

2. Transverse; as the *metaleptic* motion of a muscle. *Bailey.*

METALEPTICALLY, *adv.* By transposition.

METALLIC, *a.* [*L. metallicus.*] Pertaining to a metal or metals; consisting of metal; partaking of the nature of metals; like a metal; as a *metallic* substance; *metallic* ore; *metallic* brightness.

METALLIFEROUS, *a.* [*L. metallum, metal, and fero, to produce.*] Producing metals. *Kirwan.*

METALLIFORM, *a.* Having the form of metals; like metal. *Kirwan.*

METALLINE, *a.* Pertaining to a metal; consisting of metal.

2. Impregnated with metal; as *metalline* water. *Bacon.*

METALLIST, *n.* A worker in metals, or one skilled in metals. *Moron.*

METALLIZATION, *n.* The act or process of forming into a metal; the operation which gives to a substance its proper metallic properties. *Encyc. Dict.*

METALLIZE, *v. t.* To form into metal; to give to a substance its proper metallic properties. *Dict.*

METALLOGRAPHY, *n.* [*Gr. metallon, metal, and γραφή, description.*] An account of metals, or a treatise on metallic substances. *Dict.*

METALLOID, *n.* [*metal, and Gr. εδος.*] A name sometimes applied to the metallic bases of the alkalies and earths.

METALLOIDAL, *a.* Having the form or appearance of a metal.

METALLURGIC, *a.* [*See Metallurgy.*] Pertaining to metallurgy, or the art of working metals.

METALLURGIST, *n.* One whose occupation is to work metals, or to purify, refine and prepare metals for use.

METALLURGY, *n.* [*Gr. metallon, metal, and εργον, work.*]

The art of working metals, comprehending the whole process of separating them from other matters in the ore, smelting, refining and parting them. Gilding is also a branch of metallurgy. But in a more limited and usual sense, metallurgy is the operation of separating metals from their ores. *Encyc.*

The French include in metallurgy the art of drawing metals from the earth. *Dict.*

METALMAN, *n.* A worker in metals; a coppersmith or tinsman.

METAMORPHIC, } *a.* [*See Metamorphosis.*] Changing the form; transforming.

METAMORPHOSE, *v. t.* [*Gr. μεταμορφω; μετα, over, beyond, and μορφή, form.*] To change into a different form; to transform; particularly, to change the form of insects, as from the larva to a winged animal. The ancients pretended that Jupiter was *metamorphosed* into a bull, and Lycaon into a wolf.

And earth was *metamorphosed* into man.

METAMORPHOSER, *n.* One that transforms or changes the shape. *Dryden.*

METAMORPHOSING, *ppr.* Changing the shape.

METAMORPHOSIS, *n.* Change of form or shape; transformation; particularly, a change in the form of being; as the *meta-*

morphosis of an insect from the aurelia or chrysalis state into a winged animal.

2. Any change of form or shape.

METAMORPHOSICAL, *a.* Pertaining to or effected by metamorphosis. *Pope.*

METAPHOR, *n.* [*Gr. μεταφορα, from μετα, to transfer; μετα, over, and φερω, to carry.*]

A short similitude; a similitude reduced to a single word; or a word expressing similitude without the signs of comparison. Thus "that man is a fox," is a metaphor; but "that man is like a fox," is a similitude or comparison. So when I say, "the soldiers were lions in combat," I use a metaphor; but when I say, "the soldiers fought like lions," I use a similitude. In *metaphor*, the similitude is contained in the name; a man is a *fox*, means, a man is as crafty as a fox. So we say, a man *bridles* his anger, that is, restrains it as a bridle restrains a horse. *Beauty awakens* love or tender passions; *opposition fires* courage.

METAPHORIC, } *a.* Pertaining to *METAPHORICAL*, } *a.* aphor; comprising a metaphor; not literal; as a *metaphorical* use of words; a *metaphorical* expression; a *metaphorical* sense.

METAPHORICALLY, *adv.* In a metaphorical manner; not literally.

METAPHORIST, *n.* One that makes metaphors. *Pope.*

METAPHIRASE, *n.* [*Gr. μεταφρασις; μετα, over, according to or with, and φρασις, phrase.*]

A verbal translation; a version or translation of one language into another, word for word. *Dryden.*

METAPHIRAST, *n.* A person who translates from one language into another, word for word. *Encyc.*

METAPHIRASTIC, *a.* Close or literal in translation.

METAPHYSIC, } *a.* s as z. [*See Metaphysics.*]

METAPHYSICAL, } *a.* s as z. [*See Metaphysics.*]

1. Pertaining or relating to metaphysics.

2. According to rules or principles of metaphysics; as *metaphysical* reasoning.

3. Preternatural or supernatural. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

METAPHYSICALLY, *adv.* In the manner of metaphysical science.

METAPHYSICIAN, *n.* s as z. One who is versed in the science of metaphysics.

METAPHYSICS, *n.* s as z. [*Gr. μετα, after, and φυσική, physics.*] It is said that this name was given to the science by Aristotle or his followers, who considered the science of natural bodies, *physics*, as the first in the order of studies, and the science of mind or intelligence to be the second.]

The science of the principles and causes of all things existing; hence, the science of mind or intelligence. This science comprehends *ontology*, or the science which treats of the nature, essence, and qualities or attributes of being; *cosmology*, the science of the world, which treats of the nature and laws of matter and of motion; *anthroposophy*, which treats of the powers of man, and the motions by which life is produced; *psychology*, which treats of the intellectual soul; *pneumatology*, or the science of spirits or angels, &c. *Metaphysical theology*, called by Leibnitz and others

theodicy, treats of the existence of God, his essence and attributes. These divisions of the science of metaphysics, which prevailed in the ancient schools, are now not much regarded. The natural division of things that exist is into body and mind, things material and immaterial.

The former belong to physics, and the latter to the science of metaphysics. *Encyc.*

METAPLASM, *n.* [*Gr. μεταπλασμος, transformation; μετα, over, and πλασσω, to form.*]

In *grammar*, a transmutation or change made in a word by transposing or retrenching a syllable or letter.

METAS'TASIS, *n.* [*Gr. μεταστασις, mutation; μετα, over, and ιστημι, to place.*]

A translation or removal of a disease from one part to another, or such an alteration as is succeeded by a solution. *Core. Encyc.*

METATAR'SAL, *a.* [*from metatarsus.*] Belonging to the metatarsus.

METATAR'SUS, *n.* [*Gr. μετα, beyond, and ταρος, tarsus.*] The middle of the foot, or part between the ankle and the toes. *Core.*

METATHESIS, *n.* [*Gr. μεταθεσις; μετα, over, and τεθημι, to set.*]

1. Transposition; a figure by which the letters or syllables of a word are transposed; as *pistris* for *pristis*. *Encyc.*

2. In *medicine*, a change or removal of a morbid cause, without expulsion. *Core. Encyc.*

METE, *v. t.* [*Sax. melan, amelan, gemelan; D. metten; G. messen; Sw. mata; Sp. medir; L. metior; Gr. μετρω; W. mēdraic; Ch. and Heb. מדר, to measure; Ar. -*

מד madda, to extend. See Measure,

and Class Md. No. 2.]

To measure; to ascertain quantity, dimensions or capacity by any rule or standard. [*Obsolescent.*]

METE, *n.* [*Sax. mitta.*] Measure; limit; boundary; used chiefly in the plural, in the phrase, *metes and bounds*.

METEMP'SYCHOSE, *v. t.* To translate from one body to another, as the soul.

METEMP'SYCHOSIS, *n.* [*Gr. μετεμψυχωσις; μετα, beyond, and ψυχωσις, animation, life; ψυχω, to animate.*]

Transmigration; the passing of the soul of a man after death into some other animal body. Pythagoras and his followers held that after death the souls of men pass into other bodies, and this doctrine still prevails in some parts of Asia, particularly in India and China. *Encyc.*

METEMP'TOSIS, *n.* [*Gr. μετα, after, and πτω, to fall.*]

In *chronology*, the solar equation necessary to prevent the new moon from happening a day too late, or the suppression of the bissextile once in 134 years. The opposite to this is the *proemptosis*, or the addition of a day every 300 years, and another every 2400 years. *Encyc.*

ME'TEOR, *n.* [*Gr. μετεωρος, sublime, lofty.*]

1. In a *general sense*, a body that flies or floats in the air, and in this sense it includes rain, hail, snow, &c. But in a restricted sense, in which it is commonly understood,