

# LEE

LEEWARD, *adv.* Towards the lee, or that part towards which the wind blows; opposed to *windward*; as fall to *leeward*.

LEEWAY, *n.* The lateral movement of a ship to the leeward of her course, or the angle which the line of her way makes with her keel, when she is close-hauled.

*Mar. Dict.*

LEECH, *n.* [Goth. *leikeis*, Sax. *læc*, a host or innkeeper, a physician; Dan. *læge*; *læger*, to heal; Sw. *läka*, to heal; *läkiare*, a physician; Ir. *liagh*; Russ. *liakar*.]

A physician; a professor of the art of healing.

*Spenser. Dryden. Gay.*

[This word, in the United States, is nearly or wholly obsolete. Even *cow leech* is not used.]

2. [Sax. *læccan*, to seize.] A blood-sucker; an animal of the genus *Hirudo*, a species of aquatic worm, which is used in the medical art for topical bleeding. One large species of this animal is called *horse-leech*.

3. In *seamen's language*, the border or edge of a sail, which is sloping or perpendicular; as the *fore-leech*, the *after-leech*, &c.

LEECH-CRAFT, *n.* The art of healing.

*Obs. Davies.*

LEECH-LINE, *n.* Leech-lines are ropes fastened to the middle of the leeches of the main-sail and fore-sail, serving to truss them up to the yards.

LEECH-ROPE, *n.* That part of the bolt-rope to which the skirt or border of a sail is sewed.

*Mar. Dict.*

LEEF, *a.* Kind; fond; pleasing; willing.

*Obs.* [See *Lief*.] *Spenser.*

LEEK, *n.* [Sax. *leac*; G. *lauch*; D. *look*; Sw. *lök*; Dan. *lög*.]

A plant of the genus *Allium*, with a bulbous root. Numb. xi.

LEELITE, *n.* A mineral, so called from Dr. Lee, of St. John's College, Cambridge. It is described as a siliceous stone, and by some mineralogists considered to be a hydrate of silica.

*Phillips.*

LEER, *v. i.* [D. *ghuuren*, *beghuuren*.] To look obliquely; to turn the eye and cast a look from a corner, either in contempt, defiance or frowning, or for a sly look.

*Swift.*

2. To look with a forced countenance.

*Dryden.*

LEER, *v. t.* To allure with smiles.

*Dryden.*

LEER, *n.* [Sax. *hleare*, *hleor*, the cheek.]

1. The cheek. *Obs.*

2. Complexion; hue; face. *Obs. Shak.*

3. An oblique view.

—With jealous *leer* malign

Eyed them askance. *Milton.*

4. An affected cast of countenance.

Damn with faint praise, concede with civil

*leer.* *Pope.*

LEER, *a.* [Sax. *gelaar*.] Empty; also, trifling; frivolous. *Obs. B. Jonson.*

LEERING, *ppr.* Looking obliquely; casting a look askance.

LEERINGLY, *adv.* With an arch oblique look or smile.

LEES, *n.* [Fr. *lie*; Arm. *ly*; probably a contracted word. It is used in the plural only.]

The grosser parts of any liquor which have settled on the bottom of a vessel; dregs; sediment; as the *lees* of wine.

# LEG

LEESE, *v. t.* To lose. *Obs.* [See *Lose*.] *B. Jonson.*

LEESE, *v. t.* [L. *lausus*.] To hurt. *Obs. Wickliffe.*

LEET, *n.* In Great Britain, a court. The court-leet or view of frankpledge, is a court of record held once a year and not oftener, within a particular hundred, lordship or manor, before the steward of the leet. Its original intent was to view the frankpledges or freemen within the liberty, to preserve the peace, and punish certain minute offenses. All freeholders within the precinct are obliged to attend this court.

*Blackstone.*

The court-leet is for the most part superseded by the county court.

LEET-ALE, *n.* A feast or merry making in the time of leet.

*Eng.*

LEFT, *pret.* and *pp.* of *leave*.

LEFT, *a.* [L. *lævus*; Gr. *λαῖος*, Hesych. *λαῖος*; probably from the root of *leave*, Gr. *λεῖπω*, and properly weak, deficient. Applied to the hand or arm, it denotes the weak arm, as opposed to the *right*, the strong or dextrous. Hence the ancient idea of sinister, unfortunate, attached to the left arm or side.]

1. Denoting the part opposed to the *right* of the body; as the *left* hand, arm or side. Hence, the noun being omitted, we say, on the *left*, that is, on the *left* side or wing, as of an army.

2. The *left* bank of a river, is that which is on the *left* hand of a person whose face is towards the mouth of the river.

LEFT-HAND'ED, *a.* Having the left hand or arm more strong and dextrous than the right; using the left hand and arm with more dexterity than the right.

2. Unlucky; inauspicious; unseasonable.

*Obs. B. Jonson.*

LEFT-HAND'EDNESS, *n.* Habitual use of the left hand, or rather the ability to use the left hand with more ease and strength than the right.

LEFT-HAND'INESS, *n.* Awkwardness.

*Chesterfield.*

LEG, *n.* [Dan. *lag*; It. *lucca*.] The limb of an animal, used in supporting the body and in walking and running; properly, that part of the limb from the knee to the foot, but in a more general sense, the whole limb, including the thigh, the leg and the foot.

2. The long or slender support of any thing; as the *leg* of a table.

To make a *leg*, to bow; a phrase introduced probably by the practice of drawing the right leg backward. [Little used.]

*Locke. Swift.*

To stand on one's own legs, to support one's self; to trust to one's own strength or efforts without aid.

LEGACY, *n* [Sp. *legado*; Fr. *legs*; L. *legatum*, from *lego*, to send, to bequeath.]

Eth. ἈΔῆ lak. Ar. عَالَا alaka, to send. Class Lg. No. 1.]

A bequest; a particular thing, or certain sum of money given by last will or testament.

Good counsel is the best *legacy* a father can leave to his child. *L. Estrange.*

# LEG

LEGACY-HUNTER, *n.* One who flatters and courts for legacies.

LEGAL, *a.* [Fr. from L. *legalis*, from *lex*, *legis*, law.]

1. According to law; in conformity with law; as a *legal* standard or test; a *legal* procedure.

2. Lawful; permitted by law; as a *legal* trade. Any thing is *legal* which the laws do not forbid.

3. According to the law of works, as distinguished from free grace; or resting on works for salvation. *Scott. Milton.*

4. Pertaining to law; created by law.

The exception must be confined to *legal* crimes. *Paley.*

So we use the phrase, *criminal law*.

LEGALITY, *n.* Lawfulness; conformity to law.

2. In *theology*, a reliance on works for salvation. *Scott.*

LEGALIZE, *v. t.* To make lawful; to render conformable to law; to authorize. What can *legalize* revenge?

2. To sanction; to give the authority of law to that which is done without law or authority. Irregular proceedings may be *legalized* by a subsequent act of the legislature.

LEGALLY, *adv.* Lawfully; according to law; in a manner permitted by law.

LEGATARY, *n.* [Fr. *legataire*; L. *legatarius*, from *lego*, to bequeath.]

A legatee; one to whom a legacy is bequeathed.

[But *legatee* is generally used.]

LEGATE, *n.* [Fr. *legat*; L. *legatus*, from *lego*, to send. See *Lackey*.] An ambassador; but especially,

2. The pope's ambassador to a foreign prince or state; a cardinal or bishop sent as the pope's representative or commissioner to a sovereign prince. Legates are of three kinds; legates *a latere*, or counselors and assistants of his holiness, legates *de latere*, who are not cardinals, and legates *by office*. *Encyc.*

LEGATEE, *n.* [L. *lego*, to send.] One to whom a legacy is bequeathed.

*Swift.*

LEGATESHIP, *n.* The office of a legate.

LEGATINE, *a.* Pertaining to a legate; as *legatine* power.

*Shak.*

2. Made by or proceeding from a legate; as a *legatine* constitution.

*Ayliffe.*

LEGATION, *n.* [L. *legatio*, from *lego*, to send.] An embassy; a deputation; properly a sending, but generally, the person or persons sent as envoys or ambassadors to a foreign court.

*Bacon.*

LEGATOR, *n.* [L.] A testator; one who bequeaths a legacy. [Little used.] *Dryden.*

LEGE, *v. t.* To allege; to lighten. [Not in use.]

*Chaucer.*

LEGEND, *n.* [It. *leggendia*; L. *legenda*, from *lego*, to read; originally, in the Romish church, a book of service or lessons to be read in worship.]

1. A chronicle or register of the lives of saints, formerly read at matins and at the refectories of religious houses. Hence,

2. An idle or ridiculous story told respecting saints. *Encyc.*

3. Any memorial or relation. *Johnson.*

4. An incredible, unauthentic narrative.

*Blackmore.*