

version of food into chyme, or the process of dissolving aliment in the stomach and preparing it for circulation and nourishment. A good digestion is essential to health.

- In *chemistry*, the operation of exposing bodies to a gentle heat, to prepare them for some action on each other; or the slow action of a solvent on any substance.
- The act of methodizing and reducing to order; the maturation of a design.

*Temple.*

- The process of maturing an ulcer or wound, and disposing it to generate pus, or the generation of matter.
- The process of dissolution and preparation of substances for manure, as in compost.

**DIGESTIVE**, *a.* Having the power to cause digestion in the stomach; as a digestive preparation or medicine.

- Capable of softening and preparing by heat.
- Methodizing; reducing to order; as digestive thought.
- Causing maturation in wounds or ulcers.
- Dissolving.

**DIGESTIVE**, *n.* In *medicine*, any preparation or medicine which increases the tone of the stomach, and aids digestion; a stomachic; a corroborant.

- In *surgery*, an application which ripens an ulcer or wound, or disposes it to suppurate.

*Digestive salt*, the muriate of potash.

**DIGESTURE**, *n.* Concoction; digestion. [*Little used.*] *Harvey.*

**DIGGED**, *pret.* and *pp.* of *dig.*

**DIGGER**, *n.* One who digs; one who opens, throws up and breaks the earth; one who opens a well, pit, trench or ditch.

**DIGHT**, *v. t. dicit.* [*Sax. dīht*, disposition, order, command; *dīhtan*, to set, establish, prepare, instruct, dictate. This seems to be from the same source as the *L. dico*, *dicto*.]

To prepare; to put in order; hence, to dress, or put on; to array; to adorn. [*Obsolete, or used only in poetry.*] *Milton.*

**DIG'IT**, *n.* [*L. digitus*, a finger, that is, a shoot; *Gr. δακτύλος*.]

- The measure of a finger's breadth, or three fourths of an inch.

*Boyle.*

- The twelfth part of the diameter of the sun or moon; a term used to express the quantity of an eclipse; as, an eclipse of six digits is one which hides one half of the disk.

- In *arithmetic*, any integer under 10; so called from counting on the fingers. Thus, 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. are called digits.

**DIG'ITAL**, *a.* [*L. digitalis*.] Pertaining to the fingers, or to digits.

**DIG'ITATE**, } *In botany*, a digitate leaf  
**DIG'ITATED**, } *a.* is one which branches into several distinct leaflets like fingers; or when a simple, undivided petiole connects several leaflets at the end of it.

*Martyn.*

**DIGLA'DIATE**, *v. t.* [*L. digladiar*.] To fence; to quarrel. [*Little used.*]

**DIGLADIA'TION**, *n.* A combat with swords; a quarrel. *B. Jonson.*

**DIGNIFICATION**, *n.* [*See Dignify.*] The act of dignifying; exaltation; promotion. *Walton.*

**DIGNIFIED**, *pp.* [*See Dignify.*] Exalted; honored; invested with dignity; as the dignified clergy.

- Marked with dignity; noble; as dignified conduct, or manner.
- To the great astonishment of the Jews, the manners of Jesus are familiar, yet dignified. *Buckminster.*

**DIGNIFY**, *v. t.* [*Sp. dignificar*; *L. dignus*, worthy, and *facio*, to make.]

- To invest with honor or dignity; to exalt in rank; to promote; to elevate to a high office.
- To honor; to make illustrious; to distinguish by some excellence, or that which gives celebrity.

Your worth will dignify our feast.

*B. Jonson.*

**DIGNITARY**, *n.* An ecclesiastic who holds a dignity, or a benefice which gives him some pre-eminence over mere priests and canons, as a bishop, dean, archdeacon, prebendary, &c. *Encyc. Swift.*

**DIGNITY**, *n.* [*L. dignitas*, from *dignus*, worthy; *Sp. digno*; *It. degno*; *Fr. digne*; *Arm. dign* or *din*. Quits relation to *Sax. dūgan*, to be good, to avail, to be worth, to be profitable. It is probable that *g* and *n* are not both radical; but it is uncertain which.]

- True honor; nobleness or elevation of mind, consisting in a high sense of propriety, truth and justice, with an abhorrence of mean and sinful actions; opposed to meanness. In this sense, we speak of the dignity of mind, and dignity of sentiments. This dignity is based on moral rectitude; all vice is incompatible with true dignity of mind. The man who deliberately injures another, whether male or female, has no true dignity of soul.
- Elevation; honorable place or rank of elevation; degree of excellence, either in estimation, or in the order of nature. Man is superior in dignity to brutes.
- Elevation of aspect; grandeur of mind; as a man of native dignity.
- Elevation of deportment; as dignity of manners or behavior.
- An elevated office, civil or ecclesiastical, giving a high rank in society; advancement; preferment; or the rank attached to it. We say, a man enjoys his dignity with moderation, or without haughtiness. Among ecclesiastics, dignity is office or preferment joined with power or jurisdiction. *Bailey. Johnson.*

- The rank or title of a nobleman.

*Encyc.*

- In *oratory*, one of the three parts of elocution, consisting in the right use of tropes and figures.

*Encyc.*

- In *astrology*, an advantage which a planet has on account of its being in some particular place of the zodiac, or in a particular station in respect to other planets.

*Bailey.*

- A general maxim, or principle. [*Not used.*]

**DIGNO'TION**, *n.* [*L. dignosco*.] Distinguishing mark; distinction. [*Not in use.*]

*Brown.*

**DIGNONOUS**, *a.* [*Gr. δῖς* and *γῆνοια*, an an-

gle.] In *botany*, having two angles, as a stem. *Lee.*

**DIGRAPH**, *n.* [*Gr. δίς* and *γραφο*, to write.] A union of two vowels, of which one only is pronounced, as in *head, breath*. *Sheridan.*

**DIGRESS**, *v. i.* [*L. digressus*, digressor; *di* or *dis* and *gradior*, to step. *See Grade.*]

- Literally, to step or go from the way or road; hence, to depart or wander from the main subject, design or tenor of a discourse, argument or narration; used only of speaking or writing.

In the pursuit of an argument there is hardly room to digress into a particular definition, as often as a man varies the signification of any term. *Locke.*

- To go out of the right way or common track; to deviate; in a literal sense. [*Not now in use.*] *Shak.*

**DIGRESS'ING**, *ppr.* Departing from the main subject.

**DIGRESSION**, *n.* [*L. digressio*.] The act of digressing; a departure from the main subject under consideration; an excursion of speech or writing.

- The part or passage of a discourse, argument or narration, which deviates from the main subject, tenor or design, but which may have some relation to it, or be of use to it.
- Deviation from a regular course; as, the digression of the sun is not equal. [*Little used.*] *Brown.*

**DIGRESSIONAL**, *a.* Pertaining to or consisting in digression; departing from the main purpose or subject.

**DIGRESSIVE**, *a.* Departing from the main subject; partaking of the nature of digression. *J. Q. Adams.*

**DIGRESSIVELY**, *adv.* By way of digression.

**DIGYN**, *n.* [*Gr. δίς*, two, and *γυνή*, a female.]

In *botany*, a plant having two pistils.

**DIGYNTAN**, *a.* Having two pistils.

**DIHE'DRAL**, *a.* [*Gr. δίς*, supra, and *εἶδος*, a seat or face.] Having two sides, as a figure.

**DIHEDRON**, *n.* [*supra*.] A figure with two sides or surfaces.

**DIHEXAHEDRAL**, *a.* [*di* and *hexahedral*.]

In *crystallography*, having the form of a hexahedral prism with triliteral summits. *Cleveland.*

**DIJUDICATE**, *v. t.* [*L. dijudico*.] To judge or determine by censure. *Hales.*

**DIJUDICATION**, *n.* Judicial distinction.

**DIKE**, *n.* [*Sax. die*; *Sw. dike*; *Dan. dige*; *D. dyk*; *G. deich*; *Ir. diog*; *Scot. dike*, *dyk*; *Fr. digue*; *Sp. dique*; from *digging*. *See Dig.*] It is radically the same word as *ditch*, and this is its primary sense; but by an easy transition, it came to signify also the bank formed by digging and throwing up earth. *Intrenchment* is sometimes used both for a ditch and a rampart.]

- A ditch; an excavation made in the earth by digging, of greater length than breadth, intended as a reservoir of water, a drain, or for other purpose. *Dryden. Pope.*

2. A mound of earth, of stones, or of other materials, intended to prevent low lands from being inundated by the sea or a river. The low countries of Holland are thus defended by dikes.