

munition of the church, or prohibited from executing the sacerdotal office. *Encyc.*
CENSURE, *v. t.* *cen'shūr*. [*Fr. censurer*; *Sp. censurar*.] To find fault with and condemn as wrong; to blame; to express disapprobation of; as, to censure a man, or his manners, or his writings.

We laugh at vanity, oftener than we censure pride. *Buckminster.*

2. To condemn by a judicial sentence, as in ecclesiastical affairs.

3. To estimate. [*Not in use.*] *Shak.*

CENSURED, *pp.* Blamed; reprov'd; condemned.

CENSURING, *ppr.* Blaming; finding fault with; condemning.

CENSUS, *n.* [*L. from censo*. See *Cense*.]

In ancient Rome, an authentic declaration made before the censors, by the citizens, of their names and places of abode. This declaration was registered, and contained an enumeration of all their lands and estates, their quantity and quality, with the wives, children, domestics, tenants, and slaves of each citizen. Hence the word signifies this enumeration or register, a man's whole substance, and the tax imposed according to each man's property.

3. In the *United States of America*, an enumeration of the inhabitants of all the States, taken by order of the Congress, to furnish the rule of apportioning the representation among the States, and the number of representatives to which each State is entitled in the Congress; also, an enumeration of the inhabitants of a State, taken by order of its legislature.

CENT, *n.* [*Fr. cent*; *Sp. ciento*; *Port. cento*; *It. cento*; from *L. centum*, formed on the Celtic, *W. cant*, *Arm. cant*, *Coru. kanz*. The Welch cant signifies a circle, hoop, wheel, or rim; a wattled fence round a yard or corn field; hence, a complete circle, a hundred. It is probable that the Teutonic and Gothic *hund*, in hundred, is

the same word. *Ar. ستم* *haddon*, a hundred, and the same root gives *India, Hindu*. See *Hundred*.]

1. A hundred. In commerce, *per cent*, denotes a certain rate by the hundred; as, *ten per cent*, is *ten in the hundred*, whether profit or loss. This rate is called *percentage*.

2. In the *United States of America*, a copper coin whose value is the hundredth part of a dollar.

CENTAGE, *n.* Rate by the cent or hundred.

CENTAUR, *n.* [*L. centaurus*; *Gr. κενταυρος*. *Qu. κενταυρος*, to spur, and ταυρος, a bull.]

In mythology, a fabulous being, supposed to be half man and half horse. It has been supposed that this fancied monster originated among the Lapithæ, a tribe in Thessaly, who first invented the art of breaking horses. But the origin of the fable and of the name is doubtful.

2. Part of a southern constellation, in form of a centaur, usually joined with the wolf, containing thirty-five stars; the archer.

CENTAURLIKE, *a.* Having the appearance of a centaur. *Encyc. Sidney.*

CENTAURY, *n.* [*L. centaurea*; *Gr. κενταύριον*.]

The name of a plant, and a genus of plants, of numerous species. The *lesser centaury* is a species of *Gentiana*. Centaury bears the popular names of knapweed, blue-bottle, sultan, and star-thistle. *Encyc.*

CENTENARY, *n.* [*L. centenarius*, from *centum*, a hundred.]

The number of a hundred; as a *centenary* of years.

CENTENARY, *a.* Relating to a hundred; consisting of a hundred.

CENTENIAL, *a.* [*L. centum*, a hundred, and *annus*, a year.]

1. Consisting of a hundred years, or completing that term. *Mason.*

2. Pertaining to a hundred years.

3. Happening every hundred years.

CENTER, *n.* [*Gr. κεντρον*, a point, goad or spur, from *κεντρον*, to prick; *L. centrum*; *Fr. centre*; *Sp. centro*; *Port. It. id.*]

1. A point equally distant from the extremities of a line, figure or body; the middle point or place.

2. The middle or central object. In an army, the body of troops occupying the place in the line between the wings. In a fleet, the division between the van and rear of the line of battle, and between the weather division and lee, in the order of sailing.

3. A single body or house.

These institutions collected all authority into one center, kings, nobles and people. *J. Adams.*

Center of gravity, in mechanics, the point about which all the parts of a body exactly balance each other.

Center of motion, the point which remains at rest, while all the other parts of a body move round it. *Encyc.*

CENTER, *v. t.* To place on a center; to fix on a central point. *Milton.*

2. To collect to a point.

Thy joys are centered all in me alone. *Prior.*

CENTER, *v. i.* To be collected to a point. Our hopes must center on ourselves alone. *Dryden.*

2. To be collected to a point; to rest on. *Milton.*

3. To be placed in the middle.

CENTERED, *pp.* Collected to a point or center; fixed on a central point.

CENTERING, *ppr.* Placing on the center; collecting to a point.

CENTESIMAL, *a.* [*L. centesimus*, from *centum*, a hundred.]

The hundredth. As a noun, the next step of progression after decimal in the arithmetic of fractions. *Johnson.*

CENTESIMATION, *n.* [*L. centesimus*, supra.]

A military punishment, for desertion, mutiny or the like, where one person in a hundred is selected for execution. *Encyc.*

CENTESM, *n.* [*L. centesimus*.] The hundredth part of an integer or thing. [*Not used.*] *Bailey.*

CENTIFOLIOLUS, *a.* [*L. centum*, a hundred, and *folium*, a leaf.] Having a hundred leaves. *Bailey. Johnson.*

CENTIGRADE, *a.* [*L. centum*, a hundred, and *gradus*, a degree.]

Consisting of a hundred degrees; gradu-

ated into a hundred divisions or equal parts; as a *centigrade* thermometer.

CENTIGRAM, *n.* [*L. centum* and *gram*.] In French Measure, the hundredth part of a gram. [*See Gram*.]

CENTILITER, *n.* [*L. centum*, and *Fr. litre* or *litron*.] The hundredth part of a liter, a little more than 6-10 of a cubic inch.

CENTIMETER, *n.* [*L. centum*, a hundred, and *Gr. μετρον*, measure.]

In French measure, the hundredth part of a meter, rather more than 39-100 of an inch, English measure. *Christ. Obs. x. 192.*

CENTINODY, *n.* Knotgrass. [*Not used.*]

CENTIPED, *n.* [*L. centipeda*; *centum*, a hundred, and *pes*, a foot.]

An insect having a hundred feet, but the term is applied to insects that have many feet, though not a hundred. Insects of this kind are called generically *Scolopendra*.

In warm climates, some of them grow to the length of six inches or more, and their bite is poisonous. *Encyc.*

CENTIPED, *for centiped*, is not used.

CENTNER, *n.* [*L. centum*, *centenarius*.]

In metallurgy and assaying, a docimastic hundred; a weight divisible first into a hundred parts, and then into smaller parts.

The metallurgists use a weight divided into a hundred equal parts, each one pound; the whole they call a *centner*; the pound is divided into thirty-two parts or half ounces; the half ounce into two quarters, and each of these into two drams.

But the assayers use different weights. With them a *centner* is one dram, to which the other parts are proportioned. *Encyc.*

CENTO, *n.* [*L. cento*, patched cloth, a rhapsody.]

A composition formed by verses or passages from other authors, disposed in a new order. *Johnson. Encyc.*

CENTRAL, *a.* [*L. centralis*.] Relating to the center; placed in the center or middle; containing the center, or pertaining to the parts near the center.

Central forces, in mechanics, the powers which cause a moving body to tend towards or recede from the center of motion.

CENTRALITY, *n.* The state of being central.

CENTRALLY, *adv.* With regard to the center; in a central manner.

CENTRIC, *a.* Placed in the center or middle.

CENTRICALLY, *adv.* In a central position.

CENTRICNESS, *n.* Situation in the center.

CENTRIFUGAL, *a.* [*L. centrum*, and *fugio*, to flee.]

Tending to recede from the center. The *centrifugal force* of a body, is that force by which all bodies moving round another body in a curve, tend to fly off from the axis of their motion, in a tangent to the periphery of the curve. *Encyc.*

CENTRIPETAL, *a.* [*L. centrum*, and *peto*, to move towards.]

Tending towards the center. *Centripetal force* is that force which draws or impels a body towards some point as a center; as in case of a planet revolving round the sun, the center of the system.

[Note. The common accentuation of cen-