

use; or the interest or gain of that which is lent.

FENESTRAL, *a.* [*L. fenestralis*, from *fenestra*, a window.] Pertaining to a window. *Nicholson.*

FENNEL, *n.* [*Sax. fenol*; *G. fenichel*; *D. fenkel*; *Sw. fenkül*; *Dan. fenumkel*; *W. fenigul*; *Fr. fenouil*; *Sp. hinojo*; *It. fenocchio*; *Ir. ferul*; *L. feniculum*, from *fenum*, hay.]

A fragrant plant of the genus *Anethum*, cultivated in gardens.

FENNEL-FLOWER, *n.* A plant of the genus *Nigella*.

FENNEL-GLANT, *n.* A plant of the genus *Ferula*.

FENNY, *a.* [from *fen*.] Boggy; marshy; morish. *Moran.*

2. Growing in fens; as *fenny* brake. *Prior.*

3. Inhabiting marshy ground; as a *fenny* snake. *Shak.*

FENNYSTONES, *n.* A plant.

FENOWED, *a.* Corrupted; decayed. [*Not in use*.]

FENUGREEK, *n.* [*L. fenum graecum*.] A plant of the genus *Trigonella*.

FEOD, *n.* A feud. So written by Blackstone and other authors; but more generally *feud*, which see.

FEODAL, *a.* Feudal, which see.

FEODALITY, *n.* Feudal tenures; the feudal system. *Burke.*

FEODARY, *n.* One who holds lands of a superior, on condition of suit and service. [*Little used*.] [*See Feudatory*.]

FEODATORY. [*See Feudatory*.]

FEOFF, *v. t.* *feff*. [Norm. *feffre*; *Fr. feuffer*, from *feff*.] The first syllable is the *It. fede*, *Sp. fe*, contracted from *fides*, faith; the last syllable I am not able to trace.]

To invest with a fee or feud; to give or grant to one any corporeal hereditament. The compound *infeoff* is more generally used.

FEOFF, *a.* *feif*. [*See Feif*.]

FEOFFEE, *n.* *feffee*. A person who is infeoffed, that is, invested with a fee or corporeal hereditament.

FEOFFER, *n.* *feffer*. One who infeoffs or grants a fee.

FEOFFMENT, *n.* *feffment*. [*Law L. feoffamentum*.] The gift or grant of a fee or corporeal hereditament, as land, castles, honors, or other immovable thing; a grant in fee simple, to a man and his heirs forever. When in writing, it is called a *deed of feoffment*. The primary sense is the grant of a feud or an estate in trust. [*See Feud*.]

FERACIOUS, *a.* [*L. ferax*, from *fero*, to bear.] Fruitful; producing abundantly. *Thomson.*

FERACITY, *n.* [*L. feracitas*.] Fruitfulness. [*Little used*.]

FERAL, *a.* [*L. feralis*.] Funereal; pertaining to funerals; mournful. *Burton.*

FERE, *n.* [*Sax. fera*, or *gefera*, with a prefix.] A fellow; a mate; a peer. *Obs.*

*Chaucer.*

FERETORY, *n.* [*L. feretrum*, a bier.] A place in a church for a bier.

FERIAL, *a.* [*L. ferialis*.] Pertaining to holidays, or to common days. *Gregory.*

FERIATION, *n.* [*L. feriatio*, from *ferio*, vacant days, holidays; *G. feier*, whence *fe-*

*iern*, to rest from labor, to keep holiday. *D. vieren*.]

The act of keeping holiday; cessation from work. *Brown.*

FERINE, *a.* [*L. ferinus*, from *ferus*, wild, probably from the root of *Sax. faran*, to go, to wander, or a verb of the same family.]

Wild; untamed; savage. Lions, tigers, wolves and bears are *ferine* beasts. *Hale.*

FERINENESS, *n.* Wildness; savageness. *Hale.*

FERITY, *n.* [*L. feritas*, from *ferus*, wild.] Wildness; savageness; cruelty. *Woodward.*

FERM, *n.* A farm or rent; a lodging-house. *Obs.* [*See Farm*.]

FERMENT, *n.* [*L. fermentum*, from *ferveo*, to boil. *See Ferveat*.]

1. A gentle boiling; or the internal motion of the constituent parts of a fluid. *See Fermentation*. In this sense it is rarely used.

2. Intestine motion; heat; tumult; agitation; as, to put the passions in a *ferment*; the state or people are in a *ferment*. *Rogers.*

3. That which causes fermentation, as yeast, barm, or fermenting beer.

FERMENT, *v. t.* [*L. fermento*; *Fr. fermenter*; *Sp. fermentar*; *It. fermentare*.]

To set in motion; to excite internal motion; to heat; to raise by intestine motion. *Pope.*

While youth *ferments* the blood.

FERMENT, *v. i.* To work; to effervesce; to be in motion, or to be excited into sensible internal motion, as the constituent particles of an animal or vegetable fluid.

To the vinous fermentation we apply the term, *work*. We say that new cider, beer or wine *ferments* or *works*. But *work* is not applied to the other kinds of fermentation.

FERMENTABLE, *a.* Capable of fermentation; thus, cider, beer of all kinds, wine, and other vegetable liquors, are *fermentable*.

FERMENTATION, *n.* [*L. fermentatio*.]

The sensible internal motion of the constituent particles of animal and vegetable substances, occasioned by a certain degree of heat and moisture, and accompanied by an extrication of gas and heat. Fermentation is followed by a change of properties in the substances fermented, arising from new combinations of their principles. It may be defined, in its most general sense, any spontaneous change which takes place in animal or vegetable substances, after life has ceased. It is of three kinds, *vinous*, *acetous* and *putrefactive*. The term is also applied to other processes, as the *vinary* fermentation, or the raising of bread; but it is limited, by some authors, to the vinous and acetous fermentations, which terminate in the production of alcohol or vinegar. Fermentation differs from effervescence. The former is confined to animal and vegetable substances; the latter is applicable to mineral substances. The former is spontaneous; the latter produced by the mixture of bodies. *Encyc. Parr. Thomson.*

FERMENTATIVE, *a.* Causing or having power to cause fermentation; as *fermentative* heat.

2. Consisting in fermentation; as *fermentative* process.

FERMENTATIVENESS, *n.* The state of being fermentative.

FERMENTED, *pp.* Worked; having undergone the process of fermentation.

FERMENTING, *ppr.* Working; effervescing.

FERN, *n.* [*Sax. fern*; *G. farn-kraut*; *D. varca*.]

A plant of several species constituting the tribe or family of Filices, which have their fructification on the back of the fronds or leaves, or in which the flowers are borne on footstalks which overtop the leaves. The stem is the common footstalk or rather the middle rib of the leaves, so that most ferns want the stem altogether. The ferns constitute the first order of cryptogams, in the sexual system. *Milne. Encyc.*

FERN-OWL, *n.* The goatsucker.

FERNY, *a.* Abounding or overgrown with fern. *Barret.*

FEROCIOUS, *a.* [*Fr. feroce*; *Sp. feroz*; *It. feroce*; *L. ferax*; allied to *ferus*, wild, a wild animal.]

1. Fierce; savage; wild; indicating cruelty; as a *ferocious* look, countenance or features.

2. Ravenous; rapacious; as a *ferocious* lion.

3. Fierce; barbarous; cruel; as *ferocious* savages.

FEROCIOUSLY, *adv.* Fiercely; with savage cruelty.

FEROCIOUSNESS, *n.* Savage fierceness; cruelty; ferocity.

FEROCITY, *n.* [*L. ferocitas*.] Savage wildness or fierceness; fury; cruelty; as the *ferocity* of barbarians.

2. Fierceness indicating a savage heart; as *ferocity* of countenance.

FERREOUS, *a.* [*L. ferreus*, from *ferrum*, iron, *Fr. fer*, *Sp. hierro*, from the Celtic; *W. fer*, solid; *feru*, to concrete.]

Partaking of iron; pertaining to iron; like iron; made of iron. *Brown.*

FERRER, *n.* [*D. vret*; *Fr. fret*; *G. fret*, or *fretchen*, or *frettwiesel*; *W. fured*; *Ir. fircad*; *Sp. haron*; *It. furello*. *Fur* in *W.* is subtil, penetrating, cunning.]

1. An animal of the genus *Mustela*, or Weasel-kind, about 14 inches in length, of a pale yellow color with red eyes. It is a native of Africa, but has been introduced into Europe. It cannot however bear cold, and cannot subsist even in France, except in a domestic state. Ferrets are used to catch rabbits. *Encyc.*

2. A kind of narrow woollen tape.

3. Among glass makers, the iron used to try the melted matter, to see if it is fit to work, and to make the rings at the mouths of bottles. *Encyc.*

FERRER, *v. t.* To drive out of a lurking place, as a ferret does the coney. *Johnson. Heylin.*

FERRATED, *pp.* Driven from a burrow or lurking place.

FERRETER, *n.* One that hunts another in his private retreat.

FERRETING, *ppr.* Driving from a lurking place.

FERRIAGE, *n.* [*See Ferry*.] The price or fare to be paid at a ferry; the compensa-