

and merely poetical; *from* being understood.

DISSUADED, *pp.* Advised against; counselled or induced by advice not to do something; diverted from a purpose.

DISSUADE, *v. t.* He that dissuades; a dehorter.

DISSUADING, *ppr.* Exhorting against; attempting, by advice, to divert from a purpose.

DISSUASION, *n.* *dissuázshn.* Advice or exhortation in opposition to something; the act of attempting, by reason or motives offered, to divert from a purpose or measure; dehortation. *Boyle.*

DISSUASIVE, *a.* Tending to dissuade, or divert from a measure or purpose; dehortatory.

DISSUASIVE, *n.* Reason, argument, or counsel, employed to deter one from a measure or purpose; that which is used or which tends to divert the mind from any purpose or pursuit. The consequences of intemperance are powerful *dissuasives* from indulging in that vice.

DISSUNDER, *v. t.* [*dis* and *sunder*] To separate; to rend. *Chapman.*

DISSWEETEN, *v. t.* To deprive of sweetness. [*Not used.*] *Bp. Richardson.*

DISSYLLABIC, *a.* Consisting of two syllables only; as a *dissyllabic* foot in poetry.

DISSYLLABLE, *n.* [*Gr.* *δισσλλαβος*; *dis*, two or twice, and *σλλαβος*, a syllable.]

A word consisting of two syllables only; as, *paper*, *whiteness*, *virtue*.

DISSTAFF, *n.* [The English books refer this word to the Saxon *distaf*; but I have not found the word in the Saxon Dictionary.]

1. The staff of a spinning-wheel, to which a bunch of flax or tow is tied, and from which the thread is drawn.

She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the *distaff*. *Prov. xxxi.*

2. Figuratively, a woman, or the female sex. His crown usurped, a *distaff* on the throne. *Dryden.*

DISSTAFF-THISTLE, *n.* A species of thistle; a name of the *Arctothylis*, and of the *Carthamus*, or false saffron.

DISTAIN, *v. t.* [*dis* and *stain*.] This seems to be from the French *deteindre*, from the *L. tingo*; but see *Stain*.]

1. To stain; to tinge with any different color from the natural or proper one; to discolour. We speak of a sword *distained* with blood; a garment *distained* with gore. It has precisely the signification of *stain*, but is used chiefly or appropriately in poetry and the higher kinds of prose.

2. To blot; to sully; to defile; to tarnish. She *distained* her honorable blood. *Spenser.*

The worthiness of praise *distains* his worth. *Shak.*

DISTAINED, *pp.* Stained; tinged; discoloured; blotted; sullied.

DISTAINING, *ppr.* Staining; discolored; blotting; tarnishing.

DISTANCE, *n.* [*Fr.* *distance*; *Sp.* *distancia*; *It.* *distanza*; *L.* *distántia*, from *dis*, to stand apart; and *sta* and *sto*, to stand.]

1. An interval or space between two objects; the length of the shortest line which intervenes between two things that are separate; as a great or small *distance*. *Dis-*

tance may be a line, an inch, a mile, or any indefinite length; as the *distance* between the sun and saturn.

2. Preceded by *at*, remoteness of place. He waits *at distance* till he hears from Cato. *Addison.*

3. Preceded by *thy*, *his*, *your*, *her*, *their*, a suitable space, or such remoteness as is common or becoming; as, let him keep *his distance*; keep *your distance*. [See No. 8.]

4. A space marked on the course where horses run. This horse ran the whole field out of *distance*. *L'Estrange.*

5. Space of time; any indefinite length of time, past or future, intervening between two periods or events; as the *distance* of an hour, of a year, of an age.

6. Ideal space or separation. Qualities that affect our senses are, in the things themselves, so united and blended, that there is no *distance* between them. *Locke.*

7. Contrariety; opposition. Banquo was your enemy, So he is mine, and in such bloody *distance*— *Shak.*

8. The remoteness which respect requires; hence, respect. I hope your modesty Will know what *distance* to the crown is due. *Dryden.*

'Tis by respect and *distance* that authority is upheld. [See No. 3.] *Atterbury.*

9. Reserve; coldness; alienation of heart. On the part of heaven Now alienated, *distance* and distaste. *Milton.*

10. Remoteness in succession or relation; as the *distance* between a descendant and his ancestor.

11. In music, the interval between two notes; as a *distance* of a fourth or seventh.

DISTANCE, *v. t.* To place remote; to throw off from the view. *Dryden.*

2. To leave behind in a race; to win the race by a great superiority.

3. To leave at a great distance behind. He *distanced* the most skillful of his contemporaries. *Milner.*

DISTANCED, *pp.* Left far behind; cast out of the race.

DISTANT, *a.* [*L.* *distans*, standing apart.]

1. Separate; having an intervening space of any indefinite extent. One point may be less than a line or a hair's breadth *dististant* from another. Saturn is supposed to be nearly nine hundred million miles *dististant* from the sun.

2. Remote in place; as, a *dististant* object appears under a small angle.

3. Remote in time, past or future; as a *dististant* age or period of the world.

4. Remote in the line of succession or descent, indefinitely; as, a *dististant* descendant; a *dististant* ancestor; *dististant* posterity.

5. Remote in natural connection or consanguinity; as, a *dististant* relation; *dististant* kindred; a *dististant* collateral line.

6. Remote in nature; not allied; not agreeing with or in conformity to; as practice very *dististant* from principles or profession.

7. Remote in view; slight; faint; not very likely to be realized; as, we have a *dististant* hope or prospect of seeing better times.

8. Remote in connection; slight; faint; indistinct; not easily seen or understood; as, a *dististant* hint or allusion to a person or subject. So also we say, a *dististant* idea; a *dististant* thought; a *dististant* resemblance.

9. Reserved; shy; implying haughtiness, coldness of affection, indifference, or disrespect; as, the manners of a person are *dististant*.

DISTANTLY, *adv.* Remotely; at a distance; with reserve.

DISTASTE, *n.* [*dis* and *taste*.] Aversion of the taste; dislike of food or drink; disrelish; disgust, or a slight degree of it. *Distaste* for a particular kind of food may be constitutional, or the effect of a diseased stomach.

2. Dislike; uneasiness. Prosperity is not without many fears and *distastes*, and adversity is not without comfort and hopes. *Bacon.*

3. Dislike; displeasure; alienation of affection. *Milton. Pope.*

DISTASTE, *v. t.* To disrelish; to dislike; to loathe; as, to *distaste* drugs or poisons.

To offend; to disgust. He thought it no policy to *distaste* the English or Irish, but sought to please them. *Davies.*

3. To vex; to displease; to sour. *Pope.* [The two latter significations are rare.]

DISTASTED, *pp.* Disrelished; disliked; offended; displeased.

DISTASTEFUL, *a.* Nauseous; unpleasant or disgusting to the taste.

2. Offensive; displeasing; as, a *distasteful* truth. *Dryden.*

3. Malevolent; as, *distasteful* looks. *Shak.*

DISTASTEFULNESS, *n.* Disagreeableness; dislike. *Whitlock.*

DISTASTING, *ppr.* Disrelishing; disliking; offending; displeasing.

DISTASTIVE, *n.* That which gives disrelish or aversion. *Whitlock.*

DISTEMPER, *n.* [*dis* and *temper*.] Literally, an undue or unnatural temper, or disproportionate mixture of parts. Hence,

2. Disease; malady; indisposition; any morbid state of an animal body, or of any part of it; a state in which the animal economy is deranged or imperfectly carried on. [See *Disease*.] It is used of the slightest diseases, but not exclusively. In general, it is synonymous with *disease*, and is particularly applied to the diseases of brutes.

3. Want of due temperature, applied to climate; the *literal sense* of the word, but not now used.

Countries under the tropic of a *distemper* uninhabitable. *Raleigh.*

4. Bad constitution of the mind; undue predominance of a passion or appetite. *Shak.*

5. Want of due balance of parts or opposite qualities and principles; as, the *temper* and *distemper* of an empire consist of contraries. [*Not now used.*] *Bacon.*

6. Ill humor of mind; depravity of inclination. [*Not used.*] *King Charles.*

7. Political disorder; tumult. *Waller.*

8. Uneasiness; ill humor or bad temper. There is a sickness

Which puts some of us in *distemper*. *Shak.*

9. In painting, the mixing of colors with something besides oil and water. When colors are mixed with size, whites of eggs, or other unctuous or glutinous matter, and