

CUSPATED, *a.* [L. *cuspid*, a point.] Pointed; ending in a point.

CUSPIDAL, *a.* Ending in a point.

CUSPIDATE, } *a.* [L. *cuspidatus*, from  
CUSPIDATED, } *cuspid*, a point.]  
Having a sharp end, like the point of a spear; terminating in a bristly point; as a *cuspidate* leaf.

CUSTARD, *n.* [Cymric *custard*. Junius.] I suspect the first syllable to be W. *caus*, curd, cheese.]

A composition of milk and eggs, sweetened and baked or boiled, forming an agreeable kind of food.

CUSTARD-APPLE, *n.* A plant, a species of Annona, growing in the West Indies, whose fruit is of the size of a tennis ball, of an orange color, containing a yellowish pulp, of the consistence of custard.

CUSTODIAL, *a.* [from *custody*.] Relating to custody or guardianship.

CUSTODY, *n.* [L. *custodia*; It. and Sp. *id.*; from L. *custos*, a watchman, a keeper. This word has the elements of *castle*, *W. cas*, the primary sense of which is to separate, to drive off; hence, to defend, to hold. See *Chaste*.]

1. A keeping; a guarding; care, watch, inspection, for keeping, preservation or security.

Under the *custody* and charge of the sons of Merari shall be the boards of the tabernacle. Num. iii.

The prisoner was committed to the *custody* of the sheriff. Hence.

2. Imprisonment; confinement; restraint of liberty.

3. Defense from a foe; preservation; security.

There was prepared a fleet of thirty ships for the *custody* of the narrow seas. Bacon.

CUSTOM, *n.* [Fr. *coutume*, for *coutume*; It. *costuma*, *costume*; Sp. *costumbre*; Port. *costume*; Arm. *custum*. Qu. L. *consuetus*.]

1. Frequent or common use, or practice; a frequent repetition of the same act; hence, way; established manner; habitual practice.

The priest's *custom* with the people was—1 Sam. ii.

We have no such *custom*. 1 Cor. xi. The *customs* of the people are vain. Jer. x.

2. A buying of goods; practice of frequenting a shop and purchasing or procuring to be done.

Let him have your *custom*, but not your votes. Addison.

The shopkeeper has extensive *custom*, or a good run of *custom*. A mill or a manufacturer has extensive *custom*, or little *custom*.

3. In law, long established practice, or usage, which constitutes the unwritten law, and long consent to which gives it authority. Customs are general, which extend over a state or kingdom, and particular, which are limited to a city or district. *Etc.*

CUSTOM, *v. t.* To make familiar. [See *Acustom*, which is the word used.]

2. To give custom to.

CUSTOM, *n.* [Fr. *coutume*, from *coûter*, for *coûter*, to cost.]

Tribute, toll or tax; that is, *cost* or charge paid to the public.

Render *custom* to whom *custom* is due. Rom. xiii.

*Customs*, in the plural, the duties imposed by law on merchandise imported or exported. In Great Britain and the U. States, this word is limited to these species of duties.

CUSTOM-HOUSE, *n.* The house where vessels enter and clear, and where the customs are paid or secured to be paid.

CUSTOMABLE, *a.* Common; habitual; frequent. Johnson.

2. Subject to the payment of the duties called *customs*. Law of Massachusetts.

CUSTOMABLENESS, *n.* Frequency; conformity to custom. [Little used.]

CUSTOMABLY, *adv.* According to custom; in a customary manner. Haywood.

CUSTOMARILY, *adv.* [See *Customary*.] Habitually; commonly. Ray.

CUSTOMARINESS, *n.* Frequency; commonness; habitual use or practice.

CUSTOMARY, *a.* [Fr. *coutumier*.] According to custom, or to established or common usage; as a *customary* dress; *customary* compliments.

2. Habitual; in common practice; as *customary* vices.

3. Holding by custom; as *customary* tenants, who are copyholders.

4. Held by custom; as a *customary* freehold.

CUSTOMARY, *n.* [Fr. *coutumier*, *coutumier*.] A book containing laws and usages, or customs; as the *customary* of the Normans. Coverd.

CUSTOMED, *a.* Usual; common; to which we are accustomed. [See *Accustomed*.] Shaks.

2. Furnished with customers. Bacon.

CUSTOMER, *n.* One who frequents any place of sale for the sake of purchasing goods; one who purchases goods or wares.

One who frequents or visits any place for procuring what he wants. We say, a mill has many *customers*. Hence a person who receives supplies is called a *customer*; the smith, the shoemaker and the tailor have their *customers*; and the coffee-house has its *customers*.

3. A toll-gatherer. Obs.

CUSTOS, *n.* [L.] A keeper; as *custos brevium*, the principal clerk of the common pleas; *custos rotularum*, keeper of the rolls and records of the sessions of the peace. England.

CUSTIEL, *n.* [Qu. Old Fr. *coustiller*, from L. *scutum*.]

A buckler-bearer. Also, a vessel for holding wine. [Not in use.]

CUT, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *cut*. [Norm. *cotu*, cut. This word coincides in elements with the W. *cut*, a piece, *catia*, to cut, *ciela*, short, *ciela*, to shorten, and with *ysguthir*, to cut off, to lop, to shed, to carve, which Owen deduces from *ysguthir*, a push, from *guth*, a push or thrust, *guthir*, to push, thrust, press. Whether *cut* is derived to us from the Welsh or not may be a question; but I have not found the word in any of the Gothic or Teutonic languages. It is obviously from a common root with the L. *cardo* and *cado*, and the primary sense is to thrust, to drive, to strike; and to *cut off* is primarily to *strike off*. We have proof of this in our own language; for a stroke with a whip is called

a *cut*, and our common people, when they urge a person to ride or run with haste, cry out, *cut on*, *cut on*. The fact is the same with many other words which now signify, to separate with an edged tool. See Class Gd. No. 2. 4. 8. 43. 49. 56. 59. and in a different dialect, Class Gs. No. 5. 6. 28. 32. 40. 41. 42. 67.]

1. To separate the parts of any body by an edged instrument, either by striking, as with an ax, or by sawing or rubbing; to make a gash, incision or notch, which separates the external part of a body, as to *cut the flesh*. It signifies also, to cut into pieces; to sever or divide; as, to cut timber in the forest. But when an entire separation of the body is intended, it is usually followed by *off*, *down*, *asunder*, *in two*, *in pieces*, or other word denoting such severance.

"Ye shall not *cut yourselves*," that is, ye shall not gash your flesh. Deut. xiv.

2. To hew.

Thy servants can skill to cut timber. 2 Chron. ii.

3. To carve, as meat; to carve or engrave in sculpture. Addison.

4. To divide; to cleave, by passing through; as, a ship *cuts* the briny deep.

5. To penetrate; to pierce; to affect deeply; as, a sarcasm *cuts* to the quick.

6. To divide, as a pack of cards; as, to *cut* and shuffle.

7. To intersect; to cross. One line *cuts* another at right angles. The ecliptic *cuts* the equator.

8. To castrate.

To *cut across*, to pass by a shorter course, so as to cut off an angle or distance.

To *cut asunder*, to cut into pieces; to divide; to sever.

He hath *cut asunder* the cords of the wicked. Ps. cxxix.

To *cut down*, to fell; to cause to fall by severing.

Ye shall *cut down* their groves. Ex. xxxiv.

Hence, to depress; to abash; to humble; to shame; to silence; as, his eloquence *cuts down* the finest orator.

Addison.

[This phrase is not elegant, but is in popular use.]

To *cut off*, to separate one part from another; as, to *cut off* a finger, or an arm; to *cut off* the right hand figure; to *cut off* a letter or syllable.

2. To destroy; to extirpate; to put to death untimely.

Jezabel *cut off* the prophets of the Lord. 1 Kings xviii.

Evil deeds shall be *cut off*. Ps. cxxxvii.

3. To separate; to remove to a distance, or to prevent all intercourse. A man in another country or in prison is *cut off* from his country or his friends.

1. To interrupt; as, to *cut off* communication.

2. To separate; to remove; to take away; as, to *cut off* ten years of life.

3. To intercept; to hinder from return, or union. The troops were *cut off* from the ships.

4. To end; to finish; as, to *cut off* all controversy.

5. To prevent or preclude; as, to *cut off* all occasion of blame.