

loss of hope ; sinking into dejection ; depressed and inactive in despair.

Bentley. Thomson.

DESPOND'ER, *n.* One destitute of hope.

DESPOND'ING, *ppr.* Losing courage to act, in consequence of loss of hope, or of deep calamity, or of difficulties deemed insurmountable ; sinking into dejection ; despairing, with depression of spirits.

DESPOND'INGLY, *adv.* In a desponding manner ; with dejection of spirits ; despairingly.

DESPONS'ATE, *v. t.* [*L. desponso.*] To betroth. [*Not in use.*]

DESPONSA'TION, *n.* A betrothing. [*Not in use.*]

DESPOT, *n.* [*Gr. despotēs, a master or lord ; It. despota ; Fr. despote ; Sp. despota.*] An emperor, king or prince invested with absolute power, or ruling without any control from men, constitution or laws. Hence in a general sense, a tyrant. *Burke.*

DESPOT'IC, { *a.* Absolute in power ; in-
DESPOT'ICAL, { *a.* dependent of control from men, constitution or laws ; arbitrary in the exercise of power ; as a *despotic* prince.

2. Unlimited or unrestrained by constitution, laws or men ; absolute ; arbitrary ; as *despotic* authority or power. *Addison. Swift.*

3. Tyrannical.

DESPOT'ICALLY, *adv.* With unlimited power ; arbitrarily ; in a despotic manner.

Blackstone.

DESPOT'ICALNESS, *n.* Absolute or arbitrary authority.

DESPOT'ISM, *n.* [*Sp. despotismo ; Fr. despotisme.*]

1. Absolute power ; authority unlimited and uncontrolled by men, constitution or laws, and depending alone on the will of the prince ; as the *despotism* of a Turkish sultan.

2. An arbitrary government, as that of Turkey and Persia.

DESPUMATE, *v. i.* [*L. despumo ; de* and *spuma*, froth or scum.]

To foam ; to froth ; to form froth or scum.

DESPUMATION, *n.* The act of throwing off excrementitious matter and forming a froth or scum on the surface of liquor ; clarification ; scumming. *Coke.*

DESQUAMATION, *n.* [*It. desquamare ; de* and *squama*, a scale.]

A scaling or exfoliation of bone ; the separation of the cuticle in small scales. *Coke.*

DESS, for *desk*. [*Not in use.*]

Chaucer. Spenser.

DESSERT', *n. dezzert'*. [*Fr. dessert, from desservir, to clear the table ; and de servir, to serve.*]

A service of fruits and sweetmeats, at the close of an entertainment ; the last course at the table, after the meat is removed.

Dryden.

DESTINATE, *v. t.* [*L. destino, destinatus.*]

To assign or appoint. [*Seldom used. See Destiny.*]

DESTINATE, *a.* Appointed ; destined ; determined. *Morton.*

DESTINATION, *n.* [*L. destinatio.*] The act of destining, or appointing.

2. The purpose for which any thing is intended or appointed ; end or ultimate design. Every animal is fitted for its destination.

3. The place to which a thing is appointed, as the ship left her *destination* ; but it is more usual to say, the place of her *destination*.

DESTINE', *v. t.* [*L. destino ; probably de and stino or steno.*] There seems to have been a root of this orthography, different from *L. sto*, which we find in *obstinate, obstino, prestino*, and in Russ. *stanoviy* is to set or place, *stan* is stature, and we have *stanchion* and *stone*, Sax. *stan*, perhaps from the same root. The words beginning with *st*, as *stable, steady, stage, stand*, signify to set, but the difference of final articulation seems to indicate a difference of roots—*slab, stad, stag, stan*.]

1. To set, ordain or appoint to a use, purpose, state or place. We *destine* a son to the ministerial office ; a house *for* the place of worship ; a ship *for* the London trade or *for* Lisbon ; and we are all *destined* to a future state of happiness or misery.

2. To fix unalterably, as by a divine decree ; as the *destined* hour of death.

3. To doom ; to devote ; to appoint unalterably. *Prior.*

DESTINED, *pp.* Ordained ; appointed by previous determination ; devoted ; fixed unalterably.

DESTINING, *ppr.* Ordaining ; appointing.

DESTINY, *n.* [*Fr. destin ; It. destino ; Sp. id.*] State or condition appointed or predetermined ; ultimate fate ; as, men are solicitous to know their future *destiny*, which is however happily concealed from them.

2. Inevitable necessity ; fate ; a necessity or fixed order of things established by a divine decree, or by an indissoluble connection of causes and effects.

But who can turn the stream of destiny?

Spenser.

Destinies, the fates, or supposed powers which preside over human life, spin it out, and determine it ; called by the Latins, *parce*.

DESTITUTE, *a.* [*L. destitutus, destitutus ; de* and *statuo*, to set. Literally, set from or away.]

1. Not having or possessing ; wanting ; as *destitute* of virtue, or of piety ; *destitute* of food and clothing. It differs from *deprived*, as it does not necessarily imply previous possession.

2. Needy ; abject ; comfortless ; friendless.

He will regard the prayer of the *destitute*.

Ps. cii.

DESTITUTE, *n.* One who is without friends or comfort.

DESTITUTE, *v. t.* To forsake. [*Not used.*]

Fotherley.

2. To deprive. [*Not used.*]

DESTITUTION, *n.* Want ; absence of a thing ; a state in which something is wanted or not possessed ; poverty.

Hooker. Taylor.

DESTROY', *v. t.* [*L. destruo ; de* and *struo*, to pile, to build ; *Fr. détruire ; It. distruggere ; Sp. Port. destruir.* See *Structure*.]

1. To demolish ; to pull down ; to separate the parts of an edifice, the union of which is necessary to constitute the thing ; as, to *destroy* a house or temple ; to *destroy* a fortification.

2. To ruin ; to annihilate a thing by demolishing or by burning ; as, to *destroy* a city.

3. To ruin ; to bring to naught ; to annihilate ; as, to *destroy* a theory or scheme ; to *destroy* a government ; to *destroy* influence.

4. To lay waste ; to make desolate.

Go up against this land, and *destroy* it. *Is.* xxxvi.

5. To kill ; to slay ; to extirpate ; *applied* to men or other animals.

Ye shall *destroy* all this people. *Num.* xxxii. All the wicked will he *destroy*. *Ps.* cxlv.

6. To take away ; to cause to cease ; to put an end to ; as, pain *destroys* happiness.

That the body of sin might be *destroyed*. *Rom.* vi.

7. To kill ; to eat ; to devour ; to consume. Birds *destroy* insects. Hawks *destroy* chickens.

8. In general, to put an end to ; to annihilate a thing or the form in which it exists. An army is *destroyed* by slaughter, capture or dispersion ; a forest, by the ax, or by fire ; towns, by fire or inundation, &c.

9. In chemistry, to resolve a body into its parts or elements.

DESTROY'ABLE, *a.* That may be destroyed.

Plants scarcely *destroyable* by the weather. [*Little used.*] *Derham.*

DESTROY'ED, *pp.* Demolished ; pulled down ; ruined ; annihilated ; devoured ; swept away ; &c.

DESTROY'ER, *n.* One who destroys, or lays waste ; one who kills a man, or an animal, or who ruins a country, cities, &c.

DESTROY'ING, *ppr.* Demolishing ; laying waste ; killing ; annihilating ; putting an end to.

DESTROYING, *n.* Destruction. *Milton.*

DESTRUCT, *for* *destruy*, is not used.

DESTRUCTIBILITY, *n.* The quality of being capable of destruction.

DESTRUCTIBLE, *a.* [*L. destruo, destructum.*] Liable to destruction ; capable of being destroyed.

DESTRUCTION, *n.* [*L. destructio.* See *Destroy*.]

1. The act of destroying ; demolition ; a pulling down ; subversion ; ruin, by whatever means ; as the *destruction* of buildings, or of towns. Destruction consists in the annihilation of the form of any thing ; that form of parts which constitutes it what it is ; as the *destruction* of grass or herbage by eating ; of a forest, by cutting down the trees ; or it denotes a total annihilation ; as the *destruction* of a particular government ; the *destruction* of happiness.

2. Death ; murder ; slaughter ; massacre.

There was a deadly *destruction* throughout all the city. *1 Sam.* v.

3. Ruin.

Destruction and misery are in their ways. *Rom.* 3.

4. Eternal death.

Broad is the way that leadeth to *destruction*. *Matt.* vii.

5. Cause of destruction ; a consuming plague ; a destroyer.

The *destruction* that wasteth at noon-day. *Ps.* xci.

DESTRUCTIVE, *a.* Causing destruction ; having the quality of destroying ; ruinous ; mischievous ; pernicious ; with *of* or *to* ; as a *destructive* fire or famine. *Imperatores* are *destructive* of health ; evil examples are *destructive* to the morals of youth.