

summary of christian faith composed by the council of Nice against Arianism, A. D. 325, altered and confirmed by the council of Constantinople, A. D. 381. *Encyc.*
NICE'NESS, *n.* Delicacy of perception; the quality of perceiving small differences; as *niceness* of taste.

2. Extreme delicacy; excess of scrupulousness or exactness.

Unlike the *niceness* of our modern dames.

Dryden.

3. Accuracy; minute exactness; as *niceness* of work; *niceness* of texture or proportion.

Where's now the labored *niceness* in thy dress?

Dryden.

NICE'ETY, *n.* Niceness; delicacy of perception.

2. Excess of delicacy; fastidiousness; squeamishness.

So love doth lothe disdainful *nicety*.

Spenser.

3. Minute difference; as the *niceties* of words.

4. Minuteness of observation or discrimination; precision. The connoisseur judges of the beauties of a painting with great *nicety*.

5. Delicate management; exactness in treatment.

Love such *nicety* requires,

One blast will put out all his fires.

Swift.

6. *Niceties*, in the plural, delicacies for food; dainties.

NICH, } *[Fr. niche; Sp. Port. nicho; It. nicchia, properly a nook, corner, and nicchio, a shell. It seems to be a different orthography of nook.]*

A cavity, hollow or recess within the thickness of a wall, for a statue or bust.

Pope.

NICK, *n.* In the northern mythology, an evil spirit of the waters; hence the modern vulgar phrase, *Old Nick*, the evil one.

NICK, *n.* [*Sw. nick; Dan. nik; D. knik, a nod; G. nicken, to nod; genick, the nape; genicke, a continual nodding. The word seems to signify a point, from shooting forward.]*

1. The exact point of time required by necessity or convenience; the critical time.

L'Estrange.

2. [*G. knick, a flaw.*] A notch or score for keeping an account; a reckoning.

Obs. Shak.

3. A winning throw.

Prior.

NICK, *v. t.* To bit; to touch luckily; to perform by a slight artifice used at the lucky time.

The just reason of doing things must be *nick-ed*, and all accidents improved.

L'Estrange.

2. To cut in nicks or notches. [*See Noleh.*]

Shak.

3. To suit, as lattices cut in nicks.

Obs. Camden.

4. To defeat or cozen, as at dice; to disappoint by some trick or unexpected turn.

Obs. Shak.

NICK, *v. t.* [*G. knicken, to flaw.*] To notch or make an incision in a horse's tail, to make him carry it higher.

NICKAR-TREE, *n.* A tree of the genus *Guilaudina*, which grows in the western parts of the U. States, and bears a nut of the size of a pignut.

Mease.

NICK'EL, *n.* A metal of a white or reddish white color, of great hardness, very diffi-

cult to be purified, always magnetic, and when perfectly pure, malleable. It is generally obtained from its sulphuret.

NICK'ELIC, *a.* The nickelic acid is a saturated combination of nickel and oxygen.

NICK'ER, *n.* One who watches for opportunities to pilfer or practice knavery.

Arbutnot.

NICK'NAME, *n.* [*In Fr. nique is a term of contempt. In G. necken is to banter. In Ch. nkn signifies to surname, to call by a name of reproach.*]

A name given in contempt, derision or reproach; an opprobrious appellation.

Bacon.

NICK'NAME, *v. t.* To give a name of reproach; to call by an opprobrious appellation.

You *nickname* virtue vice.

Shak.

NICK'NAMED, *pp.* Named in derision.

NICK'NAMING, *ppr.* Calling by a name in contempt or derision.

NICOLA'ITAN, *n.* One of a sect in the ancient christian church, so named from Nicolas, a deacon of the church of Jerusalem. They held that all married women should be common to prevent jealousy. They are not charged with erroneous opinions respecting God, but with licentious practices. Rev. ii.

NICO'TIAN, *a.* Pertaining to or denoting tobacco; and as a noun, tobacco; so called from Nicot, who first introduced it into France, A. D. 1560.

NIC'OTIN, *n.* The peculiar principle in the leaves of tobacco; a colorless substance of an acrid taste. It is precipitated from its solution by the tincture of nutgalls.

Vauquelin.

NIC'TATE, *v. i.* [*L. nicto, to wink.*] To wink.

Ray.

NIC'TATING, } *ppr. or a.* Winking.

NIC'TITATING, } The nictitating membrane is a thin membrane that covers and protects the eyes of some animals, without entirely obstructing the sight.

Paley.

NICTA'TION, *n.* The act of winking.

NIDE, *n.* [*L. nidus, a nest.*] A brood; as a *nide* of pheasants. [*Not in use.*]

NIDG'ET, *n.* A dastard. [*Not in use.*]

Camden.

NID'IFICATE, *v. i.* [*L. nidifico, from nidus, a nest.*] To make a nest.

NIDIFICA'TION, *n.* The act or operation of building a nest, and the hatching and feeding of young in the nest.

Derham.

NID'ING, *n.* [*Sax. nothing; Dan. Sw. nid-ing.*] A despicable coward; a dastard.

Obs.

NID'DOR, *n.* [*L.*] Scent; savor.

Bp. Taylor.

NIDOROS'ITY, *n.* Eructation with the taste of undigested roast meat.

Floyer.

NID'OROUS, *a.* Resembling the smell or taste of roasted meat.

Bacon.

NID'ULANT, *a.* [*L. nidulor, from nidus, nest.*]

In *bolany*, nestling; lying loose in pulp or cotton, within a berry or pericarp.

Martyn. Lee.

NIDULA'TION, *n.* The time of remaining in the nest; as of a bird.

Brown.

NIDUS, *n.* [*L.*] A nest; a repository for the eggs of birds, insects, &c.

NIECE, *n. nese.* [*Fr. niece; Arm. nizes, nyes; W. nith; qu. The D. has nigt, and*

the *G. nichte.*] The daughter of a brother or sister.

NIF'LE, *n.* [*Norm.*] A trifle. *Obs. Chaucer.*

NIG'GARD, *n.* [*W. nig, straight, narrow, or G. knicker, a niggard, and a nod or nodding; knickern, to haggle, to be sordidly parsimonious; Dan. gnier, for gniker or gniger, a niggard. This word seems to belong to the family of D. knikken, G. nicken, Dan. nikker, to nod, and this to Dan. knikker, to crack; exhibiting analogies similar to those of wretch, wreck and haggle. Ard is a termination, as in dotard.*]

A miser; a person meanly close and covetous; a sordid wretch who saves every cent, or spends grudgingly.

Serve him as a grudging master,

As a penurious niggard of his wealth.

Milton.

Be niggards of advice on no pretence.

Pope.

NIG'GARD, *a.* Miserly; meanly covetous; sordidly parsimonious.

Dryden.

2. Sparing; wary.

Most free of question, but to our demands

Niggard in his reply.

Shak.

NIG'GARD, *v. t.* To stint; to supply sparingly. [*Little used.*]

Shak.

NIG'GARDISE, *n.* Niggardliness. [*Not in use.*]

Spenser.

NIG'GARDISH, *a.* Somewhat covetous or niggardly.

Johnson.

NIG'GARDLINESS, *n.* Mean covetousness; sordid parsimony; extreme avarice manifested in sparing expense.

Niggardliness is not good husbandry.

Addison.

NIG'GARDLY, *a.* Meanly covetous or avaricious; sordidly parsimonious; extremely sparing of expense.

Where the owner of the house will be bountiful, it is not for the steward to be niggardly.

Hall.

2. Sparing; wary; cautiously avoiding profusion.

Sidney.

NIG'GARDLY, *adv.* Sparingly; with cautious parsimony.

Shak.

NIG'GARDNESS, *n.* Niggardliness. [*Not used.*]

Sidney.

NIG'GARDY, *n.* Niggardliness. [*Not used.*]

NIG'GLE, *v. t. and i.* To mock; to trifle with. [*Not in use.*]

Beaum.

NIGH, *a. ni.* [*Sax. neah, neahg, neh, for nig; G. nahe, nigh. This is the G. nach, D. na, a preposition signifying to, on or after, that is, approaching, pressing on, making towards; D. naaken, to approach; W. nig, strait, narrow.*]

1. Near; not distant or remote in place or time.

The loud tumult shows the battle *nigh*.

Prior.

When the fig-tree putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is *nigh*. Matt. xxiv.

2. Closely allied by blood; as a *nigh* kinsman.

Knolles.

3. Easy to be obtained or learnt; of easy access.

The word is very *nigh* unto thee. Deut. xxx.

4. Ready to support, to forgive, or to aid and defend.

The Lord is *nigh* unto them who are of a broken heart. Ps. xxxiv.

5. Close in fellowship; intimate in relation.