

U S U

men-ushers of the privy chamber. There is also an usher of the exchequer, who attends the barons, sheriffs, juries, &c.

Cyc. England.

2. An under-teacher or assistant to the preceptor of a school.

USH'ER, *v. t.* To introduce, as a forerunner or harbinger; to forerun.

The stars that usher evening, rose. *Milton.*

The Examiner was ushered into the world by a letter, setting forth the great genius of the author. *Addison.*

USH'ERED, *pp.* Introduced.

USH'ERING, *ppr.* Introducing, as a forerunner.

USQUEBAUGH, *n.* [Fr. *uisge*, water, and *bagh*, life.]

A compound distilled spirit. From this word, by corruption, we have *whiskey*.

US'TION, *n.* [Fr. *ustion*; L. *ustio*, from *uro*, *ustus*, to burn.]

The act of burning; the state of being burnt.

USTO'RIOUS, *a.* [supra.] Having the quality of burning. *Halls.*

USTULA'TION, *n.* [L. *ustulatus*.] The act of burning or searing. *Petty.*

2. In *metallurgy*, ustulation is the operation of expelling one substance from another by heat, as sulphur and arsenic from ores, in a muffle.

3. In *pharmacy*, the roasting or drying of moist substances so as to prepare them for pulverizing; also, the burning of wine. *Cyc.*

US'UAL, *a. s* as *z.* [Fr. *usuel*; from *use*.] Customary; common; frequent; such as occurs in ordinary practice, or in the ordinary course of events. Rainy weather is not *usual* in this climate.

Consultation with oracles was formerly a thing very *usual*. *Hooker.*

US'UALLY, *adv. s* as *z.* Commonly; customarily; ordinarily. Men *usually* find some excuse for their vices. It is *usually* as cold in North America in the fortieth degree of latitude, as it is in the west of Europe in the fiftieth.

US'UALNESS, *n. s* as *z.* Commonness; frequency.

USUCAP'TION, *n.* [L. *usus*, use, and *capio*, to take.]

In the *civil law*, the same as *prescription* in the common law; the acquisition of the title or right to property by the uninterrupted and undisputed possession of it for a certain term prescribed by law.

USUFRUCT, *n.* [L. *usus*, use, and *fructus*, fruit.]

The temporary use and enjoyment of lands or tenements; or the right of receiving the fruits and profits of lands or other thing, without having the right to alienate or change the property. *Cyc.*

USUFRUCTU'ARY, *n.* A person who has the use and enjoyment of property for a time, without having the title or property. *Johnson.*

US'URE, *v. i. s* as *z.* To practice usury. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

US'URER, *n. s* as *z.* [See *Usury*.] Formerly, a person who lent money and took interest for it.

2. In *present usage*, one who lends money at a rate of interest beyond the rate established by law.

U T E

USU'RIOUS, *a. s* as *z.* Practicing usury; taking exorbitant interest for the use of money; as a *usurious* person.

2. Partaking of usury; containing usury; as a *usurious* contract, which by statute is void.

USU'RIOUSLY, *adv.* In a usurious manner.

USU'RIOUSNESS, *n.* The state or quality of being usurious.

USURP', *v. t. s* as *z.* [Fr. *usurper*; L. *usurpo*.]

To seize and hold in possession by force or without right; as, to *usurp* a throne; to *usurp* the prerogatives of the crown; to *usurp* power. To *usurp* the right of a patron, is to oust or dispossess him.

Vice sometimes *usurps* the place of virtue. *Denham.*

[*Usurp* is not applied to common dispossession of private property.]

USURPA'TION, *n.* [supra.] The act of seizing or occupying and enjoying the property of another, without right; as the *usurpation* of a throne; the *usurpation* of the supreme power. *Usurpation*, in a peculiar sense, denotes the absolute ouster and dispossession of the patron of a church, by presenting a clerk to a vacant benefice, who is thereupon admitted and instituted. *Cyc.*

USURP'ED, *pp.* Seized or occupied and enjoyed by violence, or without right.

USURP'ER, *n.* One who seizes or occupies the property of another without right; as the *usurper* of a throne, of power, or of the rights of a patron. *Shak. Dryden. Cyc.*

USURP'ING, *ppr.* Seizing or occupying the power or property of another without right.

The worst of tyrants, an *usurping* crowd. *Pope.*

USURP'INGLY, *adv.* By usurpation; without just right or claim. *Shak.*

US'URY, *n. s* as *z.* [Fr. *usure*; L. *usura*, from *utor*, to use.]

1. Formerly, interest; or a premium paid or stipulated to be paid for the use of money. [*Usury* formerly denoted any legal interest, but in this sense, the word is no longer in use.]

2. In *present usage*, illegal interest; a premium or compensation paid or stipulated to be paid for the use of money borrowed or retained, beyond the rate of interest established by law.

3. The practice of taking interest. *Obs. Bacon.*

UTEN'SIL, *n.* [Fr. *utensile*. This seems to be formed on the participle of the L. *utor*.]

An instrument; that which is used; particularly, an instrument or vessel used in a kitchen, or in domestic and farming business.

UTERINE, *a.* [Fr. *uterin*; L. *uterinus*, from *uterus*.]

Pertaining to the womb. *Uterine* brother or sister, is one born of the same mother, but by a different father. *Cyc.*

UTERO-GESTA'TION, *n.* Gestation in the womb from conception to birth.

UTERUS, *n.* [L.] The womb. *Pritchard.*

U T T

UTIL'ITY, *n.* [Fr. *utilité*; L. *utilitas*, from *utor*, to use.]

Usefulness; production of good; profitability to some valuable end; as the *utility* of manures upon land; the *utility* of the sciences; the *utility* of medicines.

UTILIZE, *v. t.* [It. *utilizzare*; Sp. *utilizar*; from *utile*, *util*, useful.] To gain; to acquire. [Rare.] *Journ. of Science.*

UT'IS, *n.* Bustle; stir. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

UT'MOST, *a.* [Sax. *utmost*, *utmost*; *ut*, out, and *mest*, most; that is, to the outermost point.]

1. Extreme; being at the furthest point or extremity; as the *utmost* limit of North America; the *utmost* limits of the land; the *utmost* extent of human knowledge.

2. Being in the greatest or highest degree; as the *utmost* assiduity; the *utmost* harmony; the *utmost* misery or happiness; the *utmost* peril. *Shak.*

UT'MOST, *n.* The most that can be; the greatest power, degree or effort. He has done his *utmost*. Try your *utmost*.

I will be free
Even to the *utmost* as I please in words. *Shak.*

UTO'PIAN, *a.* [from More's *Utopia*.] Ideal; chimerical; fanciful; not well founded.

UT'RICLE, *n.* [L. *utriculus*, a little bag or bottle.]

1. A little bag or bladder; a little cell; a reservoir in plants to receive the sap.

2. A capsule of one cell, and containing a solitary seed, often very thin and semi-transparent, constantly destitute of valves, and falling with the seed. *Fourcroy. Martyn. Gartner. Cyc. Smith.*

UTRIC'ULAR, *a.* Containing utricles; furnished with glandular vessels like small bags; as plants. *Lee.*

UT'TER, *a.* [Sax.; that is, *outer*.] Situated on the outside or remote from the center. *Milton.*

2. Placed or being beyond any compass; out of any place; as the *utter* deep. *Milton.*

3. Extreme; excessive; utmost; as *utter* darkness.

4. Complete; total; final; as *utter* ruin.

5. Peremptory; absolute; as an *utter* refusal or denial.

6. Perfect; mere; quite; as *utter* strangers.

UT'TER, *v. t.* To speak; to pronounce; to express; as, to *utter* words; to *utter* sounds. *Addison.*

2. To disclose; to discover; to divulge; to publish. He never *utters* a syllable of what I suppose to be intended as a secret.

3. To sell; to vend; as, to *utter* wares. [This is obsolete, unless in the law style.]

4. To put or send into circulation; to put off, as currency, or cause to pass in commerce; as, to *utter* coin or notes. A man *utters* a false note, who gives it in payment, knowing it to be false.

UT'TERABLE, *a.* That may be uttered, pronounced or expressed.

UT'TERANCE, *n.* The act of uttering words; pronunciation; manner of speaking; as a good or bad *utterance*.

They began to speak with other tongues, as the spirit gave them *utterance*. Acts ii.