

phraseology "a landlord has a hundred a year," "the sum amounted to ten dollars a man," *a* is merely the adjective *one*, and this mode of expression is idiomatic; a hundred in a [one] year; ten dollars to a [one] man.

AAM, *n.* [Ch. אַמָּה, or אַמָּא a cubit, a measure containing 5 or 6 palms.] A measure of liquids among the Dutch equal to 288 English pints.

AARONIC, *a.* Pertaining to Aaron, the Jewish High Priest, or to the priesthood of which he was the head. *Doddridge.*

A2, In English names, is an abbreviation of Abbey or Abbot; as *Abbingdon*, *Abbeytown*, *Abbeysill*, *Abbot-town*.

AB, a prefix to words of Latin origin, and a Latin preposition, as in *abscond*, is the Greek ἀπο, and the Eng. *of*, Ger. *ab*, *D. of*, Sw. *Dan. of*, written in ancient Latin *af*. It denotes from, separating or departure.

AB, The Hebrew name of Father. See *Abba*. **AB**, The eleventh month of the Jewish civil year, and the fifth of the ecclesiastical year, answering to a part of July, and a part of August. In the Syriac Calendar, *ab* is the name of the last summer month.

ABACIST, *n.* [from *abacus*.] One that casts accounts; a calculator.

[*Not much used.*]
ABACK *adv.* [a and back, Sax. *on bac*; at, on or towards the back. See *Back*.]

Towards the back; on the back part; backward. In seamen's language it signifies the situation of the sails, when pressed back against the mast by the wind.

Taken aback, is when the sails are carried back suddenly by the wind.

Laid aback, is when the sails are purposely placed in that situation to give the ship sternway. *Mariner's Dict.*

ABACOT, *n.* The cap of State, formerly used by English Kings, wrought into the figure of two crowns.

ABACTOR, *n.* [Latin from *abigo*, *ab* and *ago*, to drive.]

In law, one that feloniously drives away or steals a herd or numbers of cattle at once, in distinction from one that steals a sheep or two.

ABACUS *n.* [L. *abacus*, any thing flat, as a cupboard, a bench, a slate, a table or board for games; Gr. ἀβάξ. Usually deduced from the Oriental, אַבָּא *abak*, dust, because the ancients used tables covered with dust for making figures and diagrams.]

1. Among the Romans, a cupboard or buffet.

2. An instrument to facilitate operations in arithmetic; on this are drawn lines; a counter on the lowest line, is one; on the next, ten; on the third, a hundred, &c. On the spaces, counters denote half the number of the line above. Other schemes are called by the same name. The name is also given to a table of numbers cast up, as an *abacus* of addition; and by analogy, to the art of numbering, as in *Knighiton's Chronicon*. *Encyc.*

3. In architecture, a table constituting the upper member or crowning of a column and its capital. It is usually square, but sometimes its sides are arched inwards. The name is also given to a concave molding on the capital of the Tuscan pedestal; and

to the plinth above the boustrophedon in the Tuscan and Doric orders. *Encyc.*

ABACUS PYTHAGORICUS, The multiplication table, invented by Pythagoras.

ABACUS HARMONICUS, The structure and disposition of the keys of a musical instrument.

ABACUS MAJOR, A trough used in mines, to wash ore in. *Encyc.*

ABADA, *n.* A wild animal of Africa, of the size of a steer, or half grown colt, having two horns on its forehead and a third on the nape of the neck. Its head and tail resemble those of an ox, but it has cloven feet, like the stag. *Cyc.*

ABADDON, *n.* [Heb. Ch. Syr. Sam. 728, to be lost, or destroyed, to perish.]

1. The destroyer, or angel of the bottomless pit. Rev. ix.

2. The bottomless pit. *Milton.*

ABAF, *adv.* or *prep.* [Sax. *aft* or *af*, again. Hence *after* or *after*, alter, subsequent. Sax. *af*, behind in place; to which word *be* is prefixed—*beafan*, behind, and this word is corrupted into *about*.]

A sea-term signifying in or at the hinder part of a ship, or the parts which lie towards the stern; opposed to *afore*. Relatively it denotes *further aft* or towards the stern; as *aboft* the mainmast. *Abaft* the beam, is in that arch of the horizon which is between a line drawn at right angles with the keel, and the point to which the stern is directed. It is often contracted into *aft*. *Mar. Dict.*

ABAGUN, *n.* The name of a fowl in Ethiopia, remarkable for its beauty and for a sort of horn, growing on its head. The word signifies stately Abbot. *Crabbe.*

ABAISSANCE, [See *Obaisance*.]

ABALIFENATE *v. t.* [See *Alienate*, *Aliene*.] To transfer the title of property from one to another—a term of the civil law—rarely or never used in common law proceedings.

ABALIENATION, *n.* The transferring of title to property. [See *Alienation*.]

ABANDON, *v. t.* [Fr. *abandonner*; Sp. and Port. *abandonar*; It. *abbandonare*; said to be from *ban*, and *donner*, to give over to the ban or proscription; or from *a* or *ab* and *bandum*, a flag or ensign.]

1. To forsake entirely; as to abandon a hopeless enterprise.

We to that generation by which the testimony of God shall be abandoned. *Dr. Mason.*

2. To renounce and forsake; to leave with a view never to return; to desert as lost or desperate; as to abandon a country; to abandon a cause or party.

3. To give up or resign without control, as when a person yields himself, without restraint, to a propensity; as to abandon one's self to intemperance. Abandoned over and abandoned of are obsolete.

4. To resign; to yield, relinquish, or give over entirely.

Verus abandoned the cares of empire to his wiser colleague. *Gibbon.*

ABANDON, *n.* One who totally forsakes or deserts. *Olis.*

2. A relinquishment. [Not used.] *Kames.*

ABANDONED, *pp.* Wholly forsaken or deserted.

2. Given up, as to a vice; hence, extremely wicked, or sinning without restraint; irclaimably wicked.

ABANDONER, *n.* One who abandons. **ABANDONING**, *ppr.* Forsaking or deserting wholly; renouncing; yielding one's self without restraint.

ABANDONING, *n.* A forsaking; total desertion.

He hoped his past meritorious actions might outweigh his present abandoning the thought of future actions. *Clarendon.*

ABANDONMENT, *n.* A total desertion; a state of being forsaken.

ABAN GA, *n.* The ady; a species of Palm-tree. [See *Ady*.]

ABANNI TION, *n.* [Low Lat.]

A banishment for one or two years for manslaughter. [Not used.] *Dict.*

ABAPTISTON, *n.* The perforating part of the trephine, an instrument used in trepanning. *Coxe.*

ABARE, *v. t.* [Sax. *abarian*. See *Bare*.] To make bare; to uncover. [Not in use.]

ABARTICULATION, *n.* [See *Articulate*.]

In anatomy, that species of articulation or structure of joints, which admits of manifest or extensive motion; called also diarthrosis and dearticulation. *Encyc. Coxe.*

ABAS, *n.* A weight in Persia used in weighing pearls, one eighth less than the European carat. *Encyc.*

ABASSE, *v. t.* [Fr. *abaisser*, from *bas*, low, or the bottom; W. *bais*; Latin and Gr. *basis*; Eng. *baze*; It. *abbassare*; Sp. *bazo*, low. See *Abash*.]

1. The literal sense of *abase* is to lower or depress, to throw or cast down, as used by Bacon, "to abase the eye." But the word is seldom used in reference to material things.

2. To cast down; to reduce low; to depress; to humble; to degrade; applied to the passions, rank, office, and condition in life.

Those that walk in pride he is able to abase. *Dan. iv.*

Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased. *Mat. xxiii. Job. xl. 2 Cor. xi.*

ABASED, *pp.* Reduced to a low state, humbled, degraded.

In heraldry, it is used of the wings of eagles, when the tops are turned downwards towards the point of the shield; or when the wings are shut, the natural way of bearing them being spread, with the top pointing to the chief of the angle. *Budley. Chambers.*

ABASEMENT, *n.* The act of humbling or bringing low; also a state of depression, degradation, or humiliation.

ABASH, *v. t.* [Heb. and Ch. אָשָׁם *bosh*, to be confounded, or ashamed.]

To make the spirits to fail; to cast down the countenance; to make ashamed; to confuse or confound, as by exciting suddenly a consciousness of guilt, error, inferiority, &c.

They heard and were abashed. *Milton.*

ABASHED, *pp.* Confused with shame; confounded; put to silence; followed by *at*.

ABASHING, *pp.* Putting to shame or confusion.

ABASHMENT, *n.* Confusion from shame. [Little used.]

ABASING, *ppr.* Humbling, depressing, bringing low.

ABASSI or **ABASSIS**, *n.* A silver coin of Persia, of the value of twenty cents, about ten pence sterling. *Encyc.*