

manage and improve in husbandry; as, to cultivate land; to cultivate a farm.

Sinclair.

2. To improve by labor or study; to advance the growth of; to refine and improve by correction of faults, and enlargement of powers or good qualities; as, to cultivate talents; to cultivate a taste for poetry.

3. To study; to labor to improve or advance; as, to cultivate philosophy; to cultivate the mind.

4. To cherish; to foster; to labor to promote and increase; as, to cultivate the love of excellence; to cultivate gracious affections.

5. To improve; to meliorate, or to labor to make better; to correct; to civilize; as, to cultivate the wild savage.

6. To raise or produce by tillage; as, to cultivate corn or grass.

Sinclair.

CULTIVATED, *ppr.* Tilled; improved in excellence or condition; corrected and enlarged; cherished; meliorated; civilized; produced by tillage.

CULTIVATING, *ppr.* Tilling; preparing for crops; improving in worth or good qualities; meliorating; enlarging; correcting; fostering; civilizing; producing by tillage.

CULTIVATION, *n.* The art or practice of tilling and preparing for crops; husbandry; the management of land. Land is often made better by cultivation. Ten acres under good cultivation will produce more than twenty when badly tilled.

2. Study, care and practice directed to improvement, correction, enlargement or increase; the application of the means of improvement; as, men may grow wiser by the cultivation of talents; they may grow better by the cultivation of the mind, of virtue, and of piety.

3. The producing by tillage; as the cultivation of corn or grass.

CULTIVATOR, *n.* One who tills, or prepares land for crops; one who manages a farm, or carries on the operations of husbandry in general; a farmer; a husbandman; an agriculturist.

2. One who studies or labors to improve, to promote and advance in good qualities, or in growth.

CULTRATED, *a.* [L. *cultratus*, from *culter*, a knife.]

Sharp-edged and pointed; formed like a knife; as, the beak of a bird is convex and cultrated.

CULTURE, *n.* [L. *cultura*, from *colo*. See *Cultivate*.]

1. The act of tilling and preparing the earth for crops; cultivation; the application of labor or other means of improvement.

We ought to blame the culture, not the soil.

2. The application of labor or other means to improve good qualities in, or growth; as the culture of the mind; the culture of virtue.

3. The application of labor or other means in producing; as the culture of corn, or grass.

4. Any labor or means employed for improvement, correction or growth.

CUL-TURE, *v. t.* To cultivate. Thomson.

CUL-VER, *n.* [Sax. *culfer*, *culfra*; Arm. *calm*; L. *columba*.]

A pigeon, or wood pigeon. Thomson.

CUL-VER-HOUSE, *n.* A dove-cote. Harmar.

CUL-VERIN, *n.* [Fr. *couleuvrine*; It. *colubrina*; Sp. *culebrina*; from L. *colubrinus*, from *culuber*, a serpent.]

A long slender piece of ordnance or artillery, serving to carry a ball to a great distance. Encey.

CUL-VERKEY, *n.* A plant or flower. Walton.

CUL-VERT, *n.* A passage under a road or canal, covered with a bridge; an arched drain for the passage of water. Cyc.

CUL-VERTAIL, *n.* [culver and tail.] Dove-tail, in joinery and carpentry.

CUL-VERTAILED, *a.* United or fastened, as pieces of timber by a dove-tailed joint; a term used by shipwrights. Encey.

CUM-BENT, *a.* [L. *cumbo*.] Lying down.

CUM-BER, *v. t.* [Dan. *kummer*, distress, incombrance, grief; D. *kommeren*; G. *kummern*, to arrest, to concern, to trouble, to grieve; Fr. *encomber*, to encumber.]

1. To load, or crowd.

A variety of frivolous arguments cumbers the memory to no purpose. Locke.

2. To check, stop or retard, as by a load or weight; to make motion difficult; to obstruct.

Why asks he what avails him not in fight,
And would but cumber and retard his flight.

Dryden.

3. To perplex or embarrass; to distract or trouble.

Martha was cumbered about much serving. Luke x.

4. To trouble; to be troublesome to; to cause trouble or obstruction in, as any thing useless. Thus, brambles cumber a garden or field. [See *Encumber*, which is more generally used.]

CUM-BER, *n.* Hindrance; obstruction; burdensomeness; embarrassment; disturbance; distress.

Thus fade thy helps, and thus thy cumbers spring. Spenser.

[This word is now scarcely used.]

CUM-BERSOME, *a.* Troublesome; burdensome; embarrassing; vexatious; as cumbrous obedience. Sidney.

2. Unwieldy; unmanageable not easily borne or managed; as a cumbrous load; a cumbrous machine.

CUM-BERSOMELY, *adv.* In a manner to encumber. Sherwood.

CUM-BERSOMENESS, *n.* Burdensomeness; the quality of being cumbrous and troublesome.

CUM-BRANCE, *n.* That which obstructs, retards, or renders motion or action difficult and toilsome; burden; encumbrance; hindrance; oppressive load; embarrassment. Milton.

CUM-BROUS, *a.* Burdensome; troublesome; rendering action difficult or toilsome; oppressive; as a cumbrous weight or charge. Milton.

2. Giving trouble; vexatious; as a cloud of cumbrous gnats. Spenser.

3. Confused; jumbled; obstructing each other; as the cumbrous elements. Milton.

CUM-BROUSLY, *adv.* In a cumbrous manner.

CUM-FREY, *n.* A genus of plants, the

Symphytum; sometimes written *comfrey*, *comfy*, and *comphy*.

CUM-IN, *n.* [L. *cuminum*; Gr. *κuminum*; Oriental *pis* kamon. The verb with which this word seems to be connected, signifies, in Ar. Ch. Syr. and Sam., to retire from sight, to lie concealed.]

An annual plant of one species, whose seeds have a bitterish warm taste, with an aromatic flavor. Encey.

CUMULATE, *v. t.* [L. *cumulo*; Russ. *kum*, a mass or lump; L. *cumulus*, a heap; Fr. *combl*, *cumuler*; Sp. *cumular*; It. *cumulare*.]

To gather or throw into a heap; to form a heap; to heap together. Woodward.

[Accumulate is more generally used.]

CUM-ULATION, *n.* The act of heaping together; a heap. [See *Accumulation*.]

CUMULATIVE, *a.* Composed of parts in a heap; forming a mass. Bacon.

2. That augments by addition; that is added to something else. In law, that augments, as evidence, facts or arguments of the same kind.

CUN, *v. t.* To know. [Not used.] [See *Con*.]

2. To direct the course of a ship. [See *Con*, the true orthography.]

CUN-CTA-TION, *n.* [L. *cunctor*, to delay.] Delay. [Not much used.]

CUN-CTA-TOR, *n.* One who delays or lingers. [Little used.] Hammond.

CUND, *v. t.* To give notice. [See *Con*.]

CUNEAL, *a.* [L. *cuneus*, a wedge. See *Con*.] Having the form of a wedge.

CUN-EATE, *a.* Wedge-shaped.

CUN-EIFORM, *a.* [L. *cuneus*, a wedge, and *con*, a form, form.] Having the shape or form of a wedge.

CUN-NER, *n.* [Lepas.] A kind of fish, less than an oyster, that sticks close to the rocks. Ainsworth.

CUN-NING, *a.* [Sax. *cunnan*, *connan*; Goth. *kunnan*, to know; Sw. *kunna*, to be able, to know; *kunnig*, known; also, knowing, skillful, cunning; D. *kunnen*, can, to be able, to hold, contain, understand, or know; G. *können*. See *Can*.]

1. Knowing; skillful; experienced; well-instructed. It is applied to all kinds of knowledge, but generally and appropriately, to the skill and dexterity of artificers, or the knowledge acquired by experience.

Eau was a cunning hunter. Gen. xxiii. I will take away the cunning artifact. Is. iii.

A cunning workman. Ex. xxxviii.

2. Wrought with skill; curious; ingenious.

With cherubs of cunning work shall thou make them. Ex. xxvi.

[The foregoing senses occur frequently in our version of the scriptures, but are nearly or quite obsolete.]

3. Artful; shrewd; sly; crafty; astute; designing; as a cunning fellow.

They are resolved to be cunning; let others run the hazard of being sincere. South.

In this sense, the purpose or final end of the person may not be illaudable; but cunning implies the use of artifice to accomplish the purpose, rather than open, candid, or direct means. Hence,