

PROVIDENT, *a.* Foreseeing wants and making provision to supply them; forecasting; cautious: prudent in preparing for future exigences; as a *provident* man; a *provident* animal.

The parsimonious emmet, *provident*
Of future. *Milton.*

Orange is what Augustus was,
Brave, wary, *provident* and bold. *Waller.*

PROVIDENTIAL, *a.* Effected by the providence of God; referable to divine providence; proceeding from divine direction or superintendence; as the *providential* contrivance of things; a *providential* escape from danger. How much are we indebted to God's unceasing *providential* care! *Woodward.*

PROVIDENT'ALLY, *adv.* By means of God's providence.

Every animal is *providentially* directed to the use of its proper weapons. *Roy.*

PROVIDENTLY, *adv.* With prudent foresight; with wise precaution in preparing for the future.

PROVIDER, *n.* One who provides, furnishes or supplies; one that procures what is wanted. *Shak.*

PROVINCE, *n.* [Fr. from L. *provincia*; usually supposed to be formed from *pro* and *vinco*, to conquer. This is very doubtful, as *provinco* was not used by the Romans.]

1. Among the *Romans*, a country of considerable extent, which being reduced under their dominion, was new-modeled, subjected to the command of an annual governor sent from Rome, and to such taxes and contributions as the Romans saw fit to impose. That part of France next to the Alps, was a Roman *province*, and still bears the name *Provence*. *Encyc.*

2. Among the *moderns*, a country belonging to a kingdom or state, either by conquest or colonization, usually situated at a distance from the kingdom or state, but more or less dependent on it or subject to it. Thus formerly, the English colonies in North America were *provinces* of Great Britain, as Nova Scotia and Canada still are. The *provinces* of the Netherlands formerly belonged to the house of Austria and to Spain.

3. A division of a kingdom or state, of considerable extent. In *England*, a division of the ecclesiastical state under the jurisdiction of an archbishop, of which there are two, the *province* of Canterbury and that of York.

4. A region of country; in a general sense; a tract; a large extent.

Over many a tract

Of heaven they march'd, and many a *province*
wide. *Milton.*

They never look abroad into the *provinces* of the intellectual world. *Watts.*

5. The proper office or business of a person. It is the *province* of the judge to decide causes between individuals.

The woman's *province* is to be careful in her economy, and chaste in her affection. *Tatler.*

PROVINCIAL, *a.* Pertaining to a province or relating to it; as a *provincial* government; a *provincial* dialect.

2. Appendant to the principal kingdom or state; as *provincial* dominion; *provincial* territory. *Brown.*

3. Not polished; rude; as *provincial* accent or manners. *Dryden.*

4. Pertaining to an ecclesiastical province, or to the jurisdiction of an archbishop; not ecumenical; as a *provincial* synod. *Ayliffe.*

PROVINCIAL, *n.* A spiritual governor. In catholic countries, one who has the direction of the several convents of a province. *Encyc.*

2. A person belonging to a province. *Burke.*

PROVINCIALISM, *n.* A peculiar word or manner of speaking in a province or district of country remote from the principal country or from the metropolis. *Marsh.*

PROVINCIALITY, *n.* Peculiarity of language in a province. *Warton.*

PROVINCATE, *v. t.* To convert into a province. [Unusual.] *Howell.*

PROVINE, *v. i.* [Fr. *provigner*; *pro* and *vigne*, a vine.]

To lay a stock or branch of a vine in the ground for propagation. *Johnson.*

PROVING, *ppr.* Trying; ascertaining; evincing; experiencing.

PROVISION, *n. s* as *z.* [Fr. from L. *provisio*, *provideo*. See *Provide*.]

1. The act of providing or making previous preparation.

2. Things provided; preparation; measures taken beforehand, either for security, defense or attack, or for the supply of wants. We make *provision* to defend ourselves from enemies; we make *provision* for war; we make *provision* for a voyage or for erecting a building; we make *provision* for the support of the poor. Government makes *provision* for its friends.

3. Stores provided; stock; as *provision* of victuals; *provision* of materials. *Knolles. South.*

4. Victuals; food; provender; all manner of eatables for man and beast; as *provisions* for the table or for the family; *provisions* for an army. *Milton. Encyc.*

5. Previous stipulation: terms or agreement made, or measures taken for a future exigency.

In the law, no *provision* was made to abolish the barbarous customs of the Irish. *Davies.*

Papal provision, a previous nomination by the pope to a benefice before it became vacant, by which practice the rightful patron was deprived of his presentation. *Blackstone.*

PROVISION, *v. t.* To supply with victuals or food. The ship was *provisioned* for a voyage of six months. The garrison was well *provisioned*.

PROVISIONAL, *a.* [Fr. *provisio*nnel.] Provided for present need or for the occasion; temporarily established; temporary; as a *provisional* government or regulation; a *provisional* treaty.

PROVISIONALLY, *adv.* By way of provision; temporarily; for the present exigency. *Locke.*

PROVISIONARY, *a.* Provisional; provided for the occasion; not permanent. *Burke.*

PROVISO, *n. s* as *z.* [L. *provisus*, ablative *proviso*, it being provided.]

An article or clause in any statute, agree-

ment, contract, grant or other writing, by which a condition is introduced; a conditional stipulation that affects an agreement, contract, law, grant, &c. The charter of the bank contains a *proviso* that the legislature may repeal it at their pleasure.

PROVISOR, *n.* [Fr. *proviseur*.] In church affairs, a person appointed by the pope to a benefice before the death of the incumbent, and to the prejudice of the rightful patron. Formerly the pope usurped the right of presenting to church livings, and it was his practice to nominate persons to benefices by anticipation, or before they became vacant; the person thus nominated was called a *provisor*. In England, this practice was restrained by statutes of Richard II. and Henry IV.

More sharp and penal laws were devised against *provisors*; it being enacted that whoever disturbs any patron in the presentation to a living by virtue of any papal provision, such *provisor* shall pay fine and ransom to the king at his will, and be imprisoned till he renounces such provision. *Blackstone.*

2. The purveyor, steward or treasurer of a religious house. *Cowel.*

PROVISORY, *a.* Making temporary provision; temporary. *State Papers.*

2. Containing a proviso or condition; conditional.

PROVOCA'TION, *n.* [Fr. from L. *provocatio*. See *Provoke*.]

1. Any thing that excites anger; the cause of resentment. 1 Kings xxi.

Harden not your hearts, as in the *provocation*. Ps. xcv.

2. The act of exciting anger.

3. An appeal to a court or judge. [*A Latinism, not now used.*] *Ayliffe.*

4. Incitement. [*Not used.*] *Hooker.*

PROVOCATIVE, *a.* Exciting; stimulating; tending to awaken or incite appetite or passion.

PROVOCATIVE, *n.* Any thing that tends to excite appetite or passion; a stimulant; as a *provocative* of hunger or of lust. *Addison.*

PROVOCATIVENESS, *n.* The quality of being provocative or stimulating.

PROVOKE, *v. t.* [L. *provoco*, to call forth; *pro* and *voco*, to call; Fr. *provoquer*; It. *provocare*; Sp. *provocar*.]

1. To call into action; to arouse; to excite; as, to *provoke* anger or wrath by offensive words or by injury; to *provoke* war.

2. To make angry; to offend; to incense; to enrage.

Ye fathers, *provoke* not your children to wrath. Eph. vi.

Often *provoked* by the insolence of some of the bishops— *Clarendon.*

3. To excite; to cause; as, to *provoke* perspiration; to *provoke* a smile. *Arbuthnot.*

4. To excite; to stimulate; to increase.

The taste of pleasure *provokes* the appetite, and every successive indulgence of vice which is to form a habit, is easier than the last. *Buckminster.*

5. To challenge.

He now *provokes* the sea-gods from the shore. *Dryden.*

6. To move; to incite; to stir up; to induce by motives. Rom. x. *Bacon.*

Let us consider one another to *provoke* to love and to good works. Heb. x.