

MAS'TICATORY, *a.* Chewing; adapted to perform the office of chewing food.

Lawrence's Lect.

MAS'TICATORY, *n.* A substance to be chewed to increase the saliva.

Cox.

MAS'TIFF, *n.* plu. *mastiffs*. *Mastives* is irregular. [Sp. *masin*; It. *mastino*; Fr. *matin*; Arm. *masin*; Low L. *mastivus*.]

A large species of dog, remarkable for strength and courage. Strabo informs us that the *mastiffs* of Britain were trained for war, and used by the Gauls in battle.

Encyc.

MAS'TLESS, *a.* Having no mast; as a vessel.

2. Bearing no mast; as a *mastless* oak or beech.

Dryden.

MAS'TLIN. [See *Mestlin*.]

MAS'TODON, *n.* [Gr. *μαστος*, mamilla, and *οδους*, a tooth.]

A genus of mammiferous animals resembling the elephant, now extinct, and known only by their fossil remains. It includes the N. American mammoth.

MAS'TOID, *a.* [Gr. *μαστος*, the nipple or breast, and *ειδος*, form.]

Resembling the nipple or breast; as the *mastoid* muscle; the *mastoid* process.

MAS'TRESS, for *mistress*, is not used.

Chaucer.

MAS'TY, *a.* Full of mast; abounding with acorns, &c.

MAT, *n.* [W. *mat*; Sax. *meatta*; D. *mat*; G. *matte*; L. *matia*; Sp. *matá*; Fr. *matia*; Russ. *mat*; W. *math*, that is spread. The sense is probably a lay or spread, from falling, throwing, or stretching. Class Md. No. 6. 8. 9.]

1. A texture of sedge, rushes, flags, husks, straw, or other material, to be laid on a floor for cleaning the boots and shoes of those who enter a house, and for other purposes.

Carew.

2. A web of rope-yarn, used in ships to secure the standing rigging from the friction of the yards, &c.

MAT, *v. t.* To cover or lay with mats.

Evelyn.

2. To twist together; to interweave like a mat; to entangle.

And o'er his eyebrows hung his matted hair.

Dryden.

3. To press together; to lay flat; as matted grass.

MAT'ACHIN, *n.* [Sp. a buffoon, a grotesque dance.]

An old dance.

Sidney.

MAT'ADORE, *n.* [Sp. *matador*, a murderer, and a card, from *matar*, to kill.]

One of the three principal cards in the game of ombre and quadrille, which are always two black aces and the deuce in spades and clubs, and the seven in hearts and diamonds.

Johnson. Pope.

MATCH, *n.* [Fr. *meche*; It. *mecchia*; Sp. Port. *mecha*; Arm. *mechenn*, *mech*.]

1. Some very combustible substance used for catching fire from a spark, as hemp, flax, cotton, tow dipped in sulphur, or a species of dry wood, called vulgarly touchwood.

2. A rope or cord made of hempen tow, composed of three strands slightly twisted, and again covered with tow and boiled in the lees of old wine. This when light-

ed at one end, retains fire and burns slowly till consumed. It is used in firing artillery, &c.

Encyc.

MATCH, *n.* [Sax. *maca* and *gemaca*, an equal, fellow, companion, D. *makker*, Dan. *maga*, Sw. *make*.]

1. A person who is equal to another in strength or other quality; one able to cope with another.

Government—makes an innocent man of the lowest ranks a *match* for the mightiest of his fellow subjects.

Addison.

2. One that suits or tallies with another; or any thing that equals another.

3. Union by marriage.

Love doth seldom suffer itself to be confined by other *matches* than those of its own making.

Boyle.

In popular language, it is applied to the engagement of lovers before marriage.

4. One to be married.

She inherited a fair fortune of her own—and was looked upon as the richest *match* in the west.

Clarendon.

MATCH, *n.* [Gr. *μαχη*, a battle, a fight; but probably of the same family as the preceding.]

A contest; competition for victory; or a union of parties for contest; as in games or sports.

A solemn *match* was made; he lost the prize.

Dryden.

MATCH, *v. t.* To equal.

No settled senses of the world can *match*

The pleasure of that madness.

Shak.

2. To show an equal.

No history or antiquity can *match* his policies and his conduct.

South.

3. To oppose as equal; to set against as equal in contest.

Eternal might

To *match* with their inventions they presumed

So easy, and of his thunder made a scorn.

Milton.

4. To suit; to make equal; to proportion.

Let poets *match* their subject to their strength—

Roscommon.

—To *match* patterns and colors.

Swift.

5. To marry; to give in marriage.

A senator of Rome, while Rome survived,

Would not have *match'd* his daughter with a king.

Addison.

6. To purify vessels by burning a match in them.

MATCH, *v. i.* To be united in marriage.

I hold it a sin to *match* in my kindred.

Shak.

Let tigers *match* with hinds, and wolves with sheep.

Dryden.

2. To suit; to correspond; to be of equal size, figure or quality; to tally. We say of a piece of cloth, it does not *match* with another.

MATCH'ABLE, *a.* Equal; suitable; fit to be joined.

Spenser.

2. Correspondent. [Little used.]

Woodward.

MATCH'ED, *pp.* Equaled; suited; placed in opposition; married.

MATCH'ING, *ppr.* Equaling; suiting; setting in opposition; uniting in marriage.

MATCH'LESS, *a.* Having no equal; as *matchless* impudence; a *matchless* queen; *matchless* love or charms.

MATCH'LESSLY, *adv.* In a manner or degree not to be equaled.

MATCH'LESSNESS, *n.* The state or quality of being without an equal.

MATCH'LOCK, *n.* Formerly, the lock of a musket which was fired by a match.

MATCH'MAKER, *n.* One who makes matches for burning.

2. One who contrives or effects a union by marriage.

MATE, *n.* [D. *maat*; Ar. *مات* matau, to associate. Class Md. No. 11.]

1. A companion; an associate; one who customarily associates with another.

Young persons nearly of an age, and frequently associating, are called *mates* or *playmates*.

2. A husband or wife.

3. The male or female of animals which associate for propagation and the care of their young.

Milton.

4. One that eats at the same table.

5. One that attends the same school; a school-mate.

6. An officer in a merchant ship or ship of war, whose duty is to assist the master or commander. In a merchant ship, the mate, in the absence of the master, takes command of the ship. Large ships have a first, second, and third *mate*.

In general, *mate*, in compound words, denotes an assistant, and ranks next in subordination to the principal; as *master's mate*; *surgeon's mate*, &c.

MATE, *n.* [Sp. Port. *mate*; Fr. *mat*; from Sp. *matar*, to kill.]

In chess, the state of the king so situated that he cannot escape.

MATE, *v. t.* To match; to marry.

Spenser. Shak.

2. To equal; to be equal to.

For thus the mastful chesnut *mates* the skies.

Dryden.

3. To oppose; to equal.

—'I' th' way of loyalty and truth,

Dare *mate* a sounder man than Surrey can be.

Shak.

MATE, *v. t.* [Fr. *mater*, to mate in chess; Sw. *matla*, to weaken, to enervate; Sp. *matar*, to kill.]

To enervate; to subdue; to crush.

Audacity doth almost bind and *mate* the weaker sort of minds. [Not used.]

Bacon.

MAT'LESS, *a.* Having no mate or companion.

Peacham.

Materia Medica, a general name for every substance used in medicine.

Encyc.

2. An auxiliary branch of the science of medicine, which treats of the nature and properties of all the substances that are employed for the cure of diseases.

Ed. Encyc.

MATE'RIAL, *a.* [It. *materiale*; Fr. *matériel*; Sp. *material*; from L. *materia*, *matter*.]

1. Consisting of matter; not spiritual; as *material* substance; *material* bodies.

2. Important; momentous; more or less necessary; having influence or effect.

Hold them for catholics or heretics, it is not a thing very *material* in this question.

Hooker.

In the account of simple ideas, I shall set down only such as are most *material* to our present purpose.

Locke.

So we say, a *material* point; a *material*