

LOOM, *n.* [Sax. *loma*, *geloma*, utensils.] In composition, *heir-loom*, in law, is a personal chattel that by special custom descends to an heir with the inheritance, being such a thing as cannot be separated from the estate, without injury to it; such as jewels of the crown, charters, deeds, and the like. *Blackstone.*

2. A frame or machine of wood or other material, in which a weaver works threads into cloth.

Heetor, when he sees Andromache overwhelmed with terror, sends her for consolation to the loom and the distaff. *Rambler.*

3. [Dan. *lom* or *loom*, G. *lohme*.] A fowl of the size of a goose.

4. That part of an oar which is within board. *Mar. Dict.*

LOOM, *v. i.* [Qu. Sax. *leoman*, to shine, from *leoma*, a beam of light. This does not give the exact sense of the word as now used.]

To appear above the surface either of sea or land, or to appear larger than the real dimensions and indistinctly; as a distant object, a ship at sea, or a mountain. The ship *looms* large, or the land *looms* high. *Mar. Dict.*

LOOM'-GALE, *n.* A gentle gale of wind. *Encyc.*

LOOM'ING, *ppr.* Appearing above the surface, or indistinctly, at a distance.

LOON, *n.* [Scot. *loun* or *loon*. Qu. Sax. *lun*, needy, or Ir. *liun*, sluggish.]

1. A sorry fellow; a rogue; a rascal. *Dryden. Shak.*

2. A sea-fowl of the genus *Colymbus*. [Ice. *lund*.]

LOOP, *n.* [Ir. *lubam*, to bend or fold; *tub*, *luba*, a thong, a loop.]

1. A folding or doubling of a string or a noose, through which a lace or cord may be run for fastening.

That the probation bear no hinge, nor loop To hang a doubt on. *Shak.*

2. In *iron-works*, the part of a row or block of cast iron, melted off for the forge or hammer.

LOOP'ED, *a.* Full of holes. *Shak.*

LOOP'HOLE, *n.* A small aperture in the bulk-head and other parts of a merchant ship, through which small arms are fired at an enemy. *Mar. Dict.*

2. A hole or aperture that gives a passage.

3. A passage for escape; means of escape. *Dryden.*

LOOP'HOLED, *a.* Full of holes or openings for escape. *Hudibras.*

LOOP'ING, *n.* In *metallurgy*, the running together of the matter of an ore into a mass, when the ore is only heated for calcination. [D. *loopen*, to run.] *Encyc.*

LOORD, *n.* [D. *ler*, a clown; Fr. *lourd*, Sp. *lerdo*, heavy, dull, gross.]

A dull stupid fellow; a drone. [Not in use.] *Spenser.*

LOOSE, *v. t.* *loos*. [Sax. *lysan*, *alysan*, *loosan*; Sw. *lösa*; D. *lossen*, *loosen*; G. *lösen*; Dan. *löser*; Goth. *lausyan*; Gr. *lao*, contracted from the same root. The W. *laesu*, signifies to relax, but may be from the root of *lar*. These words coincide with the Ch. Syr. Ar. Heb. *להלך*. Class Ls. No. 30.]

1. To untie or unbind; to free from any fastening.

Canst thou *loose* the bands of Orion? Job xxxviii.

Ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her; *loose* them, and bring them to me. Matt. xxi.

2. To relax.

The joints of his loins were *loosed*. Dan. v.

3. To release from imprisonment; to liberate; to set at liberty.

The captive exile hasteneth that he may be *loosed*. Is. li.

4. To free from obligation.

Art thou *loosed* from a wife? seek not a wife. 1 Cor. vii.

5. To free from any thing that binds or shackles; as a man *loosed* from lust and pelf. *Dryden.*

6. To relieve; to free from any thing burdensome or afflictive.

Woman, thou art *loosed* from thine infirmity. Luke xiii.

7. To disengage; to detach; as, to *loose* one's hold.

8. To put off.

Loose thy shoe from off thy foot. Josh. v.

9. To open.

Who is worthy to open the book, and to *loose* the seals thereof? Rev. v.

10. To remit; to absolve.

Whatsoever thou shalt *loose* on earth, shall be *loosed* in heaven. Matt. xvi.

LOOSE, *v. i.* To set sail; to leave a port or harbor.

Now when Paul and his company *loosed* from Paphos, they came to Perga, in Pamphylia. Acts xiii.

LOOSE, *a.* [Goth. *laus*; D. *los*, *losse*; G. *los*; Dan. *lös*; Sw. *lös*. Qu. W. *llas*, *loose*, *lax*.]

1. Unbound; untied; unsewed; not fastened or confined; as the *loose* sheets of a book.

2. Not tight or close; as a *loose* garment.

3. Not crowded; not close or compact.

With horse and chariots rank'd in *loose* array. Milton.

4. Not dense, close or compact; as a cloth or fossil of *loose* texture.

5. Not close; not concise; lax; as a *loose* and diffuse style.

6. Not precise or exact; vague; indeterminate; as a *loose* way of reasoning.

7. Not strict or rigid; as a *loose* observance of rites.

8. Unconnected; rambling; as a *loose* indigested play.

Vario spends whole mornings in running over *loose* and unconnected pages. Watts.

9. Of lax bowels. *Locke.*

10. Unengaged; not attached or enslaved.

Their prevailing principle is, to sit as *loose* from pleasures, and be as moderate in the use of them as they can. Atterbury.

11. Disengaged; free from obligation; with from or of.

Now I stand *Loose* of my vow; but who knows Cato's thought? [Little used.] Addison.

12. Wanton; unrestrained in behavior; dissolute; unchaste; as a *loose* man or woman.

13. Containing unchaste language; as a *loose* epistle. *Dryden.*

To break *loose*, to escape from confinement; to gain liberty by violence. *Dryden.*

To let *loose*, to free from restraint or confinement; to set at liberty. *Locke.*

LOOSE, *n.* Freedom from restraint; liberty.

Come, give thy soul a *loose*. *Dryden.*

Vent all its griefs, and give a *loose* to sorrow. Addison.

We use this word only in the phrase, *give a loose*. The following use of it, "he runs with an unbounded *loose*," is obsolete. *Prior.*

LOOS'ED, *pp.* Untied; unbound; freed from restraint.

LOOSELY, *adv.* *loos'ly*. Not fast; not firmly; that may be easily disengaged; as things *loosely* tied or connected.

2. Without confinement.

Her golden locks for haste were *loosely* shed About her ears. Spenser.

3. Without union or connection.

Part *loosely* wing the region. Milton.

4. Irregularly; not with the usual restraints. A bishop living *loosely*, was charged that his conversation was not according to the apostle's lives. Camden.

5. Negligently; carelessly; heedlessly; as a mind *loosely* employed. *Locke.*

6. Meanly; slightly.

A prince should not be so *loosely* studied, as to remember so weak a composition. Shak.

7. Wantonly; dissolutely; unchastely. *Pope.*

LOOS'EN, *v. t.* *loos'n*. [from *loose*, or it is the Saxon infinitive retained.]

1. To free from tightness, tension, firmness or fixedness; as, to *loosen* a string when tied, or a knot; to *loosen* a joint; to *loosen* a rock in the earth.

2. To render less dense or compact; as, to *loosen* the earth about the roots of a tree.

3. To free from restraint.

It *loosens* his hands and assists his understanding. *Dryden.*

4. To remove costiveness from; to facilitate or increase alvine discharges.

Fear *loosens* the belly. Bacon.

LOOS'EN, *v. i.* To become loose; to become less tight, firm or compact.

LOOS'ENED, *pp.* Freed from tightness or fixedness; rendered loose.

LOOSENESS, *n.* *loos'ness*. The state of being loose or relaxed; a state opposite to that of being tight, fast, fixed or compact; as the *looseness* of a cord; the *looseness* of a robe; the *looseness* of the skin; the *looseness* of earth, or of the texture of cloth.

2. The state opposite to rigor or rigidity; laxity; levity; as *looseness* of morals or of principles.

3. Irregularity; habitual deviation from strict rules; as *looseness* of life. *Hayward.*

4. Habitual lewdness; unchastity. *Spenser.*

5. Flux from the bowels; diarrhæa. Bacon.

LOOS'ENING, *ppr.* Freeing from tightness, tension or fixedness; rendering less compact.

LOOSESTRIFE, *n.* *loos'strife*. In botany, the name of several species of plants, of the genera *Lysimachia*, *Epilobium*, *Lythrum*, and *Gaura*. *Lee.*

LOOS'ING, *ppr.* Setting free from confinement.

LOP, *v. l.* [I know not the affinities of this word, unless it is *lob*, or the W. *llab*, a stroke; *llabiaw*, to slap or strike, or the Eng. *flap*, or Ir. *lubam*, to bend. The primary sense is evidently to fall or fell,