

PEE

PEEL, *n.* [Fr. *pelle*; L. Sp. It. *pala*; W. *pal*; probably from thrusting, throwing, L. *pello*, Gr. *βαλλω*, like Eng. *shovel*, from *shove*; or from spreading.]

A kind of wooden shovel used by bakers, with a broad palm and long handle; hence, in popular use in America, any large fire-shovel.

PEE'LED, *pp.* Stripped of skin, bark or rind; plundered; pillaged.

PEE'LER, *n.* One that peels, strips or flays. 2. A plunderer; a pillager.

PEE'LING, *ppr.* Stripping off skin or bark; plundering.

PEEP, *v. i.* [Ir. *piobam*, to pipe, to peep; D. *piepen*, to pipe, to chirp; G. *pfeifen*; Sw. *pipa*; Dan. *piper*, *pipper*; L. *pipio*. The primary sense is to open or to shoot, to thrust out or forth; Dan. *pipper frem*, to sprout, to bud. This coincides with *pipe*, *fife*, &c., Heb. *צו* to cry out, *Abib*, &c.]

1. To begin to appear; to make the first appearance; to issue or come forth from concealment, as through a narrow avenue.

I can see his pride

Peep through each part of him.

When flowers first peeped—

2. To look through a crevice; to look narrowly, closely or slyly.

A fool will peep in at the door.

Thou art a maid and must not peep.

3. To cry, as chickens; to utter a fine shrill sound, as through a crevice; usually written *pip*, but without reason, as it is the same word as is here defined, and in America is usually pronounced *peep*.

PEEP, *n.* First appearance; as the *peep* of day.

2. A sly look, or a look through a crevice.

3. The cry of a chicken.

PEE'PER, *n.* A chicken just breaking the shell.

2. In *familiar language*, the eye.

PEE'P-HOLE, { *n.* A hole or crevice
PEE'PING-HOLE, { through which one
may peep or look without being discovered.

PEER, *n.* [Fr. *pair*; L. *par*; It. *pari*; Sp. *par*. See *Pair*.]

1. An equal; one of the same rank. A man may be familiar with his *peers*.

2. An equal in excellence or endowments. In song he never had his *peer*.

3. A companion; a fellow; an associate. He all his *peers* in beauty did surpass.

4. A nobleman; as a *peer* of the realm; the house of *peers*, so called because noble-men and barons were originally considered as the companions of the king, like L. *comes*, count. In England, persons belonging to the five degrees of nobility are all *peers*.

PEER, *v. i.* [L. *pareo*; Norm. *perer*. See *Appear*.]

1. To come just in sight; to appear; a poetic word.

So honor *peereth* in the meanest habit.

See how his gorget *peers* above his gown.

2. To look narrowly; to peep; as the *peer-ing* day.

Peering in maps for ports and piers and roads.

PEK

PEE'RAGE, *n.* [See *Peer*, an equal.] The rank or dignity of a peer or nobleman.

2. The body of peers.

PEE'RDOM, *n.* Peerage. [Not used.]

PEE'RESS, *n.* The consort of a peer; a noble lady.

PEE'RLESS, *a.* Unequaled; having no peer or equal; as *peerless* beauty or majesty.

PEE'RLESSLY, *adv.* Without an equal.

PEE'RLESSNESS, *n.* The state of having no equal.

PEE'VISH, *a.* [In Scot. *pew* is to complain or mutter. It is probably a contracted word, and perhaps from the root of *pet*, *petulant*.]

1. Fretful; petulant; apt to mutter and complain; easily vexed or fretted; querulous; hard to please.

She is *peevish*, sullen, froward.

2. Expressing discontent and fretfulness. I will not presume

To send such *peevish* tokens to a king.

3. Silly; childish.

PEE'VISHLY, *adv.* Fretfully; petulantly; with discontent and murmuring.

PEE'VISHNESS, *n.* Fretfulness; petulance; disposition to murmur; sourness of temper; as childish *peevishness*.

When *peevishness* and spleen succeed.

PEG, *n.* [This is probably from the root of L. *pango*, *pactus*, Gr. *πηγμα*; denoting that which fastens, or allied to *beak* and *picket*.]

1. A small pointed piece of wood used in fastening boards or other work of wood, &c. It does the office of a nail. The word is applied only to small pieces of wood pointed; to the larger pieces thus pointed we give the name of *pins*, and pins in ship carpentry are called *tree-nails* or *trenails*. Coxo, in his travels in Russia, speaks of poles or beams fastened into the ground with *pegs*.

2. The pins of an instrument on which the strings are strained.

3. A nickname for Margaret.

To take a *peg* lower, to depress; to lower.

PEG, *v. t.* To fasten with pegs.

PEG'GER, *n.* One that fastens with pegs.

PEGM, *n. pem.* [Gr. *πηγμα*.] A sort of moving machine in the old pageants.

PEG'MATITE, *n.* Primitive granitic rock, composed essentially of lamellar feldspar and quartz; frequently with a mixture of mica. In it are found kaolin, tin tourmalin, beryl, aqua marina, tantale, scheelin and other valuable minerals.

PEIRAS'TIC, *a.* [Gr. *πειραστικός*, from *πειραω*, to strain, to attempt.] Attempting; making trial.

2. Treating of or representing trials or attempts; as the *peirastie* dialogues of Plato.

PEISE. [See *Poise*.]

PEK'AN, *n.* A species of weasel.

PEL'AGE, *n.* [Fr. from L. *pilus*, hair.] The vesture or covering of wild beasts, consisting of hair, fur or wool.

PELA'GIAN, { *a.* [L. *pelagus*, the sea.]
PELAGIC, { Pertaining to the sea; as *pelagian* shells.

PELA'GIAN, *n.* [from *Pelagius*, a native of Great Britain, who lived in the fourth century.]

A follower of Pelagius, a monk of Banchor or Bangor, who denied original sin, and asserted the doctrine of free will and the merit of good works.

PELA'GIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Pelagius and his doctrines.

PELA'GIANISM, *n.* The doctrines of Pelagius.

PELF, *n.* [probably allied to *pilfer*.] Money; riches; but it often conveys the idea of something ill gotten or worthless. It has no plural.

PEL'ICAN, *n.* [Low L. *pelicanus*; Gr. *πελ-εκαν*; Fr. *pelican*.]

1. A fowl of the genus *Pelicanus*. It is larger than the swan, and remarkable for its enormous bill, to the lower edges of the under chop of which is attached a pouch or bag, capable of being distended so as to hold many quarts of water. In this bag the fowl deposits the fish it takes for food.

2. A chymical glass vessel or alembic with a tubulated capital, from which two opposite and crooked beaks pass out and enter again at the belly of the cucurbit. It is designed for continued distillation and co-hobation; the volatile parts of the substance distilling, rising into the capital and returning through the beaks into the cucurbit.

PE'LIOM, *n.* [Gr. *πελιωμα*, black color.] A mineral, a variety of iolite.

PELISSE, *n.* *pelec's*. [Fr. from L. *pellis*, skin.]

Originally, a furred robe or coat. But the name is now given to a silk coat or habit worn by ladies.

PELL, *n.* [L. *pellis*, It. *pelle*, a skin.] A skin or hide.

Clerk of the *pells*, in England, an officer of the exchequer, who enters every teller's bill on the parchment rolls, the roll of receipts and the roll of disbursements.

PEL'LET, *n.* [Fr. *pelote*; W. *pellon*, from L. *pila*, a ball, It. *palla*.] A little ball; as a *pellet* of wax or lint.

2. A bullet; a ball for fire-arms. [Not now used.]

PEL'LETED, *a.* Consisting of bullets.

PEL'LICLE, *n.* [L. *pellicula*, dim. of *pellis*, skin.] A thin skin or film.

2. Among *chemists*, a thin saline crust formed on the surface of a solution of salt evaporated to a certain degree. This pellicle consists of saline particles crystallized.

PEL'LITORY, *n.* [Sp. *pelitre*; corrupted perhaps from L. *parietaria*, the wall plant, from *paries*.]

The name of several plants of different genera. The *pellitory* of the wall or common *pellitory* is of the genus *Parietaria*; the *bastard pellitory* of the genus *Achillea*; and the *pellitory* of Spain is the *Anthemis pyrethrum*.