

1. A passage; a way or opening for entrance into a place; any opening or passage by which a thing is or may be introduced.
2. An alley, or walk in a garden, planted with trees, and leading to a house, gate, wood, &c., and generally terminated by some distant object. The trees may be in rows on the sides, or, according to the more modern practice, in clumps at some distance from each other. *Encyc.*
3. A wide street, as in Washington, Columbia.
- AVER' v. t. [Fr. *averer*; It. *averare*, to aver or verify; Arm. *quira*, from the root of *verus*, true; Fr. *for*, or *fr*; W. *gwir*; Corn. *uir*; Ger. *wahr*; D. *waar*. See *Verify*.]
- To affirm with confidence; to declare in a positive or peremptory manner, as in confidence of asserting the truth. *Prior*.
- AV'ERAGE, n. [Norm. *aver*, *avers*, cattle, money, goods, Sp. *avero*, from *aver* or *haber*, Fr. *avoir*, to have or possess. In ancient law, a duty or service which a tenant was bound to render to his lord, by his beasts and carriages or instruments of husbandry. *Spelman*. But *averagium* signifies also the loss of goods in transportation; Sp. *avaria*, damage sustained by goods or ships; Port. *avaria*, an allowance out of freight to the master of a ship, for damage sustained; contribution by insurers, to make good a loss; It. *avaria*; Dan. *haeric*, damage of a ship or waste of goods, extraordinary charges during a voyage. If *avaria* signifies damage, and is from *aver* or *haber*, Spanish, to have, the sense of the word is probably that which happens or falls, a misfortune, for the verb *have* and *happen* are radically the same word; Spanish, *haber*, to have, and to happen or befall; also fortune, property. This would give the sense of damage, or of proportion, lot, share, that which falls to each of a number. But the primary sense is not very obvious.]
1. In commerce, a contribution to a general loss. When for the safety of a ship in distress, any destruction of property is incurred, either by cutting away the masts, throwing goods overboard, or other means, all persons who have goods on board, or property in the ship, contribute to the loss according to their average, that is, the goods of each on board. This principle, introduced into the commerce of Europe, from the Rhodian laws, and recognized by the regulations of Wisby, is now an established rule in the maritime laws of Europe; for it is most reasonable, that when one man's property is sacrificed to save a ship, all persons whose property is saved, or in like hazard, should bear their proportion of the loss.
- Spelman*. Park. *Benevo*.
2. From the practice of contributing to bear losses, in proportion to each man's property, this word has obtained the present popular sense, which is, that of a mean proportion, medial sum or quantity, made out of unequal sums or quantities. Thus, if A loses 5 dollars, B 9 and C 16, the sum is 30, and the average, 10.
3. A small duty payable by the shippers of goods, to the master of the ship, over and above the freight, for his care of the goods,

- Hence the expression in bills of lading, "paying so much freight, with primage and average accustomed." *Coel. Encyc.*
4. In England, the breaking up of cornfields, eddish or roughings. *Ash. Spelman*.
- Upon, or on an average, is taking the mean of unequal numbers or quantities.
- AV'ERAGE, a. Medial; containing a mean proportion. *Price. Beddoes. Kirwan. Edwards' W. Indies*.
- AV'ERAGE, v. t. To find the mean of unequal sums or quantities; to reduce to a medium; to divide among a number, according to a given proportion; as, to average a loss.
- AV'ERAGE, v. i. To form a mean or medial sum or quantity; as, the losses of the owners will average 25 dollars each.
- These spars average 10 feet in length. *Belknap. Ch. Obs. x. 522. xi. 302.*
- AV'ERAGED, pp. Reduced or formed into a mean proportion, or into shares proportioned to each man's property. *Jefferson*.
- AV'ERAGING, ppr. Forming a mean proportion out of unequal sums or quantities, or reducing to just shares according to each man's property.
- AV'ERMENT, n. [See *Aver*.] Affirmation; positive assertion; the act of averring.
2. Verification; establishment by evidence. *Bacon*.
3. In pleading, an offer of either party to justify or prove what he alleges. In any advances new matter, he *avers* it to be true, and concludes with these words, "and this he is ready to verify." This is called an *averment*. *Blackstone*.
- AV'ER NAT, n. A sort of grape. *Ash. Johnson*.
- AV'ERNIAN, a. Pertaining to Avernus, a lake of Campania in Italy, famous for its poisonous qualities, which the poets represent as so malignant, as to kill fowls flying over. Hence, as authors tell us, its name, *avopos*, without birds.
- Virgil. Mela. Strabo*.
- AV'ERPENNY, n. Money paid towards the king's carriages by land, instead of service by the beasts in kind. *Burn*.
- AV'ERRED, pp. Affirmed; laid with an averment.
- AV'ERING, ppr. Affirming; declaring positively; offering to justify or verify.
- AV'ERROIST, n. One of a sect of peripatetic philosophers, who were so denominated from Averroes, a celebrated Arabian author. They held the soul to be mortal, though they pretended to submit to the christian theology. *Encyc.*
- AV'ERRUNCATE, v. t. [L. *averruncare*, of *ab* and *eruncare*, from *runco*, to weed, or rake away.]
- To root up; to scrape or tear away by the roots. *Hudibras*.
- AV'ERRUNCATION, n. The act of tearing up or raking away by the roots.
- AV'ERSATION, n. [L. *aversor*. See *Avert*.] A turning from with disgust or dislike; aversion; hatred; disinclination. *South*.
- It is nearly superseded by *aversion*.
- AV'ERSE, a. *avers*' [See *Avert*.] The literal sense of this word is, turned from, in manifestation of dislike. Hence the real sense is,
1. Disliking; unwilling; having a repugnance of mind.

- Averse* alike to flatter or offend. *Pope*
2. Unfavorable; indisposed; malign. And Pallas now *averse* refused her aid. *Dryden*.
- This word and its derivatives ought to be followed by *to*, and never by *from*. This word includes the idea of *from*; but the literal meaning being lost, the affection of the mind signified by the word, is exerted towards the object of dislike, and like its kindred terms, *hated*, *dislike*, *contrary*, *repugnant*, &c., should be followed by *to*. Indeed it is absurd to speak of an affection of the mind exerted from an object. *Averse* expresses a less degree of opposition in the mind, than *detesting* and *abhorring*.
- Milton once uses *averse* in its literal sense, with *from*, but it is not according to the English idiom.
- AV'ERSELY, adv. *avers*'ly. With repugnance; unwillingly. *Brown*.
- AV'ERSENESS, n. *avers*'ness. Opposition of mind; dislike; unwillingness; backwardness. *Herbert*.
- AV'ERSION, n. [Fr. *aversion*, from L. *averto*.]
1. Opposition or repugnance of mind; dislike; disinclination; reluctance; hatred. Usually this word expresses moderate hatred, or opposition of mind, not amounting to *abhorrence* or *detestation*. It ought generally to be followed by *to* before the object. [See *Averse*.] Sometimes it admits of *for*.
- A frecholder is bred with an *aversion* to subjection. *Addison*.
2. Opposition or contrariety of nature; applied to inanimate substances.
- Magnesia, notwithstanding this *aversion* to solution, forms a kind of paste with water. *Fourcroy, Trans.*
3. The cause of dislike.
- Pain their *aversion*, pleasure their desire. *Pope*.
- AV'ERT', v. t. [L. *averto*, a, from, and *verto*, to turn, anciently, *vorto*; hence *vertex*, *vortex*, *averto*; probably allied to L. *vario*;
- Eng. *veer*; Sp. *birar*; Eth. ἄλῶ *bari*. Class Br.]
1. To turn from; to turn off or away; as, to *avert* the eyes from an object. *Shak*.
2. To keep off; divert or prevent; as, to *avert* an approaching calamity. *Hooker*.
3. To cause to dislike. *Hooker*. But this sense seems to be improper, except when *heart* or some equivalent word is used; as, to *avert* the heart or affections, which may signify to alienate the affections. *Thomson*.
- AV'ERT', v. i. To turn away. *Thomson*.
- AV'ERT ER, n. One that turns away; that which turns away.
- AV'ERT ING, ppr. Turning from; turning away.
- AV'IARY, n. [L. *aviarium*, from *avis*, a fowl.]
- A bird cage; an inclosure for keeping birds confined. *Wotton*.
- AVID'IOUSLY, adv. [See *Avidity*.] Eagerly; with greediness. *Bale*.
- AVID'ITY, n. [L. *aviditas*, from *avidus*, and this from *avere*, to desire, to have appetite; Heb. and Ch. אָוַה, to desire, or covet.]
1. Greediness; strong appetite; applied to the senses.