

SILVER-TREE, *n.* A plant of the genus *Protea*.

SILVER-WEED, *n.* A plant of the genus *Potentilla*.

SILVERY, *a.* [from *silver*.] Like silver; having the appearance of silver; white; of a mild luster.

Of all the enamel'd race whose *silvery* wing
Waves to the tepid zephyrs of the spring.

Popc.

2. Besprinkled or covered with silver.

SIM'AGRE, *n.* [Fr. *simagrée*.] Grimace. [Not in use.] *Dryden*.

SIM'AR, *n.* [Fr. *simarre*.] A woman's robe. [Not in use.] *Dryden*.

SIMILAR, *a.* [Fr. *similaire*; It. *simile*; Sp. *similar*; L. *similis*; W. *heval*, *hevalyz*; from *mal*, like, Gr. *ομαλος*. The Welsh *mal* signifies small, light, ground, bruised, smooth, allied to *mill*, W. *malu*, to grind. But I am not confident that these words are of one family.]

Like; resembling; having a like form or appearance. *Similar* may signify exactly alike, or having a general likeness, a likeness in the principal points. Things perfectly *similar* in their nature, must be of the same essence, or homogeneous; but we generally understand *similar* to denote a likeness that is not perfect. Many of the statutes of Connecticut are *similar* to the statutes of Massachusetts on the same subjects. The manners of the several states of New England are *similar*, the people being derived from common ancestors.

SIMILARITY, *n.* Likeness; resemblance; as a *similarity* of features. There is a great *similarity* in the features of the Laplanders and Samoiedes, but little *similarity* between the features of Europeans and the woolly haired Africans.

SIMILARLY, *adv.* In like manner; with resemblance. *Reid*.

SIMILE, *n.* *sim'ily*. [L.] In rhetoric, similitude; a comparison of two things which, however different in other respects, have some strong point or points of resemblance; by which comparison, the character or qualities of a thing are illustrated or presented in an impressive light. Thus, the eloquence of Demosthenes was like a rapid torrent; that of Cicero, like a large stream that glides smoothly along with majestic tranquility.

SIMILITUDE, *n.* [Fr. from L. *similitudo*.] 1. Likeness; resemblance; likeness in nature, qualities or appearance; as *similitude* of substance. *Bacon*.

Let us make man in our image, man
In our *similitude*— *Milton*.

Fate some future bard shall join
In sad *similitude* of griefs to mine. *Pope*.

2. Comparison; simile. [See *Simile*.]

Tasso, in his *similitudes*, never departed from the woods. *Dryden*.

SIMILITUDINARY, *a.* Denoting resemblance or comparison. *Coke*.

SIMILOR, *n.* A name given to an alloy of red copper and zinc, made in the best proportions to imitate silver and gold. *Encyc.*

SIMILAR. [See *Cimeter*.]

SIMMER, *v. i.* [Qu. Gr. *ζυμν*, *ζυμω*, to ferment.]

To boil gently, or with a gentle hissing. *Simmering* is incipient ebullition, when little bubbles are formed on the edge of the

liquor, next to the vessel. These are occasioned by the escape of heat and vapor.

SIMMERING, *ppr.* Boiling gently.

SIMNEL, *n.* [Dan. *simle*; Sw. *simla*; G. *semnel*.] A kind of sweet cake; a bun.

SIMON'NIAC, *n.* [Fr. *simoniaque*. See *Simony*.]

One who buys or sells preferment in the church. *Ayliffe*.

SIMONVACAL, *a.* Guilty of simony. *Spectator*.

2. Consisting in simony, or the crime of buying or selling ecclesiastical preferment; as a *simoniacal* presentation.

SIMONVACALLY, *adv.* With the guilt or offense of simony.

SIMONIOUS, *a.* Partaking of simony; given to simony. *Milton*.

SIMONY, *n.* [from *Simon* Magus, who wished to purchase the power of conferring the Holy Spirit. Acts viii.]

The crime of buying or selling ecclesiastical preferment; or the corrupt presentation of any one to an ecclesiastical benefice for money or reward. By Stat. 31 Elizabeth, c. vi. severe penalties are enacted against this crime.

SIMOOM, *n.* A hot suffocating wind, that blows occasionally in Africa and Arabia, generated by the extreme heat of the parched deserts or sandy plains. Its approach is indicated by a redness in the air, and its fatal effects are to be avoided by falling on the face and holding the breath. *Encyc.*

SIMOUS, *a.* [L. *simo*, one with a flat nose, Gr. *σμος*.]

1. Having a very flat or snub nose, with the end turned up.

2. Concave; as the *simous* part of the liver. *Brown*.

SIMPER, *v. i.* To smile in a silly manner. *Shak*.

SIMPER, *n.* A smile with an air of silliness. *Addison*.

SIMPERING, *ppr.* Smiling foolishly.

SIMPERING, *n.* The act of smiling with an air of silliness.

SIMPERINGLY, *adv.* With a silly smile.

SIMPLE, *a.* [Fr. from L. *simplex*; *sine*, without, and *plex*, *plica*, doubling, fold; It. *semplice*.]

1. Single; consisting of one thing; uncompounded; unmingled; uncombined with any thing else; as a *simple* substance; a *simple* idea; a *simple* sound. *Watts*.

2. Plain; artless; not given to design, stratagem or duplicity; undesigning; sincere; harmless.

A *simple* husbandman in garments gray. *Hubbard*.

3. Artless; unaffected; unconstrained; inartificial; plain.

In *simple* manners all the secret lies. *Young*.

4. Unadorned; plain; as a *simple* style or narration; a *simple* dress.

5. Not complex or complicated; as a machine of *simple* construction.

6. Weak in intellect; not wise or sagacious; silly.

The *simple* believeth every word; but the prudent looketh well to his going. Prov. xiv.

7. In botany, undivided, as a root, stem or spike; only one on a petiole, as a *simple* leaf; only one on a peduncle, as a *simple* flower; having only one set of rays, as an

umbel; having only one row of leaflets, as a *simple* calyx; not plumose or feathered, as a pappus. *Martyn*.

A *simple* body, in chemistry, is one that has not been decomposed, or separated into two or more bodies.

SIMPLE, *n.* Something not mixed or compounded. In the *materia medica*, the general denomination of an herb or plant, as each vegetable is supposed to possess its particular virtue, and therefore to constitute a *simple* remedy. *Encyc.* *Dryden*.

SIMPLE, *v. i.* To gather simples or plants.

As *simpiling* on the flowery hills he stray'd. *Garth*.

SIMPLE-MINDED, *a.* Artless; undesigning; unsuspecting. *Blackstone*.

SIMPLENESS, *n.* The state or quality of being simple, single or uncompounded; as the *simpleness* of the elements. *Digby*.

2. Artlessness; simplicity.

3. Weakness of intellect.

SIMPLER, *n.* One that collects simples; an herbalist; a simplist.

SIMPLESS, for *simplicity* or *silliness*, is not in use. *Spenser*.

SIMPLETON, *n.* A silly person; a person of weak intellect; a trifler; a foolish person. *Pope*.

SIMPLI'CIAN, *n.* An artless, unskilled or undesigning person. [Not in use.] *Armway*.

SIMPLICITY, *n.* [L. *simplicitas*; Fr. *simplicité*; It. *semplicità*; Sp. *simplicidad*.]

1. Singleness; the state of being unmixed or uncompounded; as the *simplicity* of metals or of earths.

2. The state of being not complex, or of consisting of few parts; as the *simplicity* of a machine.

3. Artlessness of mind; freedom from a propensity to cunning or stratagem; freedom from duplicity; sincerity.

Marquis Dorset, a man for his harmless *simplicity* neither disliked nor much regarded. *Hayward*.

4. Plainness; freedom from artificial ornament; as the *simplicity* of a dress, of style, of language, &c. *Simplicity* in writing is the first of excellences.

5. Plainness; freedom from subtilty or abstruseness; as the *simplicity* of scriptural doctrines or truth.

6. Weakness of intellect; silliness. *Hooker*.

Godly *simplicity*, in Scripture, is a fair open profession and practice of evangelical truth, with a single view to obedience and to the glory of God.

SIMPLIFICATION, *n.* [See *Simplify*.] The act of making simple; the act of reducing to simplicity, or to a state not complex. *Ch. Obs.*

SIMPLIFIED, *pp.* Made simple or not complex.

SIMPLIFY, *v. t.* [L. *simplex*, simple, and *facio*, to make; Fr. *simplifier*.]

To make simple; to reduce what is complex to greater simplicity; to make plain or easy.

The collection of duties is drawn to a point, and so far *simplified*. *Hamilton*.

It is important in scientific pursuits, to be cautious in *simplifying* our deductions. *Nicholson*.

This is the true way to *simplify* the study of science. *Lavoisier, Trans.*

SIMPLIFYING, *ppr.* Making simple; rendering less complex.