

- NE/ARNESS, *n.* Closeness; small distance. The nearness of a place to a market enhances the value of lands.
2. Close alliance by blood; propinquity; as the nearness of brothers and sisters, parents and children.
3. Close union by affection; intimacy of friendship.
4. Parsimony; closeness in expenses. *Bacon.*

NEAT, *n.* [Sax. *neat*, *neten*, *niten*, *nyten*; Sw. *nöt*; Dan. *nöd*. In Sax. *geneat* is a herdsman. In Spanish, *ganado* is cattle, and vermin; doubtless the same word with a prefix. In W. *enud* is a group. *Neat* coincides with the root of *need* in elements, and if connected with it, the sense is a herd or collection, from crowding, pressing; but this is doubtful.]

1. Cattle of the bovine genus, as bulls, oxen and cows. In America, this word is used in composition, as in *neat's tongue*, *neat's foot oil*, and tautologically in *neat cattle*.
2. A single cow. *Tusser.*

NEAT, *a.* [It. *netto*; Sp. *neto*; Fr. *net*; Arn. *neat* or *neet*; L. *nitidus*, *niteo*, to shine, to be clean, fair or fine; W. *nith*, pure; *nithiaw*, to purify, to winnow.]

1. Very clean; free from foul or extraneous matter; as *neat clothes*. The vessels are kept *neat*; the woman keeps her house very *neat*.
2. Pure; free from impure words and phrases; as a *neat style*.
3. Cleanly; preserving neatness; as a *neat woman*.
4. Pure; unadulterated; as *neat wine*. *Obs.* *Chapman.*

5. Free from tawdry appendages and well adjusted; as a *neat dress*.
6. Clear of the cask, case, bag, box, &c.; as *neat weight*. It is usually written *net* or *nett*.

NE/ATHERD, *n.* [Sax. *neathyrd*.] A person who has the care of cattle; a cow-keeper. *Dryden.*

- NE/ATLY, *adv.* With neatness; in a neat manner; in a cleanly manner; as a garment *neatly* washed.
2. With good taste; without tawdry ornaments; as a lady *neatly* dressed.
3. Nicely; handsomely; as a vessel *neatly* gilt.

NE/ATNESS, *n.* Exact cleanliness; entire freedom from foul matter; as the *neatness* of a floor or of a garment.

2. Purity; freedom from ill chosen words; as the *neatness* of style.
3. Freedom from useless or tawdry ornaments; with good adjustment of the several parts; as the *neatness* of a dress.

NE/ATRESS, *n.* [from *neat*, cattle.] A female who takes care of cattle. [*Not used in the United States.*] *Warner.*

NEB, *n.* [Sax. *neb* or *nebbe*; Ice. *nebbe* or *nef*; Dan. *neb*, *neb*, and with a prefix, *snabel*; Sw. *näf*; D. *neb*, *sneb*; G. *schnebel*. In the different dialects, it signifies a bill, beak, the nose, or the face, from extending or shooting. See Class Nb. No. 2. 3. 6. 8. 10. 13. 15. 21. 24. It is also written *nib*.]

The nose; the beak of a fowl; the bill; the mouth.

NEB/ULA, } [L. *nebula*; Gr. *νεφος*, *νεφε-*  
NEB/ULE, } *n.* [L. *nebula*; Gr. *νεφος*; Ir. *neall*, *neul*, by contraction; It. *nebbia*; Sp. *niebla*, fog, mist. Probably the primary sense is thick or mixed.]

1. A dark spot, a film in the eye, or a slight opacity of the cornea. *Cyc.*
2. In astronomy, a cluster of fixed stars, not distinguishable from each other or scarcely visible to the naked eye, and exhibiting a dim hazy light, appearing like dusky specks or clouds through the telescope. *Cyc.*

NEBULOS/ITY, *n.* [from *nebulous*.] The state of being cloudy or hazy. *Med. Repos.*

NEB/ULOUS, *a.* [L. *nebulosus*.] Cloudy; hazy. [See *Nebule*.]

2. Resembling a small cloud or collection of vapors.

NECESSA/RIAN, *n.* [See *Necessary*.] An advocate for the doctrine of philosophical necessity; more properly *necessitarian*. *Priestley.*

NECESSARIES, *n. plu.* [from *necessary*.] Things necessary for some purpose; as the *necessaries* of life. *Locke.*

NECESSARILY, *adv.* By necessity; in such a manner that it cannot be otherwise. Truth is *necessarily* opposite to falsehood. A square is *necessarily* different from a circle.

2. Indispensably. Most men are *necessarily* occupied in procuring their subsistence.
3. By unavoidable consequence. Certain inferences *necessarily* result from particular premises.

NECESSARINESS, *n.* The state of being necessary.

NECESSARY, *a.* [L. *necessarius*.] That must be; that cannot be otherwise; indispensably requisite. It is *necessary* that every effect should have a cause.

2. Indispensable; requisite; essential; that cannot be otherwise without preventing the purpose intended. Air is *necessary* to support animal life; food is *necessary* to nourish the body; holiness is a *necessary* qualification for happiness; health is *necessary* to the enjoyment of pleasure; subjection to law is *necessary* to the safety of persons and property.
3. Unavoidable; as a *necessary* inference or consequence from facts or arguments.

4. Acting from necessity or compulsion; opposed to *free*. Whether man is a *necessary* or a free agent is a question much discussed.

NECESSARY, *n.* A privy.

NECESSITA/RIAN, } *n.* One who main-  
NECESSA/RIAN, } tains the doctrine of philosophical necessity in regard to the origin and existence of things. *Beattie.*

NECES/SITATE, *v. t.* [from L. *necessitas*.] To make necessary or indispensable; to render unavoidable; to compel.

The marquis of Newcastle, being pressed on both sides, was *necessitated* to draw all his army into York. *Clarendon.*

Sickness might *necessitate* his removal from court. *South.*

NECES/SITATED, *pp.* Made necessary, indispensable or unavoidable.

NECES/SITATING, *ppr.* Making necessary or indispensable.

NECESSITA/TION, *n.* The act of making necessary; compulsion. [*Little used.*] *Bramhall.*

NECES/SITIED, *a.* In a state of want. [*Not in use.*] *Shak.*

NECES/SITOUS, *a.* Very needy or indigent; pressed with poverty.

There are multitudes of *necessitous* heirs and penurious parents. *Arbutnot.*

2. Narrow; destitute; pinching; as *necessitous* circumstances.

NECES/SITOUSNESS, *n.* Extreme poverty or destitution of the means of living; pressing want. *Burnet.*

NECES/SITUDE, *n.* Necessitousness; want. [*Not used.*] *Hale.*

NECES/SITY, *n.* [L. *necessitas*.] That which must be and cannot be otherwise, or the cause of that which cannot be otherwise. It is of *necessity* that a thing cannot be and not be at the same time. It is of *necessity* that two contradictory propositions cannot both be true.

2. Irresistible power; compulsive force, physical or moral. If man's actions are determined by causes beyond his control, he acts from *necessity*, and is not a free agent. *Necessity* compelled the general to act on the defensive.

3. Indispensableness; the state of being requisite. The *necessity* of funds to support public credit, no man questions. The *necessity* of economy in domestic concerns is admitted. No man can plead *necessity* in excuse for crimes.

4. Extreme indigence; pinching poverty; pressing need.

The cause of all the distractions in his court or army proceeded from the extreme poverty and *necessity* his majesty was in. *Clarendon.*

5. Unavoidableness; inevitableness; as the *necessity* of a consequence from certain premises.

6. In the plural, things requisite for a purpose.

These should be hours for *necessities*, Not for delights. *Shak.*

NECK, *n.* [Sax. *hnece*, *hnecca*, *necca*; G. *nick*, *genick*, the nape of the neck; D. *nek*; Sw. *nacke*; Dan. *nakke*; It. Port. Sp. *nueca*. This word is properly the nape or vertebrae of the neck behind, and is so rendered in other languages, L. *nux*, that is, a knob or mass; W. *enuec*.]

1. The part of an animal's body which is between the head and the trunk, and connects them. In man and many other animals, this part is more slender than the trunk; hence,

2. A long narrow tract of land projecting from the main body, or a narrow tract connecting two larger tracts; as the *neck* of land between Boston and Roxbury.

3. The long slender part of a vessel, as a retort; or of a plant, as a gourd; or of any instrument, as a guitar.

A *stiff neck*, in Scripture, denotes obstinacy in sin.

On the *neck*, immediately after; following closely.

First by committing one sin on the *neck* of another. *Perkins.*

[This phrase is not much used. We more frequently say, on the heels.]

To break the *neck* of an affair, to hinder, or to do the principal thing to prevent.