

DEMAIN, *n.* [Norm. *demainer*. This might be from *L. dominium*, Fr. *domaine*. But in old law books it is written *desme*, as if derived from *meisan*, *maison*, house. In Norman, it is written also *demaygne*, *de-meigne*, as well as *demaine*.]

1. A major-house and the land adjacent or near, which a lord keeps in his own hands or immediate occupation, for the use of his family, as distinguished from his tenemental lands, distributed among his tenants, called *book-land*, or *charter-land*, and *folk-land*, or estates held in villenage, from which sprung copyhold estates.

Blackstone.

2. Estate in lands.

DEMANDAR, *v. t.* [Fr. *demandar*; Sp. Port. *demandar*; It. *demandare* or *dimandare*; Arm. *menad*; and *L. mando*, to command. The *L. mando* signifies to send; hence, to commit or entrust. To ask to be put to urge. Sw. *mana*, Dan. *maner*, to put in mind, to urge, press, din; to admonish, *L. moneo*. It appears that *mando*, *maneo* and *mens*, *mind*, are all of one family; as also *Ir. nuirim*, to teach; *W. mynu*, to will, to seek or procure, to insist to obtain or have; Sax. *manian*; G. *mahnen*. See Class Mn. No. 7. 9.]

1. To ask or call for, as one who has a claim or right to receive what is sought; to claim or seek as due by right. The creditor demands principal and interest of his debt. Here the claim is derived from law or justice.

2. To ask by authority; to require; to seek or claim an answer by virtue of a right or supposed right in the interrogator, derived from his office, station, power or authority.

The officers of the children of Israel—were beaten, and demanded, therefore have ye not fulfilled your task in making brick. Ex. v.

3. To require as necessary or useful; as, the execution of this work demands great industry and care.

4. To ask; to question; to inquire.

The soldiers also demanded of him, saying, what shall we do? Luke iii.

5. To ask or require, as a seller of goods; as, what price do you demand?

6. To sue for; to seek to obtain by legal process; as, the plaintiff, in his action, demands unreasonable damages.

In French, *demandeur* generally signifies simply to ask, request, or petition, when the answer or thing asked for, is a matter of grace or courtesy. But in English, *demand* is now seldom used in that sense, and rarely indeed can the French *demandeur* be rendered exactly in English by *demand*, except in the case of the seller of goods, who demands, [asks, requires,] a certain price for his wares. The common expression, "a king sent to demand another king's daughter in marriage," is improper.

DEMAND, *n.* An asking for or claim made by virtue of a right or supposed right to the thing sought; an asking with authority; a challenging as due; as, the demand of the creditor was reasonable; the note is payable on demand.

He that has confidence to turn his wishes into demands, will be but a little way from thinking he ought to obtain them. Locke.

2. The asking or requiring of a price for

goods offered for sale; as, I cannot agree to his demand.

3. That which is or may be claimed as due; debt; as, what are your demands on the estate?

4. The calling for in order to purchase; to desire to possess; as, the demand for the Bible has been great and extensive; copies are in great demand.

5. A desire or a seeking to obtain. We say, the company of a gentleman is in great demand; the lady is in great demand or request.

6. In law, the asking or seeking for what is due or claimed as due, either expressly by words, or by implication, as by seizure of goods, or entry into lands.

DEMANDABLE, *a.* That may be demanded, claimed, asked for, or required; as, payment is demandable at the expiration of the credit.

DEMANDANT, *n.* One who demands; the plaintiff in a real action; any plaintiff.

DEMANDED, *pp.* Called for; claimed; challenged as due; requested; required; interrogated.

DEMANDER, *n.* One who demands; one who requires with authority; one who claims as due; one who asks; one who seeks to obtain.

DEMANDING, *ppr.* Claiming or calling for as due, or by authority; requiring; asking; pursuing a claim by legal process; interrogating.

DEMANDRESS, *n.* A female demandant.

DEMARCHE, *n.* [Fr. *demarche*.] March; walk; gait. Obs.

DEMARKATION, *n.* [Sp. *demarcacion*, from *demarcar*; *de* and *marcar*, to mark, *marca*, a mark; Port. *demarcar*. See Mark.]

1. The act of marking, or of ascertaining and setting a limit.

2. A limit or bound ascertained and fixed; line of separation marked or determined.

The speculative line of demarkation, where obedience ought to end and resistance begin, is faint, obscure, and not easily definable. Burke.

DEMEAN, *v. t.* [Fr. *demeiner*; Norm. *demesner*, *demenor*, to lead, to manage, to govern, to stir; It. *menare*; Sp. *menear*.]

1. To behave; to carry; to conduct; with the reciprocal pronoun; as, it is our duty to demean ourselves with humility.

2. To treat.

DEMEAN, *v. t.* [*de* and *men*.] To debase; to undervalue. [Not used.] Shaks.

DEMEAN, *n.* Behavior; carriage; demeanor. Obs.

DEMEANOR, *n.* Behavior; carriage; deportment; as decent demeanor; sad demeanor. Obs.

DEMEANURE, *n.* Behavior. [Not in use.]

DEMEENCY, *n.* [L. *dementia*.] Madness. [Not in use.] Skelton.

DEMENTATE, *a.* Mad; infatuated.

DEMENTATE, *v. t.* [L. *demento*; *de* and *mens*.] To make mad.

DEMENTATION, *n.* The act of making frantic.

DEMEPHITIZATION, *n.* [See Demephitize.]

The act of purifying from mephitic or foul air.

Med. Repository.

DEMEPHITIZE, *v. t.* [*de* and *mephitis*, foul air, or ill smell.] To purify from foul unwholesome air.

DEMEPHITIZED, *pp.* Purified; freed from foul air.

DEMEPHITIZING, *ppr.* Purifying from foul air.

DEMERIT, *n.* [Fr. *demerite*; *de* and *merite*, merit, *L. meritorium*, from *merco*, to earn or deserve. The Latin *demerere* is used in a good sense. See Merit.]

1. That which deserves punishment, the opposite of merit; an ill-deserving; that which is blamable or punishable in moral conduct; vice or crime.

2. Mine is the merit, the demerit thine. Dryden.

Anciently, merit; desert; in a good sense. Shaks.

DEMERIT, *v. t.* To deserve blame or punishment. [I believe not in use.]

DEMERS-ED, *a.* [L. *demersus*.] Plunged; situated or growing under water.

DEMERSION, *n.* [L. *demersio*, from *demergo*, to plunge or drown.]

1. A plunging into a fluid; a drowning.

2. The state of being overwhelmed in water or earth.

3. The putting of a medicine in a dissolving liquor.

Trans. of Pausanias.

DEMESNE. [See Domain.]

DEMI, *a.* prefix, Fr. *demi*, from the *L. dimidium*, signifies half. It is used only in composition.

DEMI-BRIGADE, *n.* A half-brigade.

DEMI-CADENCE, *n.* In music, an imperfect cadence, or one that falls on any other than the key note.

DEMI-CANNON, *n.* A cannon of different sizes; the lowest carries a ball of thirty pounds weight, and six inches diameter; the ordinary is twelve feet long, and carries a shot of six inches and one-sixth diameter, and thirty two pounds weight; that of the greatest size is twelve feet long, and carries a ball of six inches and five eighths diameter, and thirty six pounds weight.

DEMI-CROSS, *n.* An instrument for taking the altitude of the sun and stars.

DEMI-CULVERIN, *n.* A large gun, or piece of ordnance; the least is ten feet long, and carries a ball of nine pounds weight, and four inches diameter; that of ordinary size carries a ball of four inches and two eighths diameter, and ten pounds eleven ounces in weight; the largest size is ten feet and a third in length, and carries a ball four inches and a half in diameter, and of twelve pounds eleven ounces in weight.

DEMI-DEVIL, *n.* Half a devil.

DEMI-DISTANCE, *n.* In fortification, the distance between the outward polygons and the flank.

DEMI-DITONE, *n.* In music, a minor third.

DEMI-GOD, *n.* Half a god; one partaking of the divine nature; a fabulous hero, produced by the cohabitation of a deity with a mortal.

DEMI-GORGE, *n.* In fortification, that part of the polygon which remains after the flank is raised, and goes from the curtain to the angle of the polygon. It is half of the vacant space or entrance into a bastion.

Encyc.