

2. Capable of being understood; intelligible; conceivable by the mind.

COMPREHENSIBLENESS, *n.* Capability of being understood. *More.*

COMPREHENSIBLY, *adv.* With great extent of embrace, or comprehension; with large extent of signification; in a manner to comprehend a large circuit.

The words wisdom and righteousness are commonly used very *comprehensively*, so as to signify all religion and virtue. *Tiddison.*

This word is rarely used. [See *Comprehensively*.]

COMPREHENSION, *n.* [*L. comprehensio.*] The act or quality of comprehending, or containing; a comprising.

In the *Old Testament* there is a close *comprehension* of the *New*; in the *New*, an open discovery of the *Old*. *Hooker.*

2. An including or containing within a narrow compass; a summary; an epitome or compend.

This wise and religious aphorism in the text, is the sum and *comprehension* of all the ingredients of human happiness. *Rogers.*

3. Capacity of the mind to understand; power of the understanding to receive and contain ideas; capacity of knowing.

The nature of spirit is not within our *comprehension*.

4. In *rhetoric*, a trope or figure, by which the name of a whole is put for a part, or that of a part for a whole, or a definite number for an indefinite. *Harris.*

COMPREHENSIVE, *adj.* Having the quality of comprising much, or including a great extent; extensive; as, a *comprehensive* clarity; a *comprehensive* view. It seems sometimes to convey the sense of comprehending much in a small compass.

2. Having the power to comprehend or understand many things at once; as, a *comprehensive* head. *Pope.*

COMPREHENSIVELY, *adv.* In a comprehensive manner; with great extent of embrace.

COMPREHENSIVENESS, *n.* The quality of being comprehensive, or of including much extent; as, the *comprehensiveness* of a view.

2. The quality of including much in a few words or narrow compass.

Compare the beauty and *comprehensiveness* of legends on ancient coins. *Addison.*

COMPREHENSOR, *n.* One who has obtained knowledge. [*Not in use.*] *Hall.*

COMPRESBYTERIAL, *n.* A pertaining to the presbyterian form of ecclesiastical ministrations. *Milton.*

COMPRESS, *v. t.* [*L. compressus, compri-mo*; *con* and *premo, pressus*, to press. But the verb *premo* and participle *pressus* may be from different roots. *Fr. presser*; *D. pressen*; *Sp. apretar, and prensar*. See *Press*.]

1. To press together by external force; to force, urge or drive into a narrower compass; to crowd; as, to *compress* air.

The weight of a thousand atmospheres will *compress* water twelve and a half per cent. *Perkins.*

2. To embrace carnally. *Pope.*

3. To crowd; to bring within narrow limits or space.

Events of centuries—*compressed* within the compass of a single life. *D. Webster.*

COMPRESS, *n.* In *surgery*, a bolster of soft

linen cloth, with several folds, used by surgeons to cover a plaster or dressing, to keep it in its place and defend the part from the external air. *Encyc.*

COMPRESSED, *pp.* Pressed or squeezed together; forced into a narrow or narrower compass; embraced carnally.

In *botany*, flattened; having the two opposite sides plane or flat; as, a *compressed* stem. *Martyn.*

COMPRESSIBILITY, *n.* The quality of being compressible, or yielding to pressure; the quality of being capable of compression into a smaller space or compass; as, the *compressibility* of elastic fluids, or of any soft substance.

COMPRESSIBLE, *adj.* Capable of being forced or driven into a narrower compass; yielding to pressure; giving way to a force applied.

Elastic fluids are *compressible*. Water is *compressible* in a small degree.

COMPRESSIBLENESS, *n.* Compressibility; the quality of being compressible.

COMPRESSION, *n.* The act of compressing, or of pressing into a narrower compass; the act of forcing the parts of a body into closer union, or density, by the application of force.

2. The state of being compressed.

COMPRESSIVE, *adj.* Having power to compress. *Smith.*

COMPRESSURE, *n.* The act or force of one body pressing against another; pressure. *Boyle.*

COMP PRIEST, *n.* A fellow priest. [*Not in use.*] *Milton.*

COMPRINT, *v. i.* [See *Print*.] To print together. It is taken, in law, for the deceitful printing of another's copy, or book, to the prejudice of the proprietor. [*Little used.*] *Philips.*

COMPRISAL, *n.* The act of comprising or comprehending. *Barrow.*

COMPRISE, *v. t.* *s.* as *z.* [*Fr. compris, participle of comprehendre, L. comprehendo*. See *Comprehend*.]

To comprehend; to contain; to include; as, the substance of a discourse may be *comprised* in a few words.

COMPRISED, *pp.* Comprehended; contained.

COMPRISING, *pp.* Containing; including; comprehending.

COM PROBATE, *v. t.* To agree in approving; to concur in testimony. *Elyot.*

COMPROBATION, *n.* [*L. comprobatio, comprobo*; *con* and *probo*, to prove.] Proof; joint attestation. [*Little used.*] *Brown.*

COMPROMISE, *n.* *s.* as *z.* [*L. compromissum, from compromitto*, to give bond to stand to an award; *con* and *promitto*, to promise; *It. compromesso*; *Fr. compromis*; *Sp. compromiso*. See *Promise*.]

4. A mutual promise or contract of two parties in controversy, to refer their differences to the decision of arbitrators.

2. An amicable agreement between parties in controversy, to settle their differences by mutual concessions.

3. Mutual agreement; adjustment. *Chipman.*

[This is its usual signification.]

COM PROMISE, *v. t.* To adjust and settle a difference by mutual agreement, with

concessions of claims by the parties; to compound.

2. To agree; to accord. *Shak.*

3. To commit; to put to hazard; to pledge by some act or declaration.

[In this sense, see *Compromit*, which is generally used.]

COM PROMISED, *pp.* Settled by agreement with mutual concessions.

COM PROMISER, *n.* One who compromises.

COM PROMISING, *pp.* Adjusting by agreement.

COM PROMISSORIAL, *adj.* Relating to a compromise. *Todd.*

COM PROMIT, *v. t.* [*Fr. compromettre*; *It. compromettere*; *Sp. comprometer*; *L. compromitto, con* and *promitto*, to promise.]

To pledge or engage, by some act or declaration, which may not be a direct promise, but which renders necessary some future act. Hence, to put to hazard, by some previous act or measure, which cannot be recalled; as, to *compromit* the honor or the safety of a nation.

COM PROMITED, *pp.* Pledged by some previous act or declaration.

COM PROMITING, *pp.* Pledging; exposing to hazard.

COMPROVINCIAL, *n.* [*con* and *provincial*.]

One belonging to the same province or archiepiscopal jurisdiction. *Ayliffe.*

COMPT, *n.* [*Fr. compte, from computo*.] Account; computation. *Obs.* *Shak.*

COMPT, *v. t.* To compute. *Obs.* [See *Count*.]

COMPT, *a.* [*L. comptus*.] Neat; spruce. [*Not used.*]

COMPTIBLE, *adj.* Accountable; subject; submissive. *Obs.* *Shak.*

COMPTLY, *adv.* Neatly. [*Not in use.*] *Sherwood.*

COMPTNESS, *n.* Neatness. [*Not in use.*] *Sherwood.*

COMPTONITE, *n.* A newly discovered mineral, found in drusy cavities of masses ejected from Mount Vesuvius; so called from Lord Compton, who brought it to England in 1818. *Ure.*

COMPTROLL, from *Fr. compter, L. computo*, to count or compute, and *rolle*, a register. If this word were of genuine origin, both the verb and its derivative, *comptroller*, as applied to a public officer, would not be sense. But there is no such legitimate word in English, nor in any other known language. [See *Control*.]

COMPLUSATIVE, *a.* [*L. compulsus, compulso*.]

COMPLSATORY, *a.* [*L. compello*; Low *L. compulso*. See *Compel*.]

Compelling; forcing; constraining; operating by force. *Shak.*

COMPLUSATIVELY, *adv.* By constraint or compulsion.

COMPLUSION, *n.* [*Low L. compulso*. See *Compel*.]

1. The act of driving or urging by force, physical or moral; force applied; constraint of the will; the application of a force that is irresistible.

If reasons were as plenty as blackberries, I would give no man a reason on *compulsion*. *Shak.*

A man is excused for acts done through unavoidable force and *compulsion*. *Blackstone.*