

LETTER-PRESS, *n.* [*letter* and *press*.] Print; letters and words impressed on paper or other material by types.

LETTUCE, *n.* *lettis*. [Fr. *latus*; It. *lattuga*; Sp. *lechuga*; Arm. *lactuzen*; G. *lattich*; D. *latuw*; from L. *lactuca*, according to Varro, from *lac*, milk.]

A genus of plants, the *Lactuca*, of many species, some of which are used as salads.

LEUCIN, } *n.* [Gr. λευκος, white.] A peculiar white pulverulent substance obtained from beef-fibers, treated with sulphuric acid, and afterwards with alcohol.

Braconnet. Webster's Manual.

LEUCITE, *n.* [Gr. λευκος, white.] A stony substance, so called from its whiteness, found among volcanic productions in Italy, in crystals, or in irregular masses; formerly called crystals of white shorl, or white granite or granilite.

Dict. Nat. Hist.

Haüy calls this mineral, *amphigene*. It is called by some writers *leucolite*, and by others, *dodecahedral zeolite*.

LEUCO-ETHIOPIC, *a.* [Gr. λευκος, white, and αἰθια, black.]

White and black; designating a white animal of a black species, or the albino.

Laurence.

LEUCOPHLEGMACY, *n.* [Gr. λευκος, white, and φλεγμα, phlegm.]

A dropsical habit of body, or the commencement of anasarca; paleness, with viscid juices and cold sweats.

Coxe. Parr. Arbuthnot.

LEUCOPHLEGMATIC, *a.* Having a dropsical habit of body with a white bloated skin.

LEUCO-THIOP, *n.* [See *Leuco-ethiopic*.] An albino; a white man of a black race.

LEUTHRITE, *n.* [from *Leuthra*, in Saxony.]

A substance that appears to be a recomposed rock, of a loose texture, gritty and harsh to the touch. Its color is a grayish white, tinged here and there with an ochreous brown. It includes small fragments of mica.

Phillips.

LEVANT, *a.* [Fr. *levant*, rising, from *lever*, L. *leo*.]

Eastern; denoting the part of the hemisphere where the sun rises.

Forth rush the *levant* and the ponent winds.

Milton.

LEVANT, *n.* [It. *levante*, the East, supra.] Properly, a country to the eastward; but appropriately, the countries of Turkey, Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, Egypt, &c. which are washed by the Mediterranean and its contiguous waters.

LEVANTINE, *a.* Pertaining to the Levant.

D'Anville.

2. Designating a particular kind of silk cloth.

LEVANTINE, *n.* A particular kind of silk cloth.

LEVATOR, *n.* [L. from *leo*, to raise.] In anatomy, a muscle that serves to raise some part, as the lip or the eyelid.

2. A surgical instrument used to raise a depressed part of the skull.

Wiseman.

LEVE, for *believe*. *Obs.*

Gower.

LEVÉE, *n.* [Fr. from *lever*, to raise, L. *leo*.]

1. The time of rising.

2. The concourse of persons who visit a prince or great personage in the morning.

Johnson.

3. A bank or causey, particularly along a river to prevent inundation; as the *levees* along the Mississippi.

LEV'EL, *a.* [Sax. *læfe*, id.; W. *llyn*, smooth, even, level, sleek, slippery; *llyvelu*, to level, to render uniform, to devise, invent, guess; *llyvnu*, to make smooth. This seems to be connected with *llynu*, to lick. So *like*, D. *gelyk*, G. *gleich*, is smooth, even, level, equal, coinciding with Eng. *sleek*. The L. *libella*, *libra*, belong to this root; It. *livella*.]

1. Horizontal; coinciding with the plane of the horizon. To be perfectly *level* is to be exactly horizontal.

2. Even; flat; not having one part higher than another; not ascending or descending; as a *level* plain or field; *level* ground; a *level* floor or pavement. In common usage, *level* is often applied to surfaces that are not perfectly horizontal, but which have no inequalities of magnitude.

3. Even with any thing else; of the same height; on the same line or plane.

4. Equal in rank or degree; having no degree of superiority.

Be *level* in preferments, and you will soon be as *level* in your learning.

Bentley.

LEV'EL, *v. t.* To make horizontal.

2. To make even; to reduce or remove inequalities of surface in any thing; as, to *level* a road or walk.

3. To reduce or bring to the same height with something else.

And their proud structures *level* with the ground.

Sandys.

4. To lay flat; to reduce to an even surface or plain.

He *levels* mountains, and he raises plains.

Dryden.

5. To reduce to equality of condition, state, or degree; as, to *level* all ranks and degrees of men.

6. To point, in taking aim; to elevate or depress so as to direct a missile weapon on an object; to aim; as, to *level* a cannon or musket.

7. To aim; to direct; as severe remarks *levelled* at the vices and follies of the age.

8. To suit; to proportion; as, to *level* observations to the capacity of children.

LEV'EL, *v. i.* To accord; to agree; to suit. [Little used.]

Shak.

2. To aim at; to point a gun or an arrow to the mark.

3. To aim at; to direct the view or purpose.

The glory of God and the good of his church, ought to be the mark at which we *level*.

Hooker.

4. To be aimed; to be in the same direction with the mark.

He raised it till he *level'd* right.

Butler.

5. To aim; to make attempts.

Ambitious York did *level* at thy crown.

Shak.

6. To conjecture; to attempt to guess. [Not used.]

Shak.

LEV'EL, *n.* A horizontal line, or a plane; a surface without inequalities.

Hale.

2. Rate; standard: usual elevation; customary height; as the ordinary *level* of the world.

3. Equal elevation with something else; a state of equality.

Providence, for the most part, sets us on a *level*.

Spectator.

4. The line of direction in which a missile weapon is aimed.

5. An instrument in mechanics by which to find or draw a horizontal line, as in setting buildings, or in making canals and drains. The instruments for these purposes are various; as the air *level*, the carpenter's *level*, the mason's *level*, and the gunner's *level*.

6. Rule; plan; scheme: borrowed from the mechanic's *level*.

Be the fair *level* of thy actions laid—

Prior.

LEV'ELED, *pp.* Reduced to a plane; made even.

2. Reduced to an equal state, condition or rank.

3. Reduced to an equality with something else.

4. Elevated or depressed to a right line towards something; pointed to an object; directed to a mark.

5. Suited; proportioned.

LEV'ELER, *n.* One that levels or makes even.

2. One that destroys or attempts to destroy distinctions, and reduce to equality.

LEV'ELING, *pp.* Making level or even.

2. Reducing to an equality of condition.

LEV'ELING, *n.* The art or practice of finding a horizontal line, or of ascertaining the different elevations of objects on the surface of the earth: in other words, the difference in the distance of objects from the center of the earth.

Encyc.

LEV'ELNESS, *n.* Evenness; equality of surface.

2. Equality with something else.

LEV'EN. [See *Leaven*.]

LEV'EN, *n.* [Sax. *hlifian*.] Lightning.

Obs.

Chaucer.

LEV'ER, *n.* [Fr. *levier*; It. *leva*; from *lever*, *levere*, L. *leo*, to raise.]

In mechanics, a bar of metal, wood, or other substance, turning on a support called the fulcrum or prop. Its arms are equal, as in the *balance*; or unequal, as in *steelyards*. It is one of the mechanical powers, and is of three kinds, viz. 1. When the fulcrum is between the weight and the power, as in the *handspike*, *crowbar*, &c. 2. When the weight is between the power and the fulcrum, as in *rowing a boat*. 3. When the power is between the weight and the fulcrum, as in *raising a ladder* from the ground, by applying the hands to one of the lower rounds. The bones of animals are levers of the third kind.

LEV'ERET, *n.* [Fr. *lievre*, from *lievre*, a hare.] A hare in the first year of her age.

LEV'EROCK, *n.* A bird, a lark. [See *Lark*.]

Johnson.

LEV'ET, *n.* [Qu. Fr. *lever*, to raise.] A blast of a trumpet; probably that by which soldiers are called in the morning. [Not used.]

Hudibras.

LEV'ABLE, *a.* [from *levy*.] That may be levied; that may be assessed and collected; as sums *leviable* by course of law.

Bacon.