

2. Particularly suited to. Every animal lives in his *proper* element.
3. One's own. It may be joined with any possessive pronoun; as *our proper* son.

Shak.
Our *proper* conceptions. *Glanville.*
Now learn the difference at *your proper* cost. *Dryden.*

[NOTE. *Own* is often used in such phrases; "at *your own proper* cost." This is really tautological, but sanctioned by usage, and expressive of emphasis.]

4. Noting an individual; pertaining to one of a species, but not common to the whole; as a *proper* name. *Dublin* is the *proper* name of a city.
5. Fit; suitable; adapted; accommodated. A thin dress is not *proper* for clothing in a cold climate. Stimulants are *proper* remedies for debility. Gravity of manners is very *proper* for persons of advanced age. In Athens, all was pleasure, mirth and play, All *proper* to the spring and sprightly May. *Dryden.*
6. Correct; just; as a *proper* word; a *proper* expression.
7. Not figurative. *Burnet.*
8. Well formed; handsome. Moses was a *proper* child. Heb. xi.
9. Tall; lusty; handsome with bulk. [*Low and not used.*] *Shak.*
10. In vulgar language, very; as *proper* good; *proper* sweet. [This is very improper, as well as vulgar.]

Proper receptacle, in botany, that which supports only a single flower or fructification; *proper perianth* or *involucre*, that which incloses only a single flower; *proper flower* or *corol*, one of the single florets or corollets in an aggregate or compound flower; *proper nectary*, separate from the petals and other parts of the flower. *Martyn.*

PROPERLY, *adv.* Fitly; suitably; in a proper manner; as a word *properly* applied; a dress *properly* adjusted.

2. In a strict sense. The miseries of life are not *properly* owing to the unequal distribution of things. *Swift.*

PROPERNESS, *n.* The quality of being proper. [*Little used.*]

2. Tallness. [*Not in use.*]
3. Perfect form; handsomeness.

PROPERTY, *n.* [This seems to be formed directly from *proper*; if not, it is contracted. The Latin is *proprietas*, Fr. *propriété*, from which we have *propriety*.]

1. A peculiar quality of any thing; that which is inherent in a subject, or naturally essential to it; called by logicians an *essential mode*. Thus color is a *property* of light; extension and figure are *properties* of bodies.
2. An acquired or artificial quality; that which is given by art or bestowed by man. The poem has the *properties* which constitute excellence.
3. Quality; disposition.

It is the *property* of an old sinner to find delight in reviewing his own villainies in others. *South.*

1. The exclusive right of possessing, enjoying and disposing of a thing; ownership. In the beginning of the world, the Creator gave to man dominion over the earth, over the fish of the sea and the fowls of the air, and over every living thing. This

is the foundation of man's *property* in the earth and in all its productions. Prior occupancy of land and of wild animals gives to the possessor the *property* of them. The labor of inventing, making or producing any thing constitutes one of the highest and most indefeasible titles to *property*. *Property* is also acquired by inheritance, by gift or by purchase. *Property* is sometimes held in common, yet each man's right to his share in common land or stock is exclusively his own. One man may have the *property* of the soil, and another the right of use, by prescription or by purchase.

5. Possession held in one's own right. *Dryden.*

6. The thing owned; that to which a person has the legal title, whether in his possession or not. It is one of the greatest blessings of civil society that the *property* of citizens is well secured.

7. An estate, whether in lands, goods or money; as a man of large *property* or small *property*.

8. An estate; a farm; a plantation. In this sense, which is common in the United States and in the West Indies, the word has a plural.

The still-houses on the sugar plantations, vary in size, according to the fancy of the proprietor or the magnitude of the *property*. *Edwards, W. Indies.*

I shall confine myself to such *properties* as fall within the reach of daily observation. *ib.*

9. Nearness or right. Here I disclaim all my paternal care, Propinquity and *property* of blood. *Shak.*

10. Something useful; an appendage; a theatrical term.

I will draw a bill of *properties*. *Shak.*

High pomp and state are useful *properties*. *Dryden.*

11. Propriety. [*Not in use.*] *Camden.*

Literary property, the exclusive right of printing, publishing and making profit by one's own writings. No right or title to a thing can be so perfect as that which is created by a man's own labor and invention. The exclusive right of a man to his literary productions, and to the use of them for his own profit, is entire and perfect, as the faculties employed and labor bestowed are entirely and perfectly his own. On what principle then can a legislature or a court determine that an author can enjoy only a *temporary property* in his own productions? If a man's right to his own productions in writing is as perfect as to the productions of his farm or his shop, how can the former be abridged or limited, while the latter is held without limitation? Why do the productions of manual labor rank higher in the scale of rights or *property*, than the productions of the intellect?

PROPERTY, *v. t.* To invest with qualities, or to take as one's own; to appropriate. [*An awkward word and not used.*] *Shak.*

PROPIANE. [See *Profane*.]

PROPHASIS, *n.* [Gr. *προφασις*, from *προφηναι*, to foretell.]

In medicine, prognosis; foreknowledge of a disease.

PROPHECY, *n.* [Gr. *προφητεία*, from *προφηναι*, to foretell; *προ*, before, and *φηναι*, to tell. This ought to be written *prophecy*.]

1. A foretelling; prediction; a declaration of something to come. As God only knows future events with certainty, no being but God or some person informed by him, can utter a real *prophecy*. The *prophecies* recorded in Scripture, when fulfilled, afford most convincing evidence of the divine original of the Scriptures, as those who uttered the *prophecies* could not have foreknown the events predicted without supernatural instruction. 2 Pet. i.

2. In Scripture, a book of prophecies; a history; as the *prophecy* of Ahijah. 2 Chron. ix.

3. Preaching; public interpretation of Scripture; exhortation or instruction. Prov. xxxi.

PROPHESIED, *pp.* Foretold; predicted.

PROPHESIER, *n.* One who predicts events.

PROPHESY, *v. t.* To foretell future events; to predict.

I hate him, for he doth not *prophecy* good concerning me, but evil. 1 Kings xxii.

2. To foreshow. [*Little used.*] *Shak.*

PROPHESY, *v. i.* To utter predictions; to make declaration of events to come. Jer. xi.

2. In Scripture, to preach; to instruct in religious doctrines; to interpret or explain Scripture or religious subjects; to exhort. 1 Cor. xiii. Ezek. xxxvii.

PROPHESYING, *ppr.* Foretelling events.

PROPHESYING, *n.* The act of foretelling or of preaching.

PROPHET, *n.* [Gr. *προφητης*; L. *propheta*; Fr. *prophète*.]

1. One that foretells future events; a predictor; a foreteller.

2. In Scripture, a person illuminated, inspired or instructed by God to announce future events; as Moses, Elijah, David, Isaiah, &c.

3. An interpreter; one that explains or communicates sentiments. Ex. vii.

4. One who pretends to foretell; an imposter; as a false *prophet*. Acts xiii.

School of the prophets, among the Israelites, a school or college in which young men were educated and qualified for public teachers. These students were called *sons of the prophets*.

PROPHETESS, *n.* A female prophet; a woman who foretells future events, as Miriam, Huldah, Anna, &c. Ex. xv. Judg. iv. Luke ii.

PROPHETIC, } *a.* Containing prophe-
PROPHETICAL, } *ey*; foretelling future events; as *prophetic* writings.

2. Unfolding future events; as *prophetic* dreams.

It has of before the thing foretold.

And fears are oft *prophetic* of th' event.

PROPHETICALLY, *adv.* By way of prediction; in the manner of prophecy. *Dryden.*

PROPHETIZE, *v. i.* To give prediction. [*Not used.*] *Dryden.*

PROPHYLACTIC, } *a.* [Gr. *προφυλακτικός*, from *προφυλασσω*, to prevent, to guard against; *προ* and *φυλασσω*, to preserve.]