

mons to parliament; that is, the dignity is personal, and not territorial.

The radical word, *vir, fir*, a man, is Celtic, as well as Teutonic; but the word *baron* was not known in the British isles, till introduced from the continent under the Norman princes.

Spielman. Blackstone. Encyc. Covell.
2. *Baron* is a title of certain officers, as *barons of the exchequer*, who are the four judges who try cases between the king and his subjects, relating to the revenue. *Barons of the Cinque Ports* are members of the House of Commons, elected by the seven Cinque Ports, two for each port. These ports are Dover, Sandwich, Romney, Hastings, Hythe, Winchelsea, and Rye.

3. In *law*, a husband; as *baron and fene*, husband and wife.

BARONAGE, *n.* The whole body of barons or peers.

2. The dignity of a baron.

3. The land which gives title to a baron. *Johnson.*

BARONESS, *n.* A baron's wife or lady.

BARONET, *n.* [Fr. *dimin. of baron.*]

A dignity or degree of honor, next below a baron, and above a knight; having precedence of all knights except those of the garter, and being the only knighthood that is hereditary. The order was founded by James I. in 1611, and is given by patent. *Johnson. Blackstone.*

BARONIAL, *a.* Pertaining to a baron. *Encyc.*

BARONY, *n.* The lordship, honor, or fee of a baron, whether spiritual or temporal. This lordship is held in chief of the king, and gives title to the possessor, or baron. *Johnson. Encyc.*

BAROSCOPE, *n.* [Gr. *baros*, weight, and *scopos*, to view.]

An instrument to show the weight of the atmosphere; superseded by the *Barometer*.

BAROSCOPIC, *a.* Pertaining to or determined by the baroscope.

BAROSELLENITE, *n.* [Gr. *baros*, weight, or *baros*, heavy, and *selenite*.]

A mineral; sulphate of baryte; heavy spar. *Kirwan. Cleaveland.*

BARRA, *n.* In *Portugal and Spain*, a long measure for cloths. In *Valencia*, 13 *barras* make 12½ yards English; in *Castile*, 7 are equal to 6½ yards; in *Aragon*, 3 make 2½ yards. *Encyc.*

BARRACA DA, *n.* A fish, about fifteen inches in length, of a dusky color on the back, and a white belly, with small black spots. *Dict. of Nat. Hist.*

BARRACAN, *n.* [It. *baracane*; Sp. *barraquin*; Fr. *baracain*.]

A thick, strong stuff, something like camelot; used for cloaks, surtouts, and other outer garments.

BARRACK, *n.* [Sp. *barraque*; Fr. *baraque*. It seems to be formed like *Sax. parre*, a park, an inclosure.]

A hut or house for soldiers, especially in garrison. In *Spain*, a hut or cabin for fishermen.

BARRACK-MASTER, *n.* The officer who superintends the barracks of soldiers. *Swift.*

BARRACUDA, *n.* A species of fish of the

pike kind, found in the seas about the Bahamas and W. Indies, of ten feet in length. The color is deep brown, and the fish is very voracious. The flesh is disagreeable and sometimes poisonous.

Catfish. Pennant.

BAR-RATOR, *n.* [Old Fr. *barat*, strife, deceit; Cimbria. *baraton*; Ice. and Scandinavian, *barattar*, contest; It. *baratta*, strife, quarrel; *barattare*, to barter, to cheat; Sp. *barato*, fraud, deceit; *baratar*, to barter, to deceive. The radical sense is to *taen*, *viad* and *taist*, whence to strive; *La verito*; Eng. *barter*. See *Barter*.]

1. One who frequently excites suits at law; a common mover and maintainer of suits and controversies; an encourager of litigation. *Coke. Blackstone.*

2. The master of a ship, who commits any fraud, in the management of the ship, or in relation to his duties as master, by which the owner or insurers are injured.

BAR-RATRY, *n.* The practice of exciting and encouraging lawsuits and quarrels. *Coke. Blackstone.*

2. In *commerce*, any species of cheating or fraud, in a shipmaster, by which the owners or insurers are injured; as by running away with the ship, sinking or deserting her, by wilful deviation, or by embezzling the cargo. *Park.*

BARRED, *pp.* Fastened with a bar; hindered; restrained; excluded; forbid; striped; checkered.

BAR REL, *n.* [W. Fr. *baril*; Sp. *barril*; It. *barile*; Ar. *baraz*.]

1. A vessel or cask, of more length than breadth, round and bulging in the middle, made of staves and heading, and bound with hoops.

2. The quantity which a barrel contains. Of wine measure, the English barrel contains 31½ gallons; of beer measure, 36 gallons; of ale, 32 gallons; and of beer-vinegar, 34 gallons.

Of weight, a barrel of Essex butter is 106 pounds; of Suffolk butter, 256; a barrel of herring should contain 32 gallons wine measure, and hold 1000 herrings; a barrel of salmon should contain 42 gallons; a barrel of soap should weigh 256 lbs. *Johnson. Encyc.*

In *America*, the contents of a barrel are regulated by statutes.

In *Connecticut*, the barrel for liquors must contain 31½ gallons, each gallon to contain 231 cubic inches. In *New-York*, a barrel of flour by statute must contain either 196 lb. or 228 lb. nett weight. The barrel of beef and pork in *New-York* and *Connecticut*, is 200 lbs. In general, the contents of barrels, as defined by statute, in this country, must be from 28 to 31½ gallons.

3. Any thing hollow and long, as the barrel of a gun; a tube.

4. A cylinder; as the barrel of a watch, within which the spring is coiled, and round which is wound the chain.

5. A cavity behind the tympanum of the ear is called the barrel of the ear. It is four or five lines deep, and five or six wide, and covered with a fine membrane. It is more usually called the cavity of the tympanum. *Encyc. Johnson.*

BAR REL, *v. t.* To put in a barrel; to pack

in a barrel with salt for preservation, as to barrel beef, pork or fish.

BAR REL-BELLIED, *a.* [See *Belly*.] Having a large belly. *Dryden.*

BAR RELED, *pp.* Put or packed in a barrel.

BAR RELING, *pp.* Putting or packing in a barrel.

BARREN, *a.* [from the same root as *bare*.] 1. Not producing young, or offspring; applied to animals.

2. Not producing plants; unfruitful; sterile; not fertile; or producing little; unproductive; applied to the earth.

3. Not producing the usual fruit; applied to trees, &c.

4. Not copious; scanty; as a scheme barren of hints. *Swift.*

5. Not containing useful or entertaining ideas; as a barren treatise.

6. Unmeaning; uninventive; dull; as barren spectators. *Shak. Johnson. Qu.*

7. Unproductive; not inventive; as a barren mind.

BARREN, *n.* In the *States west of the Alleghany*, a word used to denote a tract of land, rising a few feet above the level of a plain, and producing trees and grass. The soil of these *barrens* is not barren, as the name imports, but often very fertile. It is usually alluvial, to a depth sometimes of several feet. *Wheat. Journ. of Science.*

2. Any unproductive tract of land; as the pine *barrens* of South Carolina. *Drayton.*

BAR RENLY, *adv.* Unfruitfully.

BARRENNESS, *adv.* The quality of not producing its kind; want of the power of conception; applied to animals.

Unfruitfulness; sterility; infertility. The quality of not producing at all, or in small quantities; as the barrenness of soil.

3. Want of invention; want of the power of producing any thing new; applied to the mind.

4. Want of matter; scantiness; as the barrenness of a cause. *Hooker.*

5. Defect of emotion, sensibility or fervency; as the barrenness of devotion. *Taylor.*

BAR RENWORT, *n.* [See *Wort*.] A plant, constituting the genus *Epidemium*, of which the alumnus is the only species; a low herbaceous plant, with a creeping root, having many stalks, each of which has three flowers. *Encyc.*

BARRFUL, *a.* Full of obstructions. *Shak.*

BARRICA DE, *n.* [Fr. *barricade*; It. *barriade*; from It. *barrare*, Sp. *barrear*, to bar.]

1. A fortification made in haste, of trees, earth, palisades, wagons, or any thing that will obstruct the progress of an enemy, or serve for defense or security, against his shot.

2. Any bar or obstruction; that which defrauds.

3. In *naval architecture*, a strong wooden rail, supported by stanchions, extending across the foremost part of the quarter deck, in ships of war, and filled with rope, masts, pieces of old cable, and full hammocks, to prevent the effect of small shot in time of action. *Encyc.*

BARRICA DE, *v. t.* To stop up a passage; to obstruct.

2. To fortify with any slight work that prevents the approach of an enemy.

BARRICA DO. The same as *barricade*.