

To *refer one's self*, to betake; to apply. [*Lit-
tle used.*] *Shak.*

REFER', *v. i.* To respect; to have relation. Many passages of Scripture *refer* to the peculiar customs of the orientals.

2. To appeal; to have recourse; to apply.
In suits it is good to *refer* to some friend of trust. *Bacon.*

3. To allude; to have respect to by intimation without naming. I *refer* to a well known fact.

REFERABLE, *a.* That may be referred; capable of being considered in relation to something else. *More.*

2. That may be assigned; that may be considered as belonging to or related to.

It is a question among philosophers, whether all the attractions which obtain between bodies, are *referable* to one general cause. *Nicholson.*

REFEREE', *n.* One to whom a thing is referred; particularly, a person appointed by a court to hear, examine and decide a cause between parties, pending before the court, and make report to the court. In New England, a *referee* differs from an *arbitrator*, in being appointed by the court to decide in a cause which is depending before that court. An *arbitrator* is chosen by parties to decide a cause between them.

REFERENCE, *n.* A sending, dismissal or direction to another for information. *Swift.*

2. Relation; respect; view towards.

The christian religion commands sobriety, temperance and moderation, in *reference* to our appetites and passions. *Tillotson.*

3. Allusion to. In his observations he had no *reference* to the case which has been stated.

4. In law, the process of assigning a cause depending in court, for a hearing and decision, to persons appointed by the court.

REFERENDARY, *n.* One to whose decision a cause is referred. [*Not in use.*] *Bacon.*

2. An officer who delivered the royal answer to petitions. *Harmar.*

REFERMENT, *n.* Reference for decision. [*Not used.*] *Laud.*

RE-FERMENT', *v. t.* [*re and ferment.*] To ferment again. *Blackmore.*

REFERRED, *pp.* Dismissed or directed to another; assigned, as to a class, order or cause; assigned by a court to persons appointed to decide.

REFERRIBLE, *a.* That may be referred; referable. *Brown.*

REFERRING, *ppr.* Dismissing or directing to another for information; alluding; assigning, as to a class, order, cause, &c.; or assigning to private persons for decision.

RE-FIND, *v. t.* [*re and find.*] To find again; to experience anew. *Sandys.*

REFINE, *v. t.* [*Fr. raffiner; It. raffinare; Sp. Port. refinar; re and fine.*]

1. To purify; in a general sense; applied to liquors, to deplete; to defecate; to clarify; to separate, as liquor, from all extraneous matter. In this sense, the verb is used with propriety, but it is customary to use *fine*.

2. Applied to metals, to separate the metallic substance from all other matter, whether another metal or alloy, or any earthy sub-

stance; in short, to detach the pure metal from all extraneous matter.

I will bring the third part through the fire, and will *refine* them as silver is *refined*. *Zech. xiii.*

3. To purify, as manners, from what is gross, clownish or vulgar; to polish; to make elegant. We expect to see *refined* manners in courts.

4. To purify, as language, by removing vulgar words and barbarisms.

5. To purify, as taste; to give a nice and delicate perception of beauty and propriety in literature and the arts.

6. To purify, as the mind or moral principles; to give or implant in the mind a nice perception of truth, justice and propriety in commerce and social intercourse. This nice perception of what is right constitutes rectitude of principle, or moral refinement of mind; and a correspondent practice of social duties, constitutes rectitude of conduct or purity of morals. Hence we speak of a *refined* mind, *refined* morals, *refined* principles.

To *refine the heart or soul*, to cleanse it from all carnal or evil affections and desires, and implant in it holy or heavenly affections.

REFINE, *v. i.* To improve in accuracy, delicacy, or in any thing that constitutes excellence.

Chaucer *refined* on Boccace and mended his stories. *Dryden.*

Let a lord but own the happy lines,
How the wit brightens, how the sense *refines*! *Pope.*

2. To become pure; to be cleared of feculent matter.

So the pure limpid stream, when foul with stains,
Works itself clear, and as it runs, *refines*. *Addison.*

3. To affect nicety. Men sometimes *refine* in speculation beyond the limits of practical truth.

He makes another paragraph about our *refining* in controversy. *Atterbury.*

REFINED, *pp.* Purified; separated from extraneous matter; assayed, as metals; clarified, as liquors; polished; separated from what is coarse, rude or improper.

REFINEDLY, *adv.* With affected nicety or elegance. *Dryden.*

REFINEDNESS, *n.* State of being refined; purity; refinement; also, affected purity. *Barrow.*

REFINEMENT, *n.* The act of purifying by separating from a substance all extraneous matter; a clearing from dross, dregs or recrement; as the *refinement* of metals or liquors.

2. The state of being pure.

The more bodies are of a kin to spirit in subtilty and *refinement*, the more diffusive are they. *Norris.*

3. Polish of language; elegance; purity.

From the civil war to this time, I doubt whether the corruptions in our language have not equalled its *refinements*. *Swift.*

4. Polish of manners; elegance; nice observance of the civilities of social intercourse and of graceful decorum. *Refinement* of manners is often found in persons of corrupt morals.

5. Purity of taste; nice perception of beauty and propriety in literature and the arts.

6. Purity of mind and morals; nice perception and observance of rectitude in moral principles and practice.

7. Purity of heart; the state of the heart purified from sensual and evil affections. This *refinement* is the effect of christian principles.

8. Artificial practice; subtilty; as the *refinements* of cunning. *Rogers.*

9. Affectation of nicety, or of elegant improvement; as the *refinements* of reasoning or philosophy.

REFINER, *n.* One that refines metals or other things. *Bacon.*

2. An improver in purity and elegance; as a *refiner* of language. *Swift.*

3. An inventor of superfluous subtilties; one is who over nice in discrimination, in argument, reasoning, philosophy, &c.

REFINERY, *n.* The place and apparatus for refining metals.

REFINING, *ppr.* Purifying; separating from alloy or any extraneous matter; polishing; improving in accuracy, delicacy or purity.

REFIT, *v. t.* [*re and fit.*] To fit or prepare again; to repair; to restore after damage or decay; as, to *refit* ships of war.

REFITTED, *pp.* Prepared again; repaired.

REFITTING, *ppr.* Repairing after damage or decay.

REFLECT', *v. t.* [*L. reflecto; re and flecto, to bend; Fr. reflechir; It. riflettere.*]

To throw back; to return. In the rainbow, the rays of light are *reflected* as well as refracted.

Bodies close together *reflect* their own color. *Dryden.*

REFLECT', *v. i.* To throw back light; to return rays or beams; as a *reflecting* mirror or gem. *Shak.*

2. To bend back. *Bentley.*

3. To throw or turn back the thoughts upon the past operations of the mind or upon past events. We *reflect* with pleasure on a generous or heroic action; we *reflect* with pain on our follies and vices; we *reflect* on our former thoughts, meditations and opinions.

4. To consider attentively; to revolve in the mind; to contemplate; as, I will *reflect* on this subject.

And as I much *reflected*, much I mourn'd. *Prior.*

In every action, *reflect* upon the end. *Taylor.*

[To *reflect* on things *future*, is not strictly possible, yet the word is often used as synonymous with *meditate* and *contemplate*.]

5. To bring reproach.

Errors of wives *reflect* on husband still. *Dryden.*

To *reflect on*, to cast censure or reproach. I do not *reflect* in the least on the memory of his late majesty. *Swift.*

REFLECTED, *pp.* Thrown back; returned; as *reflected* light.

REFLECTANT, *a.* Bending or flying back; as the ray descendent, and ray *reflectant*. *Digby.*

REFLECTIBLE, *a.* That may be reflected or thrown back. *Gregory.*

REFLECTING, *ppr.* Throwing back.

2. Turning back, as thoughts upon themselves or upon past events.