

**RETROGRES'SION**, *n.* The act of going backward. *Brown.*

**RETROGRESS'IVE**, *a.* Going or moving backward; declining from a more perfect to a less perfect state.

Geography is at times *retrogressive*.

*Pinkerton.*

**RETROMIN'GENCY**, *n.* [*L. retro*, backward, and *mingo*, to discharge urine.]

The act of quality of discharging the contents of the bladder backwards.

*Brown.*

**RETROMIN'GENT**, *a.* Discharging the urine backwards.

**RETROMIN'GENT**, *n.* In *zoology*, an animal that discharges its urine backwards.

The *retromingents* are a division of animals whose characteristic is that they discharge their urine backwards, both male and female.

*Encyc.*

**RETROPUL'SIVE**, *a.* [*L. retro*, back, and *pulsus*, *pello*, to drive.] Driving back; repelling.

*Med. Repos.*

**RETRORS'ELY**, *adv.* *retro*rs'ly. [*L. retrorsum*, backward.] In a backward direction; as a stem *retro*rsely aculeate.

*Eaton.*

**RETROSPECT**, *n.* [*L. retro*, back, and *specio*, to look.]

A looking back on things past; view or contemplation of something past. The *retrospect* of a life well spent affords peace of mind in old age.

**RETROSPECTION**, *n.* The act of looking back on things past.

2. The faculty of looking back on past things.

*Swift.*

**RETROSPECTIVE**, *a.* Looking back on past events; as a *retrospective* view.

2. Having reference to what is past; affecting things past. A penal statute can have no *retrospective* effect or operation.

**RETROSPECTIVELY**, *adv.* By way of retrospect.

**RETROVER'SION**, *n.* A turning or falling backwards; as the *retroversion* of the uterus.

**RETROVERT**, *v. t.* To turn back.

**RETROVERTED**, *a.* [*L. retro*, back, and *verto*, to turn.] Turned back.

*Lawrence, Lect. Med. Repos.*

**RETRUDE**, *v. t.* [*L. retrudo*; *re* and *trudo*, to thrust.] To thrust back.

*More.*

**RETUND**, *v. t.* [*L. retundo*; *re* and *tundo*, to beat.]

To blunt; to turn; as an edge; to dull; as, to *retund* the edge of a weapon.

*Ray.*

**RETURN**, *v. i.* [*Fr. retourner*; *re* and *tourner*, to turn, *L. torno*; *It. ritornare*; *Sp. retornar*.]

1. To come or go back to the same place. The gentleman goes from the country to London and *returns*, or the citizen of London rides into the country and *returns*. The blood propelled from the heart, passes through the arteries to the extremities of the body, and *returns* through the veins. Some servants are good to go on errands, but not good to *return*.

2. To come to the same state; as, to *return* from bondage to a state of freedom.

*Locke.*

3. To answer. He said, and thus the queen of heaven *return'd*.

*Pope.*

4. To come again; to revisit.

Thou to mankind

Be good and friendly still, and oft *return*.

*Milton.*

5. To appear or begin again after a periodical revolution.

With the year

Seasons *return*, but not to me *returns*

Day—

*Milton.*

6. To show fresh signs of mercy.

*Return*, O Lord, deliver my soul. Ps. vi.

To *return* to God, to *return* from wickedness, to repent of sin or wandering from duty.

*Scripture.*

**RETURN**, *v. t.* To bring, carry or send back; as, to *return* a borrowed book; to *return* a hired horse.

2. To repay; as, to *return* borrowed money.

3. To give in recompense or requital.

In any wise, *return* him a trespass-offering.

1 Sam. vi.

The Lord shall *return* thy wickedness upon thy own head. 1 Kings ii.

4. To give back in reply; as, to *return* an answer.

5. To tell, relate or communicate.

And Moses *returned* the words of the people to the Lord. Ex. xix.

6. To retort; to reprimand.

If you are a malicious reader, you *return* upon me, that I affect to be thought more impartial than I am.

*Dryden.*

7. To render an account, usually an official account to a superior. Officers of the army and navy *return* to the commander the number of men in companies, regiments, &c.; they *return* the number of men sick or capable of duty; they *return* the quantity of ammunition, provisions, &c.

8. To render back to a tribunal or to an office; as, to *return* a writ or an execution.

9. To report officially; as, an officer *returns* his proceedings on the back of a writ or precept.

10. To send; to transmit; to convey.

Instead of a ship, he should levy money and *return* the same to the treasurer for his majesty's use.

*Clarendon.*

**RETURN**, *n.* The act of coming or going back to the same place.

Takes little journeys and makes quick *returns*.

*Dryden.*

2. The act of sending back; as the *return* of a borrowed book or of money lent.

3. The act of putting in the former place.

4. Retrogression; the act of moving back.

5. The act or process of coming back to a former state; as the *return* of health.

6. Revolution; a periodical coming to the same point; as the *return* of the sun to the tropic of Cancer.

7. Periodical renewal; as the *return* of the seasons or of the year.

8. Repayment; reimbursement in kind or in something equivalent, for money expended or advanced, or for labor. One occupation gives quick *returns*; in others, the *returns* are slow. The *returns* of the cargo were in gold. The farmer has *returns* in his crops.

9. Profit; advantage.

From these few hours we spend in prayer, the *return* is great.

*Taylor.*

10. Remittance; payment from a distant place.

*Shak.*

11. Repayment; retribution; requital.

Is no *return* due from a grateful breast?

*Dryden.*

12. Act of restoring or giving back; restitution.

*South.*

13. Either of the adjoining sides of the front of a house or ground-plot, is called a *return* side.

*Moxon.*

14. In law, the rendering back or delivery of a writ, precept or execution, to the proper officer or court; or the certificate of the officer executing it, indorsed. We call the transmission of the writ to the proper officer or court, a *return*; and we give the same name to the certificate or official account of the officer's service or proceedings. The sheriff or his subordinate officers make *return* of all writs and precepts. We use the same language for the sending back of a commission with the certificate of the commissioners.

15. A day in bank. The day on which the defendant is ordered to appear in court, and the sheriff is to bring in the writ and report his proceedings, is called the *return* of the writ.

*Blackstone.*

16. In *military* and *naval* affairs, an official account, report or statement rendered to the commander; as the *return* of men fit for duty; the *return* of the number of the sick; the *return* of provisions, ammunition, &c.

**RETURN'ABLE**, *a.* That may be returned or restored.

2. In law, that is legally to be returned, delivered, given or rendered; as a writ or precept *returnable* at a certain day; a verdict *returnable* to the court; an attachment *returnable* to the king's bench.

**RETURN-DAY**, *n.* The day when the defendant is to appear in court and the sheriff is to return the writ and his proceedings.

**RETURNED**, *pp.* Restored; given or sent back; repaid; brought or rendered to the proper court or officer.

**RETURNER**, *n.* One who returns; one that repays or remits money.

**RETURN'ING**, *ppr.* Giving, carrying or sending back; coming or going back; making report.

**RETURN'ING-OFFICER**, *n.* The officer whose duty it is to make returns of writs, precepts, juries, &c.

**RETURN'LESS**, *a.* Admitting no return. [*Little used.*]

*Chapman.*

**RETUSE**, *a.* [*L. retusus*, *retundo*.] In botany, a *retuse* leaf is one ending in a blunt sinus, or whose apex is blunt. This term is applied also to the seed.

*Martyn. Lec.*

**REUNION**, *n.* A second union; union formed anew after separation or discord; as a *reunion* of parts or particles of matter; as a *reunion* of parties or sects.

2. In *medicine*, union of parts separated by wounds or accidents.

*Parr.*

**REUNITE**, *v. t.* [*re* and *unite*.] To unite again; to join after separation.

*Shak.*

2. To reconcile after variance.

**REUNITE**, *v. i.* To be united again; to join and cohere again.

**REUNITED**, *pp.* United or joined again; reconciled.

**REUNIT'ING**, *ppr.* Uniting again; reconciling.

**REUS'SITE**, *n.* [from *Reuss*, the place where it is found.]

A salt found in the form of a mealy efflor-