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PERCOLATING, *ppr.* Filtering.
PERCOLATION, *n.* The act of straining or filtering; filtration; the act of passing through small interstices, as liquor through felt or a porous stone.

Percolation is intended for the purification of liquors. *Bacon.*

PERCUSS, *v. t.* [*L. percussus*, from *percutio*, to strike.] To strike. [*Little used.*] *Bacon.*

PERCUSSION, *n.* [*L. percussio.*] The act of striking one body against another, with some violence; as the vibrations excited in the air by percussion. *Newton.*

2. The impression one body makes on another by falling on it or striking it. *Encyc.*

3. The impression or effect of sound on the ear. *Rymer.*

PERCU'TIENT, *n.* [*L. percutiens.*] That which strikes, or has power to strike. *Bacon.*

PERDIFOIL, *n.* [*L. perdo*, to lose, and *folium*, leaf.]

A plant that annually loses or drops its leaves; opposed to *evergreen*.

The passion flower of America and the jasmine of Malabar, which are evergreens in their native climates, become *perdifol*s when transplanted into Britain. *Barton.*

PERDITIO, *n.* [*L. perditio*, from *perdo*, to lose, to ruin. *Qu.* *per* and *do*, or *Gr.* *περρω.*]

1. Entire loss or ruin; utter destruction; as the *perdition* of the Turkish fleet. *Shak.*
 [In this sense, the word is now nearly or wholly obsolete.]

2. The utter loss of the soul or of final happiness in a future state; future misery or eternal death. The impenitent sinner is condemned to final *perdition*.

If we reject the truth, we seal our own *perdition*. *J. M. Mason.*

3. Loss. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

PERDU', { *adv.* [*Fr. perdu*, lost, from *per-*
PERDU'E, { *dre*, to lose, *L. perdo.*]
 'Close; in concealment.

The moderator, out of view,
 Beneath the desk had lain *perdue*.

Trumbull's M'Fingal.

PERDU', *n.* One that is placed on the watch or in ambush. *Shak.*

PERDU', *a.* Abandoned; employed on desperate purposes; accustomed to desperate purposes or enterprises. *Beaum. and Fletcher.*

PERDULOUS, *a.* [*Fr. perdu*, from *L. perdo.*] Lost; thrown away. [*Not used.*] *Branhall.*

PERDURABLE, *a.* [*Fr.* from *L. perduro*; *per* and *dur*, to last.]

Very durable; lasting; continuing long. [*Not used.*] *Shak. Drayton.*

PERDURABLY, *adv.* Very durably. [*Not used.*] *Shak.*

PERDURATION, *n.* Long continuance. [*Not used.*] *Jinsworth.*

PER'DY, *adv.* [*Fr. par Dieu.*] Certainly; verily; in truth. *Obs. Spenser.*

PEREGAL, *a.* [*Fr. per* and *egal*, equal.] Equal. [*Not used.*] *Spenser.*

PEREGRINATE, *v. i.* [*L. peregrinor*, from *peregrinus*, a traveler or stranger; *peragro*, to wander; *per* and *ager*.]

To travel from place to place or from one country to another; to live in a foreign country. *Dict.*

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PEREGRINATION, *n.* A traveling from one country to another; a wandering; abode in foreign countries.

Hammond. Bentley.

PEREGRINATOR, *n.* A traveler into foreign countries. *Casaubon.*

PER'EGRINE, *a.* [*L. peregrinus.*] Foreign; not native. [*Little used.*] *Bacon.*

Peregrine falcon, a species of hawk, the black hawk or falcon, found in America and in Asia, and which wanders in summer to the Arctic circle. *Pennant.*

PEREMPT', *v. t.* [*L. peremptus*, *perimo*, to kill.]

In law, to kill; to crush or destroy. [*Not used.*] *Ayliffe.*

PEREMPTION, *n.* [*L. peremptio.*] A killing; a quashing; nonsuit. [*Not used.*] *Ayliffe.*

PER'EMPTORILY, *adv.* [from *peremptory*.]

Absolutely; positively; in a decisive manner; so as to preclude further debate.

Never judge *peremptorily* on first appearances. *Clarissa.*

PER'EMPTORINESS, *n.* Positiveness; absolute decision; dogmatism.

Peremptoriness is of two sorts; one, a magisterialness in matters of opinion; the other, a positiveness in matters of fact. *Gov. of the Tongue.*

PER'EMPTORY, *a.* [*Fr. peremptoire*; *It. perentorio*; *L. peremptorius*, from *peremptus*, taken away, killed.]

1. Express; positive; absolute; decisive; authoritative; in a manner to preclude debate or expostulation. The orders of the commander are *peremptory*.

2. Positive in opinion or judgment. The genuine effect of sound learning is to make men less *peremptory* in their determinations.

3. Final; determinate.

4. *Peremptory* challenge, in law, a challenge or right of challenging jurors without showing cause.

PERENNIAL, *a.* [*L. perennis*; *per* and *annus*, a year.]

1. Lasting or continuing without cessation through the year. *Chcyne.*

2. Perpetual; unceasing; never failing. *Harvey.*

3. In *botany*, continuing more than two years; as a *perennial* stem or root. *Martyn.*

4. Continuing without intermission; as a fever. *Coxe.*

PERENNIAL, *n.* In *botany*, a plant which lives or continues more than two years, whether it retains its leaves or not. That which retains its leaves during winter is called an *evergreen*; that which casts its leaves, *deciduous*, or a *perdifoil*.

PERENNIALLY, *adv.* Continually; without ceasing.

PERENNITY, *n.* [*L. perennitas.*] An enduring or continuing through the whole year without ceasing. *Derham.*

PERERRATION, *n.* [*L. pererro*; *per* and *erro*, to wander.]

A wandering or rambling through various places. *Harell.*

PER'FECT, *a.* [*L. perfectus*, *perficio*, to complete; *per* and *facio*, to do or make through, to carry to the end.]

1. Finished; complete; consummate; not defective; having all that is requisite to

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its nature and kind; as a *perfect* statue; a *perfect* likeness; a *perfect* work; a *perfect* system.

As full, as *perfect* in a hair as heart. *Pope.*

2. Fully informed; completely skilled; as men *perfect* in the use of arms; *perfect* in discipline.

3. Complete in moral excellencies.

Be ye therefore *perfect*, even as your Father who is in heaven is *perfect*. *Matt. v.*

4. Manifesting perfection.

My strength is made *perfect* in weakness. *2 Cor. xii.*

Perfect chord, in music, a concord or union of sounds which is perfectly coalescent and agreeable to the ear, as the fifth and the octave; a *perfect* consonance.

A *perfect flower*, in botany, has both stamen and pistil, or at least anther and stigma. *Martyn.*

Perfect tense, in grammar, the preterit tense; a tense which expresses an act completed.

PER'FECT, *v. t.* [*L. perfectus*, *perficio*.] To finish or complete so as to leave nothing wanting; to give to any thing all that is requisite to its nature and kind; as, to *perfect* a picture or statue. *2 Chron. viii.*

—Inquire into the nature and properties of things, and thereby *perfect* our ideas of distinct species. *Locke.*

If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is *perfected* in us. *1 John iv.*

2. To instruct fully; to make fully skillful; as, to *perfect* one's self in the rules of music or architecture; to *perfect* soldiers in discipline.

PER'FECTED, *pp.* Finished; completed.

PER'FECTER, *n.* One that makes perfect. *Broome.*

PER'FECTIBILITY, *n.* [from *perfectible*.] The capacity of becoming or being made perfect.

PER'FECTIBLE, *a.* Capable of becoming or being made perfect, or of arriving at the utmost perfection of the species.

PER'FECTING, *ppr.* Finishing; completing; consummating.

PER'FECTION, *n.* [*L. perfectio.*] The state of being perfect or complete, so that nothing requisite is wanting; as *perfection* in an art or science; *perfection* in a system of morals.

2. *Physical perfection*, is when a natural object has all its powers, faculties or qualities entire and in full vigor, and all its parts in due proportion. *Encyc.*

3. *Metaphysical or transcendental perfection*, is the possession of all the essential attributes or all the parts necessary to the integrity of a substance. This is absolute, where all defect is precluded, such as the *perfection* of God; or according to its kind, as in created things. *Encyc.*

4. *Moral perfection*, is the complete possession of all moral excellence, as in the Supreme Being; or the possession of such moral qualities and virtues as a thing is capable of.

5. A quality, endowment or acquirement completely excellent, or of great worth.

In this sense, the word has a plural.

What tongue can her *perfections* tell?

6. An inherent or essential attribute of supreme or infinite excellence; or one perfect