrupted course, like that of a stream; as the *currenccy* of time.

*Ayliffe.*

2. A continued course in public opinion, belief or reception; a passing from person to person, or from age to age; as, a report has had a long or general *currenccy*.

*Johnson.*

3. A continual passing from hand to hand, as coin or bills of credit; circulation; as the *currenccy* of cents, or of English crowns; the *currenccy* of bank bills or treasury notes.

4. Fluency; readiness of utterance; but in this sense we generally use *fluency*.

5. General estimation; the rate at which any thing is generally valued.

He takes greatness of kingdoms according to their bulk and *currenccy*, and not after intrinsic value.

*Bacon.*

6. That which is current or in circulation, as a medium of trade. The word may be applied to coins, or to bills issued by au-

thority. It is often applied to bank notes, and to notes issued by government.

*Crawford.*

**CURRENT**, *a.* [*L. currens*, from *curro*, to flow or run; *Fr. courir*, whence *courier*, and *discourir*, to *discourse*, *concourir*, to *concur*, &c.; *It. correre*; *Sp. Port. correr*, to run; *W. gyrru*, to drive, or run; *Eng. hurry*.] It seems to be connected with the root of *car*, *chariot*, like *currus*. *See Ar.*

كُر and عُر. Class Gr. No. 7. 32.

15.]

1. Literally, flowing, running, passing. Hence, passing from person to person, or from hand to hand; circulating; as *current* opinions; *current* coin. Hence, common, general or fashionable; generally received; popular; as the *current* notions of the day or age; *current* folly.

*Watts. Swift. Pope.*

2. Established by common estimation; generally received; as the *current* value of coin.

3. Passable; that may be allowed or admitted.

*Shak.*

4. Now passing; present in its course; as the *current* month or year.

**CURRENT**, *n.* A flowing or passing; a stream; applied to fluids; as a *current* of water, or of air. The gulf stream is a remarkable *current* in the Atlantic. A *current* sets into the Mediterranean.

2. Course; progressive motion, or movement; continuation; as the *current* of time.

3. A connected series; successive course; as the *current* of events.

4. General or main course; as the *current* of opinion.

**CURRENTLY**, *a.* In constant motion; with continued progression. Hence, commonly; generally; popularly; with general reception; as, the story is *currently* reported and believed.

**CURRENTNESS**, *n.* Currency; circulation; general reception.

2. Fluency; easiness of pronunciation. [*Not much used.*]

**CURRICULE**, *n.* [*L. curriculum*, from *curro*, to run.]

1. A chaise or carriage, with two wheels, drawn by two horses abreast.

2. A chariot. [*Not in use.*]

3. A course. [*See Curry*.] Dressed by currying; dressed as leather; cleaned; prepared.

**CURIER**, *n.* [*L. curarius*; *Fr. corroyeur*. *See Curry*.]

A man who dresses and colors leather, after it is tanned.

**CURIOUS**, *a.* [*See Cur*.] Like a cur; having the qualities of a cur; brutal; malignant; snappish; snarling; churlish; intractable; quarrelsome.

*Sidney. Fairfax. Shak.*

**CURIOUSLY**, *adv.* Like a cur; in a brutal manner.

**CURIOUSNESS**, *n.* Moroseness; churlishness.

*Feltham.*

**CURRY**, *v. t.* [*Fr. corroyer*; *Arm. corruca*; *Sp. curtir*; *Port. corrir*. The French and Armoric word seems to be compounded of *L. curium*, a hide, and the root of *rado*, to

scrape, or of a word of like signification. The *Sp.* and *Port.* word seems to be allied to *cort*, bark, from stripping; or to *L. curtus*, short, from cutting. But the *L. curium* is probably from a root signifying to scrape, or to peel. *See* Class Gr. No. 5 and 8.]

1. To dress leather, after it is tanned; to soak, pare or scrape, cleanse, beat and color tanned hides, and prepare them for use.

2. To rub and clean with a comb; as, to *curry* a horse.

3. To scratch or claw; to tear, in quarrels. By setting brother against brother.

*Butler.*

4. To rub or stroke; to make smooth; to tickle by flattery; to humor. But generally used in the phrase,

To *curry* favor, to seek or gain favor by flattery, caresses, kindness, or officious civilities. [*Not elegant.*]

*Hooker.*

**CURRY-COMB**, *n.* [*See Comb*.] An iron instrument or comb, for rubbing and cleaning horses.

**CURRYING**, *pp.* Scraping and dressing; cleaning; scratching.

**CURSE**, *v. t.* pret. and *pp.* *curst* or *curst*. [*Sax. cursian, corsian*; *Arm. argarzi*. *Qu.*

*Ar.* عر. ]

1. To utter a wish of evil against one; to imprecate evil upon; to call for mischief or injury to fall upon; to exorcise.

Thou shalt not *curse* the ruler of thy people.

*Ex. xxii.*

Bless and *curse* not. *Rom. xii.*

*Curse* me this people, for they are too mighty for me. *Num. xxi.*

2. To injure, to subject to evil; to vex, harass or torment with great calamities.

On impious realms and barbarous kings impose Thy plagues, and *curse* 'em with such sons as those.

*Pope.*

3. To devote to evil.

**CURSE**, *v. i.* To utter imprecations; to affirm or deny with imprecations of divine vengeance.

Then began he to *curse* and to swear.

*Math. xvi.*

**CURSE**, *n.* Malediction; the expression of a wish of evil to another.

Shimei—who *curst* me with a grievous *curse*. *1 Kings ii.*

2. Imprecation of evil.

They entered into a *curse*, and into an oath.

*Neh. x.*

3. Affliction; torment; great vexation.

I will make this city a *curse* to all nations.

*Jer. xxvi.*

4. Condemnation; sentence of divine vengeance on sinners.

Christ hath redeemed us from the *curse* of the law. *Gal. iii.*

5. Denunciation of evil.

The priest shall write all these *curse*s in a book. *Num. v.*

**CURSED**, *pp.* Execrated; afflicted; vexed; tormented; blasted by a curse.

2. Devoted to destruction.

Thou art *curst* from the earth. *Gen. iv.*

3. A Deserving a curse; execrable; hateful; detestable; abominable.

4. A Vexatious; as a *curst* quarrel; *curst* thorns.

*Dryden. Prior.*

**CURSEDLY**, *adv.* In a *curst* manner;