

2. The art of preventing, curing or alleviating the diseases of the human body. Hence we say, the study of *medicine*, or a student of *medicine*.

3. In the French sense, a physician. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

MEDICINE, *v. t.* To affect or operate on as medicine. [Not used.] *Shak.*

MEDIETY, *n.* [Fr. *medié*; L. *medietas*; from L. *medius*, middle.]

The middle state or part; half; moiety. [Little used.] *Brown.*

MEDIN, *n.* A small coin.

MEDIOCRAL, *a.* [L. *mediocris*.] Being of a middle quality; indifferent; ordinary; as *mediocr* intellect. [Rare.] *Addison.*

MEDIOCRIST, *n.* A person of middling abilities. [Not used.] *Swift.*

MEDIOCRITY, *n.* [L. *mediocritas*, from *mediocris*, middling; *medius*, middle.]

1. A middle state or degree; a moderate degree or rate. A *mediocrity* of condition is most favorable to morals and happiness. A *mediocrity* of talents well employed will generally ensure respectability.

Men of age seldom drive business home to the full period, but content themselves with a *mediocrity* of success. *Bacon.*

2. Moderation; temperance.

We owe obedience to the law of reason, which teacheth *mediocrity* in meats and drinks. *Hooker.*

MEDITATE, *v. i.* [L. *meditor*; Sp. *meditar*; Fr. *mediter*.]

1. To dwell on any thing in thought; to contemplate; to study; to turn or revolve any subject in the mind; appropriately but not exclusively used of pious contemplation, or a consideration of the great truths of religion.

His delight is in the law of the Lord, and in his law doth he *meditate* day and night. Ps. i.

2. To intend; to have in contemplation.

I *meditate* to pass the remainder of life in a state of undisturbed repose. *Washington.*

MEDITATE, *v. t.* To plan by revolving in the mind; to contrive; to intend.

Some affirmed that I *meditated* a war. *King Charles.*

2. To think on; to revolve in the mind.

Blessed is the man that doth *meditate* good things. *Ecclesi.*

MEDITATED, *pp.* Planned; contrived.

MEDITATING, *ppr.* Revolving in the mind; contemplating; contriving.

MEDITATION, *n.* [L. *meditatio*.] Close or continued thought; the turning or revolving of a subject in the mind; serious contemplation.

Let the words of my mouth and the *meditations* of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer. Ps. xix.

MEDITATIVE, *a.* Addicted to meditation.

2. Expressing meditation or design. *Johnson.*

MEDITERRANE, } [L. *medius*,
MEDITERRANEAN, } *a.* middle, and
MEDITERRANEOS, } *terra*, land.]

1. Inclosed or nearly inclosed with land; as the *Mediterranean* sea, between Europe and Africa. [*Mediterrane* is not used.]

2. Inland; remote from the ocean or sea; as *mediterranean* mountains. *Burnet.*

MEDIUM, *n.* plu. *media*; *media* not being generally, though sometimes used. [L.] In *philosophy*, the space or sub-

stance through which a body moves or passes to any point. Thus ether is supposed to be the *medium* through which the planets move; air is the *medium* through which bodies move near the earth; water the *medium* in which fishes live and move; glass a *medium* through which light passes; and we speak of a resisting *medium*, a refracting *medium*, &c.

2. In *logic*, the mean or middle term of a syllogism, or the middle term in an argument, being the reason why a thing is affirmed or denied.

Nothing can be honorable that violates moral principle.

Dueling violates moral principle.

Therefore dueling is not honorable.

Here the second term is the *medium*, mean, or middle term.

3. *Arithmetical medium*, that which is equally distant from each extreme, or which exceeds the lesser extreme as much as it is exceeded by the greater, in respect of quantity, not of proportion. Thus, 9 is a *medium* between 6 and 12.

4. *Geometrical medium*, is that wherein the same ratio is preserved between the first and second terms, as between the second and third. Thus, 6 is a *geometrical medium* between 4 and 9. *Encyc.*

In the three last senses or applications, *mean* is more generally used for *medium*.

5. The means or instrument by which any thing is accomplished, conveyed or carried on. Thus money is the *medium* of commerce; coin is the common *medium* of trade among all civilized nations, but wampum is the *medium* of trade among the Indian tribes, and bills of credit or bank notes are often used as *mediums* of trade in the place of gold and silver. Intelligence is communicated through the *medium* of the press.

6. The middle place or degree; the mean.

The just *medium* of this case lies between pride and abjection. *L'Estrange.*

7. A kind of printing paper of middle size.

MEDLAR, *n.* [L. *mespilus*.] A tree and a genus of trees, called *Mespilus*; also, the fruit of the tree. The German or common medlar is cultivated in gardens for its fruit. *Encyc.*

MEDLE, *v. t.* To mix; not used, but hence,

MEDLEY, *n.* A mixture; a mingled and confused mass of ingredients; used often or commonly with some degree of contempt.

This *medley* of philosophy and war. *Addison.*
Love is a *medley* of endearments, jars, suspicious, reconcilements, wars—then peace again. *Walsh.*

MEDLEY, *a.* Mingled; confused. [Little used.] *Dryden.*

MEDULLAR, } *a.* [L. *medullaris*, from
MEDULLARY, } *medulla*, marrow; W.
madruz; allied to *matter*, that is, soft.]

Pertaining to marrow; consisting of marrow; resembling marrow; as *medullary* substance.

MEDULLIN, *n.* [L. *medulla*.] The pith of the sunflower, which has neither taste nor smell. It is insoluble in water, ether, alcohol and oils, but soluble in nitric acid, and instead of yielding suberic acid, it yields the oxalic. *Cyc.*

MEED, *n.* [Sax. *med*, Gr. *μισθος*, G. *miethē*, hire; Sans. *medha*, a gift.]

1. Reward; recompense; that which is bestowed or rendered in consideration of merit.

Thanks to men
Of noble minds is honorable *meed*. *Shak.*

2. A gift or present. [Not used.] *Shak.*

MEEK, *a.* [Sw. *miuk*, soft, tender; Dan. *myg*; Sp. *meço*; Port. *mcigo*; G. *gemach*. The primary sense is flowing, liquid, or thin, attenuated, and allied to *muck*, L. *mucus*, Eng. *mucilage*, Heb. Ch. מֶכָּה, to melt. Class Mg. No. 8. See also No. 10. and No. 2. 9. 13.]

1. Mild of temper; soft; gentle; not easily provoked or irritated; yielding; given to forbearance under injuries.

Now the man Moses was very *meek*, above all men. Num. xii.

2. *Appropriately*, humble, in an evangelical sense; submissive to the divine will; not proud, self-sufficient or refractory; not peevish and apt to complain of divine dispensations. Christ says, "Learn of me, for I am *meek* and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls." Matt. xi.

Blessed are the *meek*, for they shall inherit the earth. Matt. v.

MEE'KEN, *v. t.* *meck'n*. To make meek; to soften; to render mild. *Thomson.*

MEE'KLY, *adv.* Mildly; gently; submissively; humbly; not proudly or roughly. And this mis-seeming discord *meekly* lay aside. *Spenser.*

MEE'KNES, *n.* Softness of temper; mildness; gentleness; forbearance under injuries and provocations.

2. In an *evangelical* sense, humility; resignation; submission to the divine will, without murmuring or peevishness; opposed to *pride*, *arrogance* and *refractoriness*. Gal. v.

I beseech you by the *meekness* of Christ. 1 Cor. x.

Meekness is a grace which Jesus alone inculcated, and which no ancient philosopher seems to have understood or recommended. *Buckminster.*

MEER, *a.* Simple; unmixed; usually written *mere*.

MEER, *n.* A lake; a boundary. [See *Mere*.] *Shak.*

MEE'RED, *a.* Relating to a boundary. [See *Mere*.]

MEER/SCHAUM, *n.* [G. sea-foam.] A hydrate of magnesia combined with silex. It occurs in beds in Natolia, and when first taken out, is soft, and makes lather like soap. It is manufactured into tobacco pipes, which are boiled in oil or wax, and baked. *Cyc.*

MEET, *a.* [Sax. *gemet*, with a prefix, from the root of *melan*, *gemelan*, to meet, to find, that is, to come to, to come together. So the equivalent word *convenient*, is from L. *convenio*.]

Fit; suitable; proper; qualified; convenient; adapted, as to a use or purpose.

Ye shall pass over armed before your brethren, the children of Israel, all that are *meet* for the war. Dent. iii.

It was *meet* that we should make merry—Luke xv.

Bring forth fruits *meet* for repentance. Matt. iii.

MEET, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *met*. [Sax. *melan*, *malan*, *gemelan*, to meet, to find, to meas-