

schale; Dan. Sw. *skal*; Fr. *ecaille*. The word primarily signifies that which is peeled or separated, as rind or the outer coat of plants, or their fruit; and as *shells* were used for dishes, the word came to signify a dish. See *Scale*.]

1. The hard or stony covering of certain fruits and of certain animals; as the *shell* of a nut; the *shell* of an oyster or lobster. The *shells* of animals are crustaceous or testaceous; crustaceous, as that of the lobster, and testaceous, as that of the oyster and clam.

2. The outer coat of an egg.

3. The outer part of a house unfinished. We say of a building that wants the interior timbers or finishing, that it is a mere *shell*.

4. An instrument of music, like *testudo* in Latin; the first lyre being made, it is said, by drawing strings over a tortoise shell.

5. Outer or superficial part; as the *shell* of religion.

6. A bomb.

Fossil shells, shells dug from the earth.

SHELL, *v. t.* To strip or break off the shell; or to take out of the shell; as, to *shell* nuts or almonds.

2. To separate from the ear; as, to *shell* maiz.

SHELL, *v. i.* To fall off, as a shell, crust or exterior coat.

2. To cast the shell or exterior covering. Nuts *shell* in falling.

3. To be disengaged from the husk; as, wheat or rye *shells* in reaping.

SHELLED, *pp.* Deprived of the shell; also, separated from the ear; as *shelled* corn or maiz.

SHELL-FISH, *n.* An aquatic animal whose external covering consists of a shell, crustaceous or testaceous; as lobsters, crabs, oysters, clams, &c.

SHELLING, *pp.* Taking off the shell; casting the external hard covering; separating from the husk and falling.

2. Separating from the ear, as maiz.

SHELL-MEAT, *n.* Food consisting of shell fish.

SHELL-WORK, *n.* Work composed of shells, or adorned with them.

SHELLY, *a.* Abounding with shells; as the *shelly* shore.

2. Consisting of shells. Lobsters disengage themselves from their *shelly* prisons.

SHELTER, *n.* [Sw. *skyta*, to cover; Dan. *skiul*, a shed or cover, a *shelter*; *skiuler*, to hide, conceal, cloke; L. *celo*.]

1. That which covers or defends from injury or annoyance. A house is a *shelter* from rain and other inclemencies of the weather; the foliage of a tree is a *shelter* from the rays of the sun.

The healing plant shall aid,
From storms a *shelter*, and from heat a shade.

2. The state of being covered and protected; protection; security.

Who into *shelter* takes their tender bloom.

3. He that defends or guards from danger; a protector. Ps. lxi.

SHELTER, *v. t.* To cover from violence, injury, annoyance or attack; as a valley

sheltered from the north wind by a mountain.

Those ruins *shelter'd* once his sacred head.

We besought the deep to *shelter* us.

2. To defend; to protect from danger; to secure or render safe; to harbor.

What endless honor shall you gain,
To save and *shelter* Troy's unhappy train?

3. To betake to cover or a safe place.

They *sheltered* themselves under a rock.

4. To cover from notice; to disguise for protection.

In vain I strove to check my growing flame,
Or *shelter* passion under friendship's name.

SHELTER, *v. i.* To take shelter.

There the Indian herdsman shunning heat,
Shelters in cool.

SHELTERED, *pp.* Covered from injury or annoyance; defended; protected.

SHELTERING, *pp.* Covering from injury or annoyance; protecting.

SHELTERLESS, *a.* Destitute of shelter or protection; without home or refuge.

Now sad and *shelterless* perhaps she lies.

SHELTERY, *a.* Affording shelter.

SHEL/TIE, *n.* A small but strong horse in Scotland; so called from Shetland, where it is produced.

SHELVE, *v. t. shelv.* To place on a shelf or on shelves. [Not in use.]

SHELVE, *v. i. shelv.* [Sax. *scylfan*, to reel.] To incline; to be sloping.

SHELVING, *pp.* or *a.* Inclining; sloping; having declivity.

With rocks and *shelving* arches vaulted round.

SHELVY, *a.* Full of rocks or sand banks; shallow; as a *shelvy* shore.

SHEMITIC, *a.* Pertaining to Shem, the son of Noah. The *Shemitic* languages are the Chaldee, Syriac, Arabic, Hebrew, Samaritan, Ethiopic and Old Phœnician.

SHEND, *v. t. pret.* and *pp. shent*. [Sax. *scendan*; D. *schenden*, to violate, spoil, slander, revile; G. *schänden*, to mar, spoil, disfigure, violate, abuse, debauch. This is from the root of *scandal*.]

1. To injure, mar or spoil.

That much I fear my body will be *shent*.

2. To blame, reproach, revile, degrade, disgrace.

The famous name of knighthood foully *shent*.

3. To overpower or surpass.

She pass'd the rest as Cynthia doth *shend* the lesser stars.

SHENT, *pp.* Injured. Obsolete unless in poetry.

SHEPHERD, *n.* [Sax. *sceap-heard* or *hyrd*; sheep and herd.]

1. A man employed in tending, feeding and guarding sheep in the pasture.

2. A swain; a rural lover.

3. The pastor of a parish, church or congregation; a minister of the gospel who superintends a church or parish, and gives instruction in spiritual things. God and Christ are in Scripture denominated *Shepherds*, as they lead, protect and govern

their people, and provide for their welfare. Ps. xxiii. lxxx. John x.

SHEPHERDESS, *n.* A woman that tends sheep; hence, a rural lass.

She put herself into the garb of a *shepherdess*.

SHEPHERDISH, *a.* Resembling a shepherd; suiting a shepherd; pastoral; rustic.

SHEPHERDLY, *a.* Pastoral; rustic.

SHEPHERD'S NEEDLE, *n.* A plant of the genus *Scandix*; Venus's comb.

SHEPHERD'S POUCH, } *n.* A plant of the genus

SHEPHERD'S PURSE, } *n.* the genus

SHEPHERD'S ROD, *n.* A plant of the genus *Dipsacus*; teasel.

SHEPHERD'S STAFF, *n.* A plant of the genus *Dipsacus*.

SHER/BET, *n.* [Pers. شربت. This word,

as well as *sirup* and *shrub*, and L. *sorbeo*,

is from the Ar. شرب sharaba, to drink,

to imbibe.]

A drink composed of water, lemon juice and sugar, sometimes with perfumed cakes dissolved in it, with an infusion of some drops of rose water. Another kind is made with violets, honey, juice of raisins, &c.

SHERD, *n.* A fragment; usually written *shard*, which see.

SHER/IF, *n.* [Sax. *scir-gerefa*; *scyre*, *scire*, a shire or division, and *gerefa*, a reeve, a count, prefect, bailiff, provost or steward; G. *graf*, D. *graaf*. *Sherif* is the true orthography.]

An officer in each county, to whom is entrusted the execution of the laws. In England, sheriffs are appointed by the king. In the United States, sheriffs are elected by the legislature or by the citizens, or appointed and commissioned by the executive of the state. The office of sheriff in England is judicial and ministerial. In the United States it is mostly or wholly ministerial. The sheriff, by himself or his deputies, executes civil and criminal process throughout the county, has charge of the jail and prisoners, attends courts and keeps the peace.

SHERIFFALTY, } *n.* The office or jurisdiction of sheriff. [I believe none of these words is now in use.

SHERIFFDOM, }

SHERIFFSHIP, }

SHERIFFWICK, }

SHERIFF, *n.* The title of a descendant of Mohammed by Hassan Ibn Ali.

SHER/RY, *n.* [sometimes written *sherris*.]

A species of wine; so called from Xeres in Spain, where it is made.

Shew, Shewed, Shewn. [See *Show, Showed, Shown*.]

SHEW-BREAD. [See *Show-bread*.]

SHEW/ER, *n.* One that shows. [See *Shower*.]

SHEWING. [See *Showing*.]

SHIB/BOLETH, *n.* [Heb. an ear of corn, or a stream of water.]

1. A word which was made the criterion by which to distinguish the Ephraimites from the Gileadites. The Ephraimites not be-