

CATECHIST, *n.* [Gr. *κατηχηστος*.] One who instructs viva voce, or by question and answer; a catechiser; one appointed by the church to instruct in the principles of religion.

CATECHISTIC, } *a.* Pertaining to a
CATECHISTICAL, } catechist, or catechism.

CATECHU, *n.* Terra Japonica, a dry extract, or brown astringent substance, obtained by decoction and evaporation from a species of *Mimosa* in India. It consists chiefly of tannin. *Thomson. Ure.*

CATECHUMEN, *n.* [Gr. *κατηχουμενος*, places where hearers stood to be instructed, or buildings adjoining a church where the catechist taught the doctrines of religion.] One who is in the first rudiments of Christianity; one who is receiving instruction and preparing himself for baptism. These were anciently the children of believing parents, or pagans not fully initiated in the principles of the Christian religion. They were admitted to this state by the imposition of hands, and the sign of the cross.

CATECHUMENICAL, *a.* Belonging to catechumens.

CATECHUMENIST, *n.* A catechumen.

CATEGORICAL, *a.* [See *Category*.] Pertaining to a category.

2. Absolute; positive; express; not relative or hypothetical; as a *categorical* proposition, syllogism or answer.

CATEGORICALLY, *adv.* Absolutely; directly; expressly; positively; as, to affirm categorically.

CATEGOIRY, *n.* [Gr. *κατηγορια*, from *κατηγορεω*, to accuse, show, demonstrate: *κατα* and *αγορευω*, to speak in an assembly, to harangue or denounce, from *αγορευω*, a forum, judicial tribunal or market.]

In logic, a series or order of all the predicates or attributes contained under a genus. The school philosophers distributed all the objects of our thoughts and ideas into genera or classes. Aristotle made ten categories, viz. substance, quantity, quality, relation, action, passion, time, place, situation and habit.

CATEGANARIAN, *a.* [L. *catenarius*, from *catena*, a chain.]

Relating to a chain; in geometry, is formed by a rope or chain hanging freely between two points of suspension, whether the points are horizontal or not. *Harris. Encyc.*

CATENATE, *v. t.* [L. *catena*, a chain; *Gr. kette*; Sans. *ketta*, whence *kettenu*, to bind.] To chain, or rather to connect in a series of links or ties. *Darwin.*

CATENATION, *n.* Connection of links, union of parts, as in a chain; regular connection. [See *Concensation*.]

CATENULATE, *a.* Consisting of little links or chains.

CATER, *v. i.* [In It. *cattare* is to get; *accattare*, to beg or borrow. In Fr. *acheter* is to buy; Norm. *acal*, a buying. The Fr. *quitter*, for *quæter*, to beg, seems to be a different word. See *Caterer*.]

To provide food; to buy or procure provisions; followed by *for*; as, to *cater for* the sparrow. *Shak.*

CATER, *n.* A provider. [See *Caterer*.] Old Eng. *achator*.

CATER, *n.* The four of cards or dice; so written for Fr. *quatre*.

CATER-COUSIN, *n.* A quatre-cousin, a remote relation. *Shak.*

CATERER, *n.* [from *cater*. In Chaucer, *achator*, a purchaser or caterer, is evidently from *acheter*, to buy.]

A provider, buyer or purveyor of provisions. *Chaucer, Cant. Tales. 570. South.*

CATERESS, *n.* A woman who caters; a female provider of food.

CATERPILLAR, *n.* [The etymology of this word is uncertain. Perhaps it may be from Fr. *chatte pelue*, hairy cat.] The colored and often hairy larva of the *lepidopterous* insects.

This term is also applied to the larvae of other insects, such as the *Tenthredo*, or saw-fly; but is more generally confined to the *lepidoptera*. Caterpillars are produced immediately from the egg; they are furnished with several pairs of feet, and have the shape and appearance of a worm. They contain the embryo of the perfect insect, inclosed within a muscular envelop, which is thrown off, when the insect enters the nymph or chrysalis state, in which it remains for sometime as if inanimate. It then throws off its last envelop, and emerges a perfect insect. Caterpillars generally feed on leaves or succulent vegetables, and are sometimes very destructive. *Ed. Encyc. Kirby.*

CATERPILLAR-EATER, *n.* A worm bred in the body of a caterpillar, which eats it. *Encyc.*

CATERWAUL, *v. i.* [probably from *cat* and *waul*, It. *guaiolare*, Eng. *wail*.]

To cry or wawl, as cats in rutting time; to make a harsh offensive noise.

CATERWAULING, *n.* The cry of cats; a harsh disagreeable noise or cry.

CATERY, *n.* The place where provisions are deposited.

CATES, *n.* Delicious food or viands; dainties.

CATHARIST, *n.* [Gr. *καθαρος*, pure.] One who pretends to more purity than others possess.

CATHARTIC, } *a.* [Gr. *καθαρτικος*, from
CATHARTICAL, } *a.* *καθαριος*, *καθαρος*, to
purge, *καθαρος*, clean, *κατα* and *αίρω*, to
remove.]

Purging; cleansing the bowels; promoting evacuations by stool; purgative.

CATHARTIC, *n.* A medicine that promotes alvine discharges, and thus cleanses the stomach and bowels; a purge; a purgative.

CATHARTICALNESS, *n.* The quality of promoting discharges from the bowels.

CATHEDRAL, *n.* [L. *cathedra*; Gr. *καθεδρα*, a chair or seat, from *κατα* and *εδρα*, a seat.]

The see or seat of a bishop; the principal church in a diocese.

CATHEDRAL, *a.* Pertaining to the church, which is the bishop's seat, or head church of a diocese; containing the see of a bishop; as a *cathedral* church; *cathedral* service.

2. Resembling the aisles of a cathedral; as, *cathedral* walks. *Pope.*

CATHEDRATED, *a.* Relating to the authority of the chair or office of a teacher. *Whitlock.*

CATHETER, *n.* [Gr. *καθετηρ*, from *καθετηρ*, to thrust in; *κατα* and *ηρως*, to send.]

In surgery, a tubular instrument, usually made of silver, to be introduced into the bladder, to draw off the urine when the natural discharge is suppressed; also, a sound to search for the stone, or a bougie made of silver or elastic gum.

CATHETUS, *n.* [Gr. *καθετος*. See *Catheter*.]

In geometry, a line or radius, falling perpendicularly on another line or surface; as the two sides of a right-angled triangle. *Encyc.*

Cathetus of incidence, in catoptries, is a right line drawn from a point of the object, perpendicular to the reflecting line.

Cathetus of reflection, or of the eye, a right line drawn from the eye, perpendicular to the reflecting plane.

Cathetus of obliquation, a right line drawn perpendicular to the speculum, in the point of incidence or reflection.

In architecture, a cathetus is a perpendicular line, supposed to pass through the middle of a cylindrical body. *Encyc.*

CATHOLIC, *a.* [Gr. *καθολικος*, *κατα* and *ολικος*, from *ολος*, the whole; L. *catholicus*; Fr. *catholique*; Sp. *catolico*; It. *cattolico*.]

Universal or general; as the *Catholic* church.

Originally this epithet was given to the Christian church in general, but is now appropriated to the Romish church, and in strictness there is no Catholic church, or universal Christian communion. The epithet is sometimes set in opposition to heretic, sectary or schismatic.

2. Liberal; not narrow minded, partial or bigoted; as a *catholic* man.

3. Liberal; as *catholic* principles.

Catholic epistles, the epistles of the apostles which are addressed to all the faithful, and not to a particular church.

CATHOLIC, *n.* A papist.

CATHOLICISM, *n.* Adherence to the Catholic church.

2. Universality, or the orthodox faith of the whole church. *Pearson.*

More generally, liberality of sentiments. This is the renowned seat of *Catholicism*. *E. D. Griffin.*

CATHOLICIZE, *v. i.* To become a catholic. [*Little used*.]

CATHOLICLY, *adv.* Generally; in a catholic manner. *Sir L. Cary.*

CATHOLICNESS, *n.* Universality. *Brevint.*

CATHOLICON, *n.* [Gr. *καθολικον ιασην*, universal remedy.]

A remedy for all diseases; a universal remedy; a remedy supposed to be efficacious in purging away all humors; a panacea; a kind of soft purgative electuary so called.

CATHILINISM, *n.* The practices of Cathine, the Roman conspirator; conspiracy.

CATKIN, *n.* [from *cat* and *kin*.] In botany, a species of calyx or rather of inflorescence, from a common chaffy gemmaeous receptacle, or consisting of many chaffy scales ranged along a stalk, slender as a thread, which is the common receptacle, as in hazel, birch, oak, willow,