

elan is to kindle; all perhaps from the sense of moving, flowing or shooting along. The *elf* seems to correspond to the *demon* of the Greeks.]

1. A wandering spirit; a fairy; a hobgoblin; an imaginary being which our rude ancestors supposed to inhabit unfrequented places, and in various ways to affect mankind. Hence in Scottish, *elf-shot* is an elf-arrow; an arrow-head of flint, supposed to be shot by elf; and it signifies also a disease supposed to be produced by the agency of spirits.

Every *elf*, and fairy spirit,
Hop as light as bird from brier. *Shak.*

2. An evil spirit; a devil. *Dryden.*

3. A diminutive person. *Shenstone.*

ELF, *v. t.* To entangle hair in so intricate a manner, that it cannot be disentangled. This work was formerly ascribed to *elves*. *Johnson. Shak.*

ELF-ARROW, *n.* A name given to flints in the shape of arrow-heads, vulgarly supposed to be shot by fairies. *Encyc.*

ELF-LOCK, *n.* A knot of hair twisted by elves. *Shak.*

ELF-IN, *a.* Relating or pertaining to elves. *Spenser.*

ELF-IN, *n.* A little urchin. *Shenstone.*

ELFISH, *a.* Resembling elves; clad in disguise. *Mason.*

ELICIT, *v. t.* [*L. elicio*; *e* or *ex* and *lacio*, to allure, *D. lokken*, *G. loeken*, *Sw. locka*, *Dan. lokker*. Class Lg.]

1. To draw out; to bring to light; to deduce by reason or argument; as, to *elicit* truth by discussion.

2. To strike out; as, to *elicit* sparks of fire by collision. *a.* Brought into act; brought from possibility into real existence. [*Little used.*] *Johnson.*

ELICITATION, *n.* The act of eliciting; the act of drawing out. *Bramhall.*

ELICITED, *pp.* Brought or drawn out; struck out.

ELICITING, *pp.* Drawing out; bringing to light; striking out.

ELIDE, *v. t.* [*L. elido*; *e* and *lido*.] To break or dash in pieces; to crush. [*Not used.*] *Hooker.*

2. To cut off a syllable. *Brit. Crit.*

ELIGIBILITY, *n.* [*from eligibile*.] Worthiness or fitness to be chosen; the state or quality of a thing which renders it preferable to another, or desirable.

2. The state of being capable of being chosen to an office. *U. States.*

ELIGIBLE, *a.* [*Fr. from L. eligo*, to choose or select; *e* and *lego*.]

1. Fit to be chosen; worthy of choice; preferable.

In deep distress, certainty is more *eligible* than suspense. *Clayton.*

2. Suitable; proper; desirable; as, the house stands in an *eligible* situation.

3. Legally qualified to be chosen; as, a man is or is not *eligible* to an office.

ELIGIBLENESS, *n.* Fitness to be chosen in preference to another; suitability; desirableness.

ELIGIBLY, *adv.* In a manner to be worthy of choice; suitably.

ELIMINATE, *v. t.* [*L. elimino*; *e* or *ex* and *limen*, threshold.]

1. To thrust out of doors. *Loveless.*

2. To expel; to thrust out; to discharge, or throw off; to set at liberty.

This details secretions which nature finds it necessary to *eliminate*. *Med. Repos.*

ELIMINATED, *pp.* Expelled; thrown off; discharged.

ELIMINATING, *pp.* Expelling; discharging; throwing off.

ELIMINATION, *n.* The act of expelling or throwing off; the act of discharging, or secreting by the pores.

ELIQUATION, *n.* [*L. eliquo*, to melt; *e* and *liquo*.]

In chemistry, the operation by which a more fusible substance is separated from one that is less so, by means of a degree of heat sufficient to melt the one and not the other; as an alloy of copper and lead.

Encyc. Ure.

ELI' SION, *n.* *s* as *z*. [*L. elisio*, from *elido*, to strike off; *e* and *lido*.]

1. In grammar, the cutting off or suppression of a vowel at the end of a word, for the sake of sound or measure, when the next word begins with a vowel; as, th' embattled plain; th' empyreal sphere.

2. Division; separation. [*Not used.*] *Bacon.*

ELISOR, *n.* *s* as *z*. [*Norm. eliser*, to chuse; *Fr. elire*, *elisant*.]

In law, a sheriff's substitute for returning a jury. When the sheriff is not an indifferent person, as when he is a party to a suit, or related by blood or affinity to either of the parties, the *venire* is issued to the coroners; or if any exception lies to the coroners, the *venire* shall be directed to two clerks of the court, or to two persons of the county, named by the court, and sworn; and these, who are called *disors* or electors, shall return the jury. *Blackstone.*

ELIX'ATE, *v. t.* [*L. elixio*.] To extract by boiling.

ELIXATION, *n.* [*L. elixus*, from *elicio*, to boil, to moisten or macerate, from *lixo*, *lix*.]

1. The act of boiling or stewing; also, concoction in the stomach; digestion. *Brown.*

2. In pharmacy, the extraction of the virtues of ingredients by boiling or stewing; also, lixiviation. *Bailey. Encyc.*

ELIXIR, *n.* [*Fr. Sp. Port. elixir*; *It. elisire*; from *L. elixus*, *elicio*, *lixo*, *lix*, or as others allege, it is from the Arabic *al-ecsir*, chemistry.]

1. In medicine, a compound tincture, extracted from two or more ingredients. A tincture is drawn from one ingredient; an elixir from several. But tincture is also applied to a composition of many ingredients. An elixir is a liquid medicine made by a strong infusion, where the ingredients are almost dissolved in the menstruum, and give it a thicker consistence than that of a tincture. *Encyc. Quincy.*

2. A liquor for transmuting metals into gold. *Donne.*

3. Quintessence; refined spirit. *South.*

4. Any cordial; that substance which invigorates. *Milton.*

ELK, *n.* [*Sax. elch*; *Sw. elg*; *L. alce*, *alces*; *Dan. elsdyr*. This animal is described by Cesar and Pausanias.]

A quadruped of the Cervine genus, with palmaried horns, and a fleshy protuberance on

the throat. The neck is short, with a short, thick, upright mane; the eyes are small; the ears long, broad and slouching; and the upper lip hangs over the under lip. It is the largest of the deer kind, being seventeen hands high and weighing twelve hundred pounds. It is found in the northern regions of Europe, Asia and America. In the latter country it is usually called *Moose*, from the Indian name *musu*.

ELK-NUT, *n.* A plant, the Hamiltonia, called also oil-nut. *Muhlenberg.*

ELL, *n.* [*Sax. elne*; *Sw. eln*; *D. ell*, *elle*; *G. elle*; *Fr. ane*; *Arm. gaulen*; *L. alna*; *Gr. αλνυ*; *W. elin*, an elbow, and *glin*, the knee. *Qu.*]

A measure of different lengths in different countries, used chiefly for measuring cloth. The ell chiefly used in Great Britain are the English and Flemish. The English ell is three feet and nine inches, or a yard and a quarter. The Flemish ell is 27 inches, or three quarters of a yard. The English is to the Flemish as five to three. In Scotland, an ell is $37 \frac{3}{10}$ English inches. *Encyc.*

ELLIPSE, *n.* *ellips'*. An ellipsis.

ELLIP'SIS, *n.* plu. *ellips'es*. [*Gr. ελλειψις*, an omission or defect, from *ελλανω*, to leave or pass by, *αλλω*, to leave.]

1. In geometry, an oval figure generated from the section of a cone, by a plane cutting both sides of it, but not parallel to the base. *Bailey. Encyc. Harris.*

2. In grammar, defect; omission; a figure of syntax, by which one or more words are omitted, which the hearer or reader may supply; as, the heroic virtues I admire, for the heroic virtues which I admire.

ELLIPSOID, *n.* [*ellipsoid* and *Gr. ελλοειδ*, form.]

In comets, a solid or figure formed by the revolution of an ellipse about its axis; an elliptic conoid; a spheroid.

Edin. Encyc.

ELLIPSOIDAL, *a.* Pertaining to an ellipsoid; having the form of an ellipsoid.

ELLIP'TIC, *a.* Pertaining to an ellipsoid.

ELLIP'TICAL, *a.* *sis*; having the form of an ellipse; oval.

The planets move in elliptical orbits, having the sun in one focus, and by a radius from the sun, they describe equal areas in equal times. *Cheyne.*

2. Defective; as an elliptical phrase.

ELLIPTICALLY, *adv.* According to the figure called an ellipse.

2. Defectively.

ELM, *n.* [*Sax. elm*, or *ulm-treou*; *D. olm*; *G. ulme*; *Sw. alm*, or *alm-trä*, elm-tree; *Dan. alm*; *L. ulmus*; *Sp. olmo*, and *alamo*; *Corn. elaw*; *Russ. elena*, *ilma*, or *ilina*. *Qu. W. theye*, a platform, a frame, an elm, from extending.]

A tree of the genus *Ulmus*. The common elm is one of the largest and most majestic trees of the forest, and is cultivated for shade and ornament. Another species, the *falva*, is called *slippery elm*, from the quality of its inner bark. One species seems to have been used to support vines.

The treaty which William Penn made with the natives in 1682 was negotiated under a large *Elm* which grew on the spot now called Kensington, just above Philadelphia. It was pro-