

Z.

Z E A

Z, the last letter of the English Alphabet, is a sibilant articulation, and is merely a vocal *S*. It bears the same relation to *s*, as *v* does to *f*. With us it has not a compound sound, nor is it a double consonant, as in the Italian and German. It is as simple in its sound as *S*.

As a numeral, *Z* stands for 2000, and with a dash over it, *Z̄*, for 2,000,000. It is pronounced *zee*.

ZA'BAISM. [See *Sabianism*.]

ZAC'CHO, *n*. The lowest part of the pedestal of a column.

ZAFFER, *n*. The residuum of cobalt, after the sulphur, arsenic and other volatile matters have been expelled by calcination; so that it is a gray or dark gray oxyd of cobalt, mixed with a portion of silex. *Cyc.*

ZA'NY, *n*. [It. *zanni*, a buffoon.] A merry andrew; a buffoon. *Pope.*

ZA'NY, *v. t*. To mimic. *Beaum.*

ZAP'OTE, *n*. In *Mexico*, the generic name of fruits which are roundish and contain a hard stone; the species are various.

ZAR'NICH, *n*. [See *Arsenic*.] The name of a genus of fossils, which are inflammable, of a plain uniform structure, not flexible or elastic, soluble in oil, and burning with a whitish flame and noxious smell like garlic. This substance is supposed to be sulphureted arsenic. Of this genus there are four species; one the real sandarach; another is sold under the name of orpiment. *Cyc.*

ZEA, *n*. The generic name of maize.

ZEAL, *n*. [Gr. *ζηλος*; L. *zelus*.] Passionate ardor in the pursuit of any thing. Excessive *zeal* may rise to enthusiasm. In general, *zeal* is an eagerness of desire to accomplish or obtain some object, and it may be manifested either in favor of any person or thing, or in opposition to it, and in a good or bad cause.

Zeal, the blind conductor of the will.

They have a *zeal* of God, but not according to knowledge. Rom. x.

A *zeal* for liberty is sometimes an eagerness to subvert, with little care what shall be established. *Johnson.*

ZEALOT, *n*. *zel'ot*. One who engages warmly in any cause, and pursues his object with earnestness and ardor. It is generally used in dispraise, or applied to one whose ardor is intemperate and censurable. The fury of *zealots* was one cause of the destruction of Jerusalem. *K. Charles.*

ZEALOT'ICAL, *a*. Ardently zealous. [*Little used*.] *Styke.*

ZEALOUS, *a*. *zel'us*. Warmly engaged or ardent in the pursuit of an object.

Being thus saved himself, he may be *zealous* in the salvation of souls. *Law.*

ZEALOUSLY, *adv*. *zel'usly*. With passionate ardor; with eagerness.

It is good to be *zealously* affected always in a good thing. Gal. iv.

Z E O

ZEALOUSNESS, *n*. *zel'usness*. The quality of being zealous; zeal.

ZE'BRA, *n*. An animal of the genus *Equus*, beautifully marked with stripes; a native of Africa.

ZE'BU, *n*. A variety of the common ox, with a hump on the shoulders. It is found in the E. Indies and resembles the *bos Indicus*, or Indian ox, but is very small, being sometimes little larger than a dog. *Cyc.*

ZE'CHIN, *n*. A Venetian gold coin; usually written *sequin*, which see. If named from *Zecha*, the place where minted, this is the correct orthography.

ZED'OARY, *n*. A medicinal root, belonging to a plant growing in the East Indies, whose leaves resemble those of ginger, only they are longer and broader. It comes in oblong pieces, about the thickness of the little finger, and two or three inches in length. It is a warm stomachic. *Cyc.*

ZEINE, *n*. A substance of a yellowish color, soft, insipid, and elastic, procured from the seeds of the *Zea Mays* or Indian corn. *Gorham.*

ZEMINDAR, *n*. [from *zem*, *zemin*, land.] In India, a feudatory or landholder who governs a district of country and collects taxes. *Asiat. Res.*

ZEMINDARY, *n*. The jurisdiction of a zemindar.

ZEND, *n*. A language that formerly prevailed in Persia.

ZEND'AVESTA, *n*. Among the Persees, a sacred book ascribed to Zoroaster, and revered as a bible, or sole rule of faith and practice. It is often called *Zend*, by contraction.

ZE'NITH, *n*. [Fr.; It. *zenit*; Sp. *zenit* or *eenit*.] I have not found the oriental original.]

That point in the visible celestial hemisphere, which is vertical to the spectator, and from which a direct perpendicular line passing through the spectator, and extended, would proceed to the center of the earth. It is opposed to *nadir*.

ZE'OLITE, *n*. [Gr. *ζέω*, to boil, to foam, and *λίθος*, stone.]

A mineral, so named by Cronstedt from its intumescence before the blowpipe. Many substances have been confounded under this name, particularly such as are fusible by the blowpipe without addition, and exhibit a phosphoric brilliancy at the moment of fusion. Haüy makes two species of zeolite, which he calls mesotype and stilbite. Werner makes four subspecies, which he calls mealy zeolite, fibrous zeolite, radiated zeolite, and foliated zeolite. He makes zeolite a generic name, and Jameson, who adopts this theory, arranges in this family prehnite, zeolite, apophyllite, cubelite, called by Haüy analcime, chabazite, cross-stone, laumouite, dipyre, natrolite, and wavellite. *Cyc.*

Z E U

Zeolite commonly occurs in a four sided prism, terminated by a four sided pyramid; often in small fibrous masses.

Cleaveland.

ZEOLIT'IC, *a*. Pertaining to zeolite; consisting of zeolite, or resembling it.

ZEOLIT'IFORM, *a*. Having the form of zeolite.

ZEPH'YR, *n*. [L. *zephyrus*; Gr. *ζεφρος*.] The west wind; and poetically, any soft, mild, gentle breeze. The poets personify Zephyrus, and make him the most mild and gentle of all the sylvan deities. *Cyc.*

Mild as when *Zephyrus* on *Flora* breathes. *Milton.*

ZER'DA, *n*. An animal of the canine genus, found in the desert of Zaara, beyond mount Atlas. It is about ten inches in length, with a pointed nose, long whiskers, large black vivid eyes, and remarkably swift of foot. Its color is a yellowish pale brown. *Diet. Nat. Hist.*

ZE'RO, *n*. [It.] Cipher; nothing. The point of a thermometer from which it is graduated. Zero, in the thermometers of Celsius and Reaumur, is at the point at which water congeals. The zero of Fahrenheit's thermometer is fixed at the point at which the mercury stands when immersed in a mixture of snow and common salt. In Wedgewood's pyrometer, the zero corresponds with 1077° on Fahrenheit's scale.

ZEST, *n*. [Pers. *زستان*; *zistan*, to peel. Class Sd.]

1. A piece of orange or lemon peel, used to give flavor to liquor; or the fine thin oil that spurts out of it when squeezed; also, the woody thick skin quartering the kernel of a walnut. *Cyc.*

2. Relish; something that gives a pleasant taste; or the taste itself.

ZEST, *v. t*. To give a relish or flavor to; to lighten taste or relish.

2. To cut the peel of an orange or lemon from top to bottom into thin slips; or to squeeze the peel over the surface of any thing. *Cyc.*

ZE'TA, *n*. A Greek letter.

2. A little closet or chamber, with pipes running along the walls, to convey into it fresh air, or warm vapor from below. *Cyc.*

ZETET'IC, *a*. [Gr. *ζητεω*, to seek.] That seeks; that proceeds by inquiry. The *zetetic* method in mathematics, is that used in investigation, or the solution of problems. *Cyc.*

ZEUG'MA, *n*. [Gr. *ζευγμα*, from *ζευγω*, to join. See *Yoke*.]

A figure in grammar by which an adjective or verb which agrees with a nearer word, is by way of supplement, referred to another more remote. Thus in Virgil, "*Hic illius arma, hic currus fuit*;" where *fuit*,