

preach, to teach, to proclaim. The Sw. has *spå*. Dan. *spær*, to foretell. It is easy to see that the root of this word is allied to that of *beak*, *peak*, *pick*.]

1. To utter words or articulate sounds, as human beings; to express thoughts by words. Children learn to *speak* at an early age. The organs may be so obstructed that a man may not be able to *speak*.

Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth. 1 Sam. iii.

2. To utter a speech, discourse or harangue; to utter thoughts in a public assembly. A man may be well informed on a subject, and yet too diffident to *speak* in public.

Many of the nobility made themselves popular by *speaking* in parliament against those things which were most grateful to his majesty.

Clarendon.

3. To talk; to express opinions; to dispute. An honest man, sir, is able to *speak* for himself, when the knave is not.

Shak.

4. To discourse; to make mention of.

Lucan *speaks* of a part of Cesar's army that came to him from the Leman lake.

Addison.

The Scripture *speaks* only of those to whom it speaks.

Hammond.

5. To give sound.

Make all your trumpets *speak*.

Shak.

To *speak with*, to converse with. Let me *speak with* my son.

SPEAK, *v. t.* To utter with the mouth; to pronounce; to utter articulately; as human beings.

They sat down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and none *spoke* a word to him. Job ii.

Speak the word, and my son shall be healed. Matt. viii.

2. To declare; to proclaim; to celebrate.

It is my father's music

To *speak* your deeds.

Shak.

3. To talk or converse in; to utter or pronounce, as in conversation. A man may know how to read and to understand a language which he cannot *speak*.

4. To address; to accost.

He will smile upon thee, put thee in hope, and *speak* thee fair.

Eccles.

5. To exhibit; to make known.

Let heav'n's wide circuit *speak*

The Maker's high magnificence.

Milton.

6. To express silently or by signs. The lady's looks or eyes *speak* the meaning or wishes of her heart.

7. To communicate; as, to *speak* peace to the soul.

To *speak a ship*, to hail and speak to her captain or commander.

[Note. We say, to *speak* a word or syllable, to *speak* a sentence, an oration, piece, composition, or a dialogue, to *speak* a man's praise, &c.; but we never say, to *speak* an argument, a sermon or a story.]

SPEAKABLE, *a.* That can be spoken.

2. Having the power of speech.

Milton.

SPEAKER, *n.* One that speaks, in whatever manner.

2. One that proclaims or celebrates.

—No other *speaker* of my living actions.

Shak.

3. One that utters or pronounces a discourse; usually, one that utters a speech in public. We say, a man is a good *speaker*, or a bad *speaker*.

4. The person who presides in a deliberative assembly, preserving order and regulating the debates; as the *speaker* of the

house of commons; the *speaker* of a house of representatives.

SPEAKING, *ppr.* Uttering words; discoursing; talking.

SPEAKING, *n.* The act of uttering words; discourse.

2. In colleges, public declamation.

SPEAKING-TRUMPET, *n.* A trumpet by which the sound of the human voice may be propagated to a great distance.

SPEAR, *n.* [Sax. *speare*, *spere*; D. G. *speer*; Dan. *spær*; W. *yspar*, from *pär*, a spear. So W. *ber* is a spear, and a spit, that which shoots to a point. Class Br.]

1. A long pointed weapon, used in war and hunting by thrusting or throwing; a lance.

Milton. Pope.

2. A sharp pointed instrument with barbs; used for stabbing fish and other animals.

Carew.

3. A shoot, as of grass; usually *spire*.

SPEAR, *v. t.* To pierce with a spear; to kill with a spear; as, to *spear* a fish.

SPEAR, *v. i.* To shoot into a long stem. [See *Spire*.]

Mortimer.

SPEAR-ED, *pp.* Pierced or killed with a spear.

SPEAR-FOOT, *n.* [spear and foot.] The far foot behind; used of a horse.

Encyc.

SPEAR-GRASS, *n.* [spear and grass.] A long stiff grass.

Shak.

2. In New England, this name is given to a species of Poa.

SPEARING, *ppr.* Piercing or killing with a spear.

2. Shooting into a long stem.

SPEARMAN, *n.* [spear and man.] One who is armed with a spear. Ps. lxxviii.

SPEAR-MINT, *n.* [spear and mint.] A plant of the genus *Mentha*; a species of mint.

SPEAR-THISTLE, *n.* A plant, a troublesome weed.

SPEAR-WORT, *n.* A plant; the popular name of the *Ranunculus flammula*.

SPECHT, } *n.* A woodpecker. [Not in use

SPEIGHT, } *or local.* Sherwood.

SPE"CIAL, *a.* [Fr.; It. *speciale*; Sp. *especial*; from L. *specialis*, from *species*, form, figure, sort, from *specio*, to see. Hence *species* primarily is appearance, that which is presented to the eye. This word and *especial* are the same.]

1. Designating a species or sort.

A *special* idea is called by the schools a *species*.

Watts

2. Particular; peculiar; noting something more than ordinary. She smiles with a *special* grace.

Our Savior is represented every where in Scripture as the *special* patron of the poor and afflicted.

Alterbury.

3. Appropriate; designed for a particular purpose. A private grant is made by a *special* act of parliament or of congress.

4. Extraordinary; uncommon. Our charities should be universal, but chiefly exercised on *special* opportunities.

Sprat.

5. Chief in excellence.

The king hath drawn

The *special* head of all the land together.

Shak.

Special administration, in law, is one in which the power of an administrator is limited to the administration of certain specific

effects, and not the effects in general of the deceased.

Blackstone.

Special bail, consists of actual sureties recognized to answer for the appearance of a person in court; as distinguished from *common bail*, which is nominal.

Blackstone.

Special bailif, is a bailif appointed by the sheriff for making arrests and serving processes.

Special contract. [See *Specialty*.]

Special demurrer, is one in which the cause of demurrer is particularly stated.

Special impurance, is one in which there is a saving of all exceptions to the writ or count, or of all exceptions whatsoever.

Blackstone.

Special jury, is one which is called upon motion of either party, when the cause is supposed to require it.

Blackstone.

Special matter in evidence, the particular facts in the case on which the defendant relies.

Special plea, in bar, is a plea which sets forth the particular facts or reasons why the plaintiff's demand should be barred as a release, accord, &c.

Blackstone.

Special property, a qualified or limited property, as the property which a man acquires in wild animals by reclaiming them.

Special session of a court, an extraordinary session; a session beyond the regular stated sessions; or in corporations and counties in England, a petty session held by a few justices for dispatching small business.

Blackstone.

Special statute, is a private act of the legislature, such as respects a private person or individual.

Special tail, is where a gift is restrained to certain heirs of the donee's body, and does not descend to the heirs in general.

Blackstone.

Special verdict, is a verdict in which the jury find the facts and state them as proved, but leave the law arising from the facts to be determined by the court. Another method of finding a special verdict, is when the jury find a verdict generally for the plaintiff, but subject to the opinion of the court on a special case stated by the counsel on both sides, with regard to a matter of law.

Blackstone.

Special warrant, a warrant to take a person and bring him before a particular justice who granted the warrant.

SPE"CIAL, *n.* A particular. [Not used.]

Hammond.

SPE"CIALIZE, *v. t.* To mention specially.

[Not in use.]

Sheldon.

SPE"CIALLY, *adv.* Particularly; in a manner beyond what is common, or out of the ordinary course. Every signal deliverance from danger ought to be *specially* noticed as a divine interposition.

2. For a particular purpose. A meeting of the legislature is *specially* summoned.

3. Chiefly; specially.

SPE"CIALTY, *n.* Particularity.

Specialty of rule hath been neglected.

Shak.

2. A particular or peculiar case.

NOTE. This word is now little used in the senses above. Its common acceptation is,

3. A special contract; an obligation or bond; the evidence of a debt by deed or instru-