

ed, the thorax is compressed on the sides, and the sternum rises. *Encyc.*

RICK/ETY, *a.* Affected with rickets.

Arbuthnot.

2. Weak; feeble in the joints; imperfect. *RIC/OCHET*, *n.* [Fr. duck and drake.] In gunnery, the firing of guns, mortars or howitzers with small charges, and elevated a few degrees, so as to carry the balls or shells just over the parapet, and cause them to roll along the opposite rampart. This is called ricochet-firing, and the batteries are called ricochet-batteries.

Encyc.

RID, *pret. of ride.*

RID, *v. l.* *pret. rid*; *pp. id.* [Sax. *ahreddan* or *hreddan*; *D. reddin*; *G. retten* or *erretten*; *Dan. redder*; allied probably to *W. rhidiaw*, to secrete, to drain, that is, to separate or drive off, whence *riddle*. See Class *Rd.* No. 63. 69.]

1. To free; to deliver; properly, to separate, and thus to deliver or save.

That he might *rid* him out of their hands. *Gen. xxxvii.*

I will *rid* you out of their bondage. *Ex. vi.*

2. To separate; to drive away.

I will *rid* evil beasts out of the land. *Lev. xxvi.*

[This use is not common.]

3. To free; to clear; to disencumber; as, to *rid* one of his care. It is not easy to *rid* the sea of pirates. *B. Jonson.*

Resolv'd at once to *rid* himself of pain.

Dryden.

4. To dispatch.

For willingness *rids* away. *Shak.*

5. To drive away; to remove by violence; to destroy.

Ah death's men! you have *rid* this sweet young prince. *Shak.*

RID, *pp. or a.* Free; clear; as, to be *rid* of trouble.

To *gel rid* of, to free one's self. *Addison.*

RID/DANCE, *n.* Deliverance; a setting free; as *riddance* from all adversity.

Hooker.

2. Disencumbrance. *Shak.*

3. The act of clearing away. *Milton.*

Thou shalt not make clean *riddance* of the corners of thy field. *Lev. xxiii.*

RID/DEN, { *pp. of ride.*

RID, {
RID/DING, *ppr.* Freeing; clearing; disencumbering.

RID/DLE, *n.* [Sax. *hriddel*; *W. rhidytl*, from *rhidiaw*, to secrete, to separate; *Corn. ridar* or *krodar*; *Arm. ridell* or *croezr*; *Ir. criathar*, a riddle; *crutham*, to shake; *G. rütteln*, to shake, to riddle; *W. crydu*, to shake; allied to *rid* and to *cradle*, from driving. See *Cradle*.]

An instrument for cleaning grain, being a large sieve with a perforated bottom, which permits the grain to pass through it, but retains the chaff.

RID/DLE, *v. t.* To separate, as grain from the chaff with a riddle; as, to *riddle* wheat. [Note. The machines now used have nearly superseded the riddle.]

RID/DLE, *n.* [Sax. *radelse*; *D. raadzel*; *G. rathsel*; from *Sax. raden*, *D. raaden*, *G. rathen*, to counsel or advise, also to guess. See *Read*.]

1. An enigma; something proposed for conjecture, or that is to be solved by conject-

ure; a puzzling question; an ambiguous proposition. *Judges xiv.* *Milton.*

2. Any thing ambiguous or puzzling.

Hudibras.

RID/DLE, *v. t.* To solve; to explain; but we generally use *unriddle*, which is more proper.

Riddle me this, and guess him if you can.

Dryden.

RID/DLE, *v. i.* To speak ambiguously, obscurely or enigmatically. *Shak.*

RID/DLER, *n.* One who speaks ambiguously or obscurely. *Horne.*

RID/DLINGLY, *adv.* In the manner of a riddle; secretly. *Donne.*

RIDE, *v. i.* *pret. rode* or *rid*; *pp. rid, ridden.* [Sax. *ridan*; *G. reiten*; *D. ryden*; *Sw. rida*; *Dan. rider*; *W. rhedu*, to run; *L. rheda*, a chariot or vehicle; *Hindoo, ratha*, id.; *Sax. rad*, a riding or a road; *Ir. ratha, riadh*, a running; *reatham*, to run; *ridire*, a knight; allied to *ready*, *G. bereit*; *bereiten*, to ride, and to get *ready*. See *Ready*. Class *Rd.* No. 5. and 9.]

1. To be carried on horseback, or on any beast, or in any vehicle. We *ride* on a horse, on a camel, in a coach, chariot, wagon, &c.

2. To be borne on or in a fluid. A ship *rides* at anchor; the ark *rode* on the flood; a balloon *rides* in the air.

He *rode* on a cherub and did fly; yea, he did fly on the wings of the wind. *Ps. xviii.*

3. To be supported in motion.

Strong as the axle-tree

On which heaven *rides*. *Shak.*

4. To practice riding. He *rides* often for his health.

5. To manage a horse well.

He *rode*, he *fenc'd*, he mov'd with graceful ease. *Dryden.*

6. To be supported by something subservient; to sit.

On whose foolish honesty

My practices *rid* easy. *Shak.*

To *ride easy*, in *seaman's language*, is when a ship does not labor or feel a great strain on her cables.

To *ride hard*, is when a ship pitches violently, so as to strain her cables, masts and hull.

To *ride out*, as a gale, signifies that a ship does not drive during a storm.

RIDE, *v. t.* To sit on, so as to be carried; as, to *ride* a horse.

They *ride* the air in whirlwind. *Milton.*

2. To manage insolently at will; as in priest-ridden.

The nobility could no longer endure to be *ridden* by bakers, coblers and brewers.

Swift.

3. To carry. [Local.]

RIDE, *n.* An excursion on horseback or in a vehicle.

2. A saddle horse. [Local.] *Grose.*

3. A road cut in a wood or through a ground for the amusement of riding; a riding.

RIDER, *n.* One who is borne on a horse or other beast, or in a vehicle.

2. One who breaks or manages a horse.

Shak.

3. The matrix of an ore. *Gregory.*

4. An inserted leaf or an additional clause, as to a bill in parliament.

5. In *ship building*, a sort of interior rib fixed occasionally in a ship's hold, opposite to

some of the timbers to which they are bolted, and reaching from the keelson to the beams of the lower deck, to strengthen her frame. *Mar. Dict.*

RIDGE, *n.* [Sax. *rig*, *rieg*, *hric*, *hricg*, the back; *Sw. rygg*; *D. rug*; *G. rücken*; *Iec. hrigger*. The Welsh have *rhig*, a notch or groove, and *rhyc*, a trench or furrow between ridges. The Dutch has *reeks*, a ridge, chain or series, and the *Dan. rekke* is a row, rank, range, a file, and a *ridge*, from the root of *rekker*, to reach. If connected with the latter word, the primary sense is to draw or stretch, *L. ruga*.]

1. The back or top of the back. *Hudibras.*

2. A long or continued range of hills or mountains; or the upper part of such a range. We say, a long *ridge* of hills, or the highest *ridge*. *Milton. Ray.*

3. A steep elevation, eminence or protuberance.

Part rise in crystal wall, or *ridge* direct.

Milton.

4. A long rising land, or a strip of ground thrown up by a plow or left between furrows. *Ps. lxxv.* *Mortimer.*

5. The top of the roof of a building.

Moxon.

6. Any long elevation of land.

7. *Ridges* of a horse's mouth, are wrinkles or risings of flesh in the roof of the mouth.

Far. Dict.

RIDGE, *v. t.* To form a ridge; as bristles that *ridge* the back of a boar. *Milton.*

2. In *tillage*, to form into ridges with the plow. The farmers in Connecticut *ridge* their land for maize, leaving a balk between two ridges.

3. To wrinkle. *Cowper.*

RIDGE/L, { *n.* The male of any beast

RIDGE/LING, { *hall'gelt.* *Encyc.*

RIDGE/Y, *a.* Having a ridge or ridges; rising in a ridge. *Dryden.*

RID/ICULE, *n.* [Fr. from *L. ridiculum*, from *rideo*, to laugh or laugh at; *Fr. rider*, to wrinkle, to bend the brow; *Arm. reden-na*.]

1. Contemptuous laughter; laughter with some degree of contempt; derision. It expresses less than *scorn*. *Ridicule* is aimed at what is not only laughable, but improper, absurd or despicable. Sacred subjects should never be treated with *ridicule*. [See *Ludicrous*.]

Ridicule is too rough an entertainment for the polished and refined. It is banished from France, and is losing ground in England.

Kames.

2. That species of writing which excites contempt with laughter. It differs from *burlesque*, which may excite laughter without contempt, or it may provoke derision. *Ibid.*

Ridicule and *derision* are not exactly the same, as *derision* is applied to persons only, and *ridicule* to persons or things. We *deride* the man, but *ridicule* the man or his performances.

RID/ICULE, *v. t.* To laugh at with expressions of contempt; to deride.

2. To treat with contemptuous merriment; to expose to contempt or derision by writing.

RID/ICULE, *a.* Ridiculous. [Not in use.]

RID/ICULED, *pp.* Treated with laughter and contempt; derided.