

DEM-I-GROAT, *n.* A half-groat. *Shenstone.*

DEM-I-LANCE, *n.* A light lance; a short spear; a half-pike. *Dryden.*

DEM-I-LUNE, *n.* A half-moon.

DEM-I-MAN, *n.* Half a man; a term of reproach. *Knolles.*

DEM-I-NATURED, *a.* Having half the nature of another animal. *Shak.*

DEMI-PREMISES, *n. plu.* Half-premises. *Hooker.*

DEMI-QUAVER, *n.* A note in music, of half the length of the quaver.

DEMIREP, *n.* A woman of suspicious chastity. [Demi-reputation.]

DEMI-SEMI-QUAVER, *n.* The shortest note in music, two of which are equal to a semi-quaver.

DEMI-TONE, *n.* In music, an interval of half a tone; a semi-tone.

DEMI-VILL, *n.* A half-vill, consisting of five freemen or frank pledges. *Speelman. Blackstone.*

DEMIVOLT, *n.* [*demi* and *volt*, *vault*.] One of the seven artificial motions of a horse, in which he raises his fore legs in a particular manner.

DEMIVOLF, *n.* Half a wolf; a mongrel dog between a dog and a wolf; lycisca.

DEMIGRATE, DEMIGRATION. [*Not used. See Migrate.*]

DEMISABLE, *a.* *s.* as *z.* [See *Denise*.] That may be leased; as an estate demisable by copy of court roll. *Blackstone.*

DEMISE, *n.* *s.* as *z.* [Fr. *demis*, *denis*, from *denestre*, *L. demitto*, *demisso*; *de* and *mitto*, Fr. *mettre*. Literally, a laying down, or sending from; a removing.]

1. In England, a laying down or removal, applied to the crown or royal authority. The demise of the crown, is a transfer of the crown, royal authority or kingdom to a successor. Thus when Edward fourth was driven from his throne for a few months by the house of Lancaster, this temporary transfer of his dignity was called a demise. Hence the natural death of a king or queen came to be denominated a demise, as by that event, the crown is transferred to a successor. *Blackstone.*

2. A conveyance or transfer of an estate, by lease or will.

*Demise* and *redemise*, a conveyance where there are mutual leases made from one to another of the same land, or something out of it. *Encyc.*

DEMISE, *v. t.* *s.* as *z.* To transfer or convey; to lease.

2. To bequeath; to grant by will. *Swift.*

DEMISSION, *n.* A lowering; degradation; depression. [*L. Exstremus.*]

DEMISIVE, *a.* Humble. [*Little used.*]

DEMISSE, *a.* Humble. *Shenstone.*

DEMISSELY, *adv.* In a humble manner. [*Not used.*] *Shewood.*

DEMITY, *v. t.* [*L. demitto*.] To let fall; to depress; to submit. [*Not used.*]

DEMURGE, *n.* [Gr. *δημιουργος*; *δημιος*, a public servant, and *ργον*, work.]

In the mythology of Eastern Philosophers, an æon employed in the creation of the world; a subordinate workman. *Encyc.*

DEMURGIC, *a.* Pertaining to a demurge, or creative power. *Trans. of Pantheists.*

DEMOCRACY, *n.* [Gr. *δημοκρατία*; *δημος*, people, and *κρατος*, to possess, to govern.]

Government by the people; a form of government, in which the supreme power is lodged in the hands of the people collectively, or in which the people exercise the powers of legislation. Such was the government of Athens.

DEMOCRAT, *n.* One who adheres to a government by the people, or favors the extension of the right of suffrage to all classes of men.

DEMOCRATIC, *a.* Popular; pertaining to democracy.

DEMOCRATICAL, *a.* Popular; pertaining to democracy or government by the people; as a democratical form of government.

DEMOCRATICALLY, *adv.* In a democratic manner. *Sidney.*

DEMOLISH, *v. t.* [Fr. *demolir*, *demolissant*; Sp. *demoler*; It. *demolire*; L. *demolior*; *de* and *molior*, to build. Class. Mi. No. 12. 15.]

To throw or pull down; to raze; to destroy, as a heap or structure; to separate any collected mass, or the connected parts of a thing; to ruin; as, to demolish an edifice, or a mound; to demolish a wall or fortification.

DEMOLISHED, *pp.* Pulled down; thrown down; razed; destroyed; as a fabric or structure.

DEMOLISHER, *n.* One who pulls or throws down; one who destroys or lays waste; as a demolisher of towns.

DEMOLISHING, *ppr.* Pulling or throwing down; destroying.

DEMOLISHMENT, *n.* Ruin; overthrow. *Beaman.*

DEMOLITION, *n.* The act of overthrowing, pulling down or destroying a pile or structure; ruin; destruction; as the demolition of a house, or of military works.

DEMON, *n.* [L. *demon*; Gr. *δαίμων*; Sp. It. *demónio*; Fr. *demon*; Ir. *deamán* or *deamon*. The origin and primary sense of this word I have not been able to ascertain. Qu. Ar. *ἡ δαίμων*, *daimon*, to

fall suddenly, to rush, to overwhelm, to obscure, to blacken; whence misfortune, black, blackness, evil, a monster; or is it a compound of *dea*, *dia*, *deus*, and *mon*, a word signifying evil, from the Persian? I place little confidence in these conjectures.]

A spirit, or immaterial being, holding a middle place between men and the celestial deities of the Pagans. The ancients believed that there were good and evil demons, which had influence over the minds of men, and that these beings carried on an intercourse between men and gods, conveying the addresses of men to the gods, and divine benefits to men. Hence demons became the objects of worship. It was supposed also that human spirits, after their departure from the body, became demons, and that the souls of virtuous men, if highly purified, were exalted from demons into gods. In the scriptures, the English word is not used, but the Greek *δαίμων* is rendered *devil*, and sometimes at least improperly; for nothing is more certain than that different beings are intended by *δαίμονες* and *δαίμων*. The demons of the New Testament were supposed to be spiritual beings which vexed and tormented men. And in general, the word, in modern use, signifies an evil spirit

or genius, which influences the conduct or directs the fortunes of mankind. [See *Campbell's Dissert.*]

DEMONESS, *n.* A female demon. *Mede.*

DEMONIAC, *a.* Pertaining to demons.

DEMONIACAL, *a.* Pertaining to demons.

DEMONIAN, *n.* From *ty demoniac* holds. *Milton.*

2. Influenced by demons; produced by demons or evil spirits.

*Demoniac phrensy.* *Milton.*

DEMONIAC, *n.* A human being possessed by a demon; one whose volition and other mental faculties are overpowered, restrained, or disturbed, in their regular operation, by an evil spirit, or by a created spiritual being of superior power. *Encyc.*

DEMONIACS, *n.* In church history, a branch of the Anabaptists, whose distinguishing tenet is, that at the end of the world the devil will be saved. *Encyc.*

DEMONOCRACY, *n.* [Gr. *δαίμων*, demon, and *κρατος*, to hold.] The power or government of demons.

DEMONOLATRY, *n.* [Gr. *δαίμων*, demon, and *λατρεία*, worship.] The worship of demons, or of evil spirits.

DEMONOLGY, *n.* [Gr. *δαίμων*, demon, and *λογος*, discourse.]

A discourse on demons; a treatise on evil spirits. So King James entitled his book concerning witches.

DEMONOMIST, *n.* [Gr. *δαίμων*, demon, and *νομος*, law.]

One that lives in subjection to the devil, or to evil spirits.

DEMONOMY, *n.* [supra.] The dominion of demons, or of evil spirits.

DEMONSHIP, *n.* The state of a demon. *Mede.*

DEMONSTRABLE, *a.* [See *Demonstrate*.] That may be demonstrated; that may be proved beyond doubt or contradiction; capable of being shown by certain evidence, or by evidence that admits of no doubt; as, the principles of geometry are demonstrable.

DEMONSTRABLENESS, *n.* The quality of being demonstrable.

DEMONSTRABLY, *adv.* In a manner to preclude doubt; beyond the possibility of contradiction.

DEMONSTRATE, *v. t.* [L. *demonstro*; *de* and *monstro*, to show; Fr. *démontrer*; Sp. *Port. demonstrar*; It. *dimostrare*. See *Master*.]

1. To show or prove to be certain; to prove beyond the possibility of doubt; to prove in such a manner as to reduce the contrary position to evident absurdity. We demonstrate a problem in geometry, or a proposition in ethics, by showing that the contrary is absurd or impossible.

2. In anatomy, to exhibit the parts when dissected.

DEMONSTRATED, *pp.* Proved beyond the possibility of doubt; rendered certain to the mind.

DEMONSTRATING, *ppr.* Proving to be certain; evincing beyond the possibility of doubt.

DEMONSTRATION, *n.* The act of demonstrating, or of exhibiting certain proof.

2. The highest degree of evidence; certain proof exhibited, or such proof as establishes a fact or proposition beyond a possibility of doubt, or as shows the contrary position to be absurd or impossible.