

In *medicine*, preventive; defending from disease. *Core.*

PROPHYLACTIC, *n.* A medicine which preserves or defends against disease; a preventive. *Core.*

PROPINATION, *n.* [*L. propinatio, propino*; *Gr. πο and πωω*, to drink.]

The act of pledging, or drinking first and then offering the cup to another. *Potter.*

PROPINE, *v. t.* [*L. propino, supra.*] To pledge; to drink first and then offer the cup to another. [*Not used.*]

2. To expose. [*Not used.*]

PROPINQUITY, *n.* [*L. propinquitās, from propinquus, near.*]

1. Nearness in place; neighborhood. *Ray.*

2. Nearness in time. *Brown.*

3. Nearness of blood; kindred. *Shak.*

PROPTIABLE, *a.* [*See Propitiate.*] That may be induced to favor, or that may be made propitious.

PROPTIATE, *v. t.* [*L. propitio. Qu. pro, and the root of L. pio, Eng. pity.*]

To conciliate; to appease one offended and render him favorable; to make propitious.

Let fierce Achilles, dreadful in his rage,

The god propitiate and the pest assuage.

Pope.

PROPTIATED, *pp.* Appeased and rendered favorable; conciliated.

PROPTIATING, *ppr.* Conciliating; appeasing the wrath of and rendering favorable.

PROPTIATION, *n.* *propisia'shon.* [*Fr. from propitiate.*]

1. The act of appeasing wrath and conciliating the favor of an offended person; the act of making propitious.

2. In *theology*, the atonement or atoning sacrifice offered to God to assuage his wrath and render him propitious to sinners. Christ is the propitiation for the sins of men. *Rom. iii. 1 John ii.*

PROPTIATOR, *n.* One who propitiates.

Sherwood.

PROPTIATORY, *a.* Having the power to make propitious; as a propitiatory sacrifice. *Stillingfleet.*

PROPTIATORY, *n.* Among the Jews, the mercy-seat; the lid or cover of the ark of the covenant, lined within and without with plates of gold. 'This was a type of Christ. *Encyc.*

PROPTIOUS, *a.* [*L. propitius.*] Favorable; kind; applied to men.

2. Disposed to be gracious or merciful; ready to forgive sins and bestow blessings; applied to God.

3. Favorable; as a propitious season.

PROPTIOUSLY, *adv.* Favorably; kindly. *Roscommon.*

PROPTIOUSNESS, *n.* Kindness; disposition to treat another kindly; disposition to forgive.

2. Favorableness; as the propitiousness of the season or climate. *Temple.*

PROPLASM, *n.* [*Gr. πο and πλάσμα, a device.*] A mold; a matrix. *Woodward.*

PROPLASTICE, *n.* [*supra.*] The art of making molds for castings.

PROPOUS, *n.* [*Gr. before the city, or the front of the city.*]

A thick odorous substance having some resemblance to wax and smelling like storax; used by bees to stop the holes and

crevices in their hives to prevent the entrance of cold air, &c. Pliny represents it as the third coat; the first he calls *comosis*; the second *pissoceros*; the third, more solid than the others, he calls *propolis*. *Plin. Nat. Hist.*

This account of the propolis may not be perfectly correct, as authors do not agree in their descriptions of it.

PROPO'NENT, *n.* [*L. proponens; pro and pono, to place.*]

One that makes a proposal, or lays down a proposition. *Dryden.*

PROPORTION, *n.* [*L. proportio; pro and portio, part or share. See Portion.*]

1. The comparative relation of any one thing to another. Let a man's exertions be in proportion to his strength.

2. The identity or similitude of two ratios. *Proportion* differs from *ratio*. *Ratio* is the relation which determines the quantity of one thing from the quantity of another, without the intervention of a third. Thus the ratio of 5 and 10 is 2; the ratio of 8 and 16 is 2. *Proportion* is the sameness or likeness of two such relations. Thus 5 is to 10, as 8 to 16, or A is to B, as C is to D; that is, 5 bears the same relation to 10, as 8 does to 16. Hence we say, such numbers are in *proportion*. *Encyc.*

Proportion, in *mathematics*, an equality of ratios. *Day.*

The term *proportion* is sometimes improperly used for *ratio*. The ratio between two quantities, is expressed by the quotient of one divided by the other: thus, the ratio of 10 to 5 is 2, and the ratio of 16 to 8 is 2. These two equal ratios constitute a *proportion*, which is expressed by saying, 10 is to 5 as 16 is to 8; or more concisely, 10 : 5 :: 16 : 8. [*See Ratio.*]

D. Olmsted.

3. In *arithmetic*, a rule by which, when three numbers are given, a fourth number is found, which bears the same relation to the third as the second does to the first; or a fourth number is found, bearing the same relation to the second as the first does to the third. The former is called *direct*, and the latter, *inverse proportion*.

4. Symmetry; suitable adaptation of one part or thing to another; as the *proportion* of one limb to another in the human body; the *proportion* of the length and breadth of a room to its height.

Harmony, with every grace,

Plays in the fair proportions of her face.

Mrs. Carter.

5. Equal or just share; as, to ascertain the *proportion* of profit to which each partner in a company is entitled.

6. Form; size. [*Little used.*]

Davies.

7. The relation between unequal things of the same kind, by which their several parts correspond to each other with an equal augmentation and diminution, as in reducing and enlarging figures. *Encyc.*

[This more properly belongs to *ratio*.]

Harmonical or musical proportion, is when, of three numbers, the first is to the third as the difference of the first and second to the difference of the second and third. Thus 2. 3. 6. are in *harmonical proportion*: for 2 is to 6 as 1 to 3. So also four numbers are *harmonical*, when the first is to the fourth, as the difference of the first

and second is to the difference of the third and fourth. Thus, 24. 16. 12. 9. are *harmonical*, for 24 : 9 :: 8 : 3. *Encyc.*

Arithmetical and geometrical proportion. [*See Progression, No. 4.*]

Reciprocal proportion, an equality between a direct and a reciprocal ratio. Thus, 4 : 2 :: $\frac{1}{2}$: $\frac{1}{4}$. [*See Reciprocals, and Reciprocal ratio.*]

PROPORTION, *v. t.* To adjust the comparative relation of one thing or one part to another; as, to *proportion* the size of a building to its height, or the thickness of a thing to its length; to *proportion* our expenditures to our income.

In the loss of an object, we do not *proportion* our grief to its real value, but to the value our fancies set upon it. *Addison.*

2. To form with symmetry or suitableness, as the parts of the body.

PROPORTIONABLE, *a.* That may be proportioned or made proportional. This is the true sense of the word; but it is erroneously used in the sense of *proportional*, being in proportion; having a due comparative relation; as infancy with a *proportionable* number of horse.

PROPORTIONABLY, *adv.* According to proportion or comparative relation; as a large body, with limbs *proportionably* large.

PROPORTIONAL, *a.* [*It. proportionale; Fr. proportionnel.*]

Having a due comparative relation; being in suitable proportion or degree; as, the parts of an edifice are *proportional*. In *pharmacy*, medicines are compounded of certain *proportional* quantities of ingredients. The velocity of a moving body is *proportional* to the impelling force, when the quantity of matter is given; its momentum is *proportional* to the quantity of matter it contains, when its velocity is given.

Proportional, in *chemistry*, a term employed in the theory of definite proportions, to denote the same as the weight of an atom or a prime. [*See Prime.*]

Proportionals, in *geometry*, are quantities, either linear or numeral, which bear the same ratio or relation to each other. *Encyc.*

PROPORTIONALITY, *n.* The quality of being in proportion. *Grew.*

PROPORTIONALLY, *adv.* In proportion; in due degree; with suitable comparative relation; as all parts of a building being *proportionally* large.

PROPORTIONATE, *a.* Adjusted to something else according to a certain rate or comparative relation; proportional.

The connection between the end and means is *proportionate*. *Grew.*

Punishment should be *proportionate* to the transgression. *Locke.*

PROPORTIONATE, *v. t.* To proportion; to make proportional; to adjust according to a settled rate or to due comparative relation; as, to *proportionate* punishments to crimes. [This verb is less used than *proportion*.]

PROPORTIONATELY, *adv.* With due proportion; according to a settled or suitable rate or degree. *Pearson.*

PROPORTIONATENESS, *n.* The state of being adjusted by due or settled pro-