

moving serpent; anfractuons; as a *serpentine* road or course.

2. Spiral; twisted; as a *serpentine* worm of a still.

3. Like a serpent; having the color or properties of a serpent.

Serpentine tongue, in the manege. A horse is said to have a *serpentine* tongue, when he is constantly moving it, and sometimes passing it over the bit. *Encyc.*

Serpentine verse, a verse which begins and ends with the same word.

SER/PENTINE, } n. A species
SER/PENTINE-STONE, } of talc or
magnesian stone, usually of an obscure green color, with shades and spots resembling a serpent's skin.

Dict. Nat. Hist.

Serpentine is often nearly allied to the harder varieties of steatite and potstone. It presents two varieties, precious serpentine, and common serpentine. *Cleveland.*

SER/PENTIZE, v. t. To wind; to turn or bend, first in one direction and then in the opposite; to meander.

The road *serpented* through a tall shrubbery. *Barrow, Trav. in Africa.*

SER/PET, n. A basket. [*Not in use.*]

Ainsworth.

SERPIGINOUS, a. [from *L. serpigo*, from *serpo*, to creep.] Affected with serpig.

SERPIGO, n. [*L. from serpo*, to creep.] A kind of herpes or tetter, called in popular language, a ringworm. *Encyc.*

SER/PULITE, n. Petrified shells or fossil remains of the genus *Serpula*. *Jameson.*

SERR, v. t. [*Fr. serrer*; *Sp. Port. cerrar*.] To crowd, press or drive together. [*Not in use.*]

Bacon.

SERRATE, } a. [*L. serratus*, from *serro*,
SERRATED, } to saw; *serra*, a saw.]

Jagged; notched; indented on the edge, like a saw. In *botany*, having sharp notches about the edge, pointing towards the extremity; as a *serrate* leaf.

When a serrate leaf has small serratures upon the large ones, it is said to be *doubly serrate*, as in the elm. We say also, a *serrate* calyx, corol or stipule.

A *serrate-ciliate* leaf, is one having fine hairs, like the eye lashes, on the serratures.

A *serrature-toothed* leaf, has the serratures toothed.

A *serrulate* leaf, is one finely serrate, with very small notches or teeth. *Martyn.*

SERRATION, n. Formation in the shape of a saw.

SERRATURE, n. An indenting or indenture in the edge of any thing, like those of a saw. *Martyn.*

SERR/ROUS, a. Like the teeth of a saw; irregular. [*Little used.*]

Brown.

SER/RULATE, a. Finely serrate; having very minute teeth or notches. *Martyn.*

SERR/Y, v. t. [*Fr. serrer*.] To crowd; to press together. [*Not used.*]

Milton.

SER/UM, n. [*L.*] The thin transparent part of the blood.

2. The thin part of milk; whey.

SER/VAL, n. An animal of the feline genus, resembling the lynx in form and size, and the panther in spots; a native of Malabar. *Dict. Nat. Hist.*

SERVANT, n. [*Fr. from L. servans*, from *servo*, to keep or hold; properly one that

waits, that is, stops, holds, attends, or one that is bound.]

1. A person, male or female, that attends another for the purpose of performing menial offices for him, or who is employed by another for such offices or for other labor, and is subject to his command. The word is correlative to *master*. *Servant* differs from *slave*, as the servant's subjection to a master is voluntary, the slave's is not. Every slave is a servant, but every servant is not a slave.

Servants are of various kinds; as *household* or *domestic servants*, menial servants; *laborers*, who are hired by the day, week or other term, and do not reside with their employers, or if they board in the same house, are employed abroad and not in domestic services; *apprentices*, who are bound for a term of years to serve a master, for the purpose of learning his trade or occupation.

In a *legal sense*, stewards, factors, bailiffs and other agents, are *servants* for the time they are employed in such character, as they act in subordination to others.

2. One in a state of subjection.

3. In *Scripture*, a slave; a bondman; one purchased for money, and who was compelled to serve till the year of jubilee; also, one purchased for a term of years. *Ex. xxi.*

4. The subject of a king; as the *servants* of David or of Saul.

The Syrians became *servants* to David. *2 Sam. viii.*

5. A person who voluntarily serves another or acts as his minister; as Joshua was the *servant* of Moses, and the apostles the *servants* of Christ. So Christ himself is called a *servant*, *Is. xlii.* Moses is called the *servant* of the Lord, *Deut. xxxiv.*

6. A person employed or used as an instrument in accomplishing God's purposes of mercy or wrath. So Nebuchadnezzar is called the *servant* of God. *Jer. xxv.*

7. One who yields obedience to another. The saints are called the *servants* of God, or of righteousness; and the wicked are called the *servants* of sin. *Rom. vi.*

8. That which yields obedience, or acts in subordination as an instrument. *Ps. cxix.*

9. One that makes painful sacrifices in compliance with the weakness or wants of others. *1 Cor. ix.*

10. A person of base condition or ignoble spirit. *Eccles. x.*

11. A word of civility. I am, sir, your humble or obedient *servant*.

Our betters tell us they are our humble *servants*, but understand us to be their slaves. *Swift.*

Servant of servants, one debased to the lowest condition of servitude. *Gen. ix.*

SERVANT, v. t. To subject. [*Not in use.*]

Shak.

SERVE, v. t. *serv.* [*Fr. servir*; *It. servire*; *Sp. servir*; from *L. servio*.] This verb is supposed to be from the noun *servus*, a servant or slave, and this from *servo*, to keep. If *servus* originally was a slave, he was probably so named from being *preserved* and taken prisoner in war, or more probably from being bound, and perhaps from the Shemitic *צָר, צָר*, to bind. But the sense of *servant* is generally a waiter,

one who attends or waits, and from the sense of stopping, holding, remaining.]

1. To work for; to bestow the labor of body and mind in the employment of another.

Jacob loved Rachel and said, I will *serve* thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter. *Gen. xxix.*

No man can *serve* two masters. *Matt. vi.*

2. To act as the minister of; to perform official duties to; as, a minister *serves* his prince.

Had I served God as diligently as I have served the king, he would not have given me over in my gray hairs. *Cardinal Woolsey.*

3. To attend at command; to wait on.

A goddess among gods, ador'd and *serv'd* By angels numberless, thy daily train. *Milton.*

4. To obey servilely or meanly. Be not to wealth a *servant*. *Denham.*

5. To supply with food; as, to be *served* in plate. *Dryden.*

6. To be subservient or subordinate to. Bodies bright and greater should not *serve* The less not bright. *Milton.*

7. To perform the duties required in; as, the curate *served* two churches.

8. To obey; to perform duties in the employment of; as, to *serve* the king or the country in the army or navy.

9. To be sufficient to, or to promote; as, to *serve* one's turn, end or purpose. *Locke.*

10. To help by good offices; as, to *serve* one's country. *Tate.*

11. To comply with; to submit to.

They think herein we *serve* the time, because thereby we either hold or seek preferment. *Hooker.*

12. To be sufficient for; to satisfy; to content.

One half pint bottle *serves* them both to dine, And is at once their vinegar and wine. *Pope.*

13. To be in the place of any thing to one. A sofa *serves* the Turks for a seat and a couch.

14. To treat; to requite; as, he *served* me ungratefully; he *served* me very ill. We say also, he *served* me a trick, that is, he deceived me, or practiced an artifice upon me.

15. In *Scripture* and *theology*, to obey and worship; to act in conformity to the law of a superior, and treat him with due reverence.

Fear the Lord, and *serve* him in sincerity and truth. As for me and my house, we will *serve* the Lord. *Josh. xxiv.*

16. In a *bad sense*, to obey; to yield compliance or act according to.

Serving divers lusts and pleasures. *Tit. iii.*

17. To worship; to render homage to; as, to *serve* idols or false gods. *Ezek. xx.*

18. To be a slave to; to be in bondage to. *Gen. xv.*

19. To *serve* one's self of, to use; to make use of; a *Galicism*, [*se servir de.*]

I will *serve* myself of this concession. *Chillingworth.*

20. To use; to manage; to apply. The guns were well *served*.

21. In *seamen's language*, to wind something round a rope to prevent friction.

To *serve* up, to prepare and present in a dish; as, to *serve* up a sirloin of beef in plate; figuratively, to prepare.