

RA'KISHNESS, *n.* Dissolute practices.

RAL'LY, *v. t.* [Fr. *rallier*. This seems to be a compound of *re*, *ra*, and *lier*, *L. ligo*, to unite.]

1. To reunite; to collect and reduce to order troops dispersed or thrown into confusion.

2. To collect; to unite; as things scattered. *Atterbury.*

RAL'LY, *v. t.* [Fr. *rallier*. See *Railery*.] To treat with good humor and pleasantry, or with slight contempt or satire, according to the nature of the case.

Honeycomb *rallies* me upon a country life.

*Addison.*  
Strephon had long confess'd his am'rous pain,  
Which gay Corinna *rallied* with disdain. *Goy.*

RAL'LY, *v. i.* To assemble; to unite.

Innumerable parts of matter chanced then to *rally* together and to form themselves into this new world. *Tillotson.*

2. To come back to order.

The Grecians *rally* and their pow'rs unite. *Dryden.*

3. To use pleasantry or satirical merriment. *Johnson.*

RAL'LY, *n.* The act of bringing disordered troops to their ranks.

2. Exercise of good humor or satirical merriment.

RAM, *n.* [Sax. *D. ram*; *G. ramia*, but *rammbock*, *ram-buck*, is used. See the Verb.]

1. The male of the sheep or ovine genus; in some parts of England called a *tup*. In the United States, the word is applied, I believe, to no other male, except in the compound *ram-cat*.

2. In *astronomy*, Aries, the sign of the zodiac which the sun enters on the 21st of March, or a constellation of fixed stars in the figure of a ram. It is considered the first of the twelve signs.

3. An engine of war, used formerly for battering and demolishing the walls of cities; called a *battering-ram*. [See *Battering-ram*.]

RAM, *v. t.* [G. *rammen*; *D. rammeijen*; *Dan. ramler*, to ram or drive; *rammer*, to strike, to hit, to touch; *W. rham*, *rhum*, a thrusting, a projection forward. To the same family belong *L. ramus*, a branch, that is, a shoot or thrust, *Heb. Ch. Syr. רמה ramah*, to throw, to project, *Eth. ረመP*

*rami*, to strike; *Ar. رمي ramai*, to shoot, to throw or dart. Class *Rm. No. 7. 8. 9.* See *Cram*.]

1. To thrust or drive with violence; to force in; to drive down or together; as, to *ram* down a cartridge; to *ram* piles into the earth.

2. To drive, as with a battering ram.

3. To stuff; to cram.

RAM'ADAN, *n.* Among the Mohammedans, a solemn season of fasting.

RAM'AGE, *n.* [*L. ramus*, a branch, whence *Fr. ramage*.]

1. Branches of trees. [Not in use.]

2. The warbling of birds sitting on boughs. *Drummond.*

3. [See *Rummage*.]

RAM'BLE, *v. i.* [*It. ramciare*, to ramble, to rove; *Arin. rambral*, to rave; *W. rhem-piae*, to run to an extreme, to be inflated.

ated, and *ramu*, to rise or reach over, to soar. These seem to be allied to *roam*,

*romp*, *rampant*; *Ar. رمى* to exceed or go

beyond, to depart. Class *Rm. No. 5.*]

1. To rove; to wander; to walk, ride or sail from place to place, without any determinate object in view; or to visit many places; to rove carelessly or irregularly; as, to *ramble* about the city; to *ramble* over the country.

Never ask leave to go abroad, for you will be thought an idle *rambling* fellow. *Swift.*

2. To go at large without restraint and without direction.

3. To move without certain direction.

O'er his ample sides, the *rambling* sprays  
Luxuriant shoot. *Thomson.*

RAM'BLE, *n.* A roving; a wandering; a going or moving from place to place without any determinate business or object; an irregular excursion.

Coming home after a short christmas *ramble*,  
I found a letter upon my table. *Swift.*

RAM'BLER, *n.* One that rambles; a rover; a wanderer.

RAM'BLING, *ppr.* Roving; wandering; moving or going irregularly.

RAM'BLING, *n.* A roving; irregular excursion. *South.*

RAM'BOOZE, } *n.* A drink made of wine,  
RAM'BOUSE, } ale, eggs and sugar in  
winter, or of wine, milk, sugar and rose  
water in summer. *Bailey.*

RAM'EKIN, } *n.* [Fr. *ramequin*.] In  
RAM'EQUINS, } *cooking*, small slices  
of bread covered with a farce of cheese  
and eggs. *Bailey.*

RAM'ENTS, *n.* [*L. ramenta*, a chip.] Scrapings; shavings. [Not used.] *Dict.*

2. In *botany*, loose scales on the stems of plants. *Linne.*

RAM'EIOUS, *a.* [*L. ramus*, a branch.] In *botany*, belonging to a branch; growing on or shooting from a branch. *Lee.*

RAMIFICA'TION, *n.* [Fr. from *L. ramus*, a branch.]

1. The process of branching or shooting branches from a stem.

2. A branch; a small division proceeding from a main stock or channel; as the *ramifications* of a family; the *ramifications* of an artery. *Arbuthnot.*

3. A division or subdivision; as the *ramifications* of a subject or scheme.

4. In *botany*, the manner in which a tree produces its branches or boughs. *Lee.*

5. The production of figures resembling branches. *Encyc.*

RAM'IFIED, *pp.* Divided into branches.

RAM'IFY, *v. t.* [Fr. *ramifier*; *L. ramus*, a branch, and *facio*, to make.]

To divide into branches or parts: as, to *ramify* an art, a subject or scheme. *Boyle.*

RAM'IFY, *v. i.* To shoot into branches, as the stem of a plant.

When the asparagus begins to *ramify*—

2. To be divided or subdivided; as a main subject or scheme. *Arbuthnot.*

RAM'IFYING, *ppr.* Shooting into branches or divisions.

RAM'ISH, *a.* [*Dan. ram*, bitter, strong scented.]

Rank; strong scented. *Chaucer.*

RAM'ISHNESS, *n.* [from *ram*.] Rankness, a strong scent.

RAM'MED, *pp.* [See *Ram*.] Driven forcibly.

RAM'MER, *n.* One that rams or drives.

2. An instrument for driving any thing with force; as a *rammer* for driving stones or piles, or for beating the earth to more solidity.

3. A gun-stick; a ramrod; a rod for forcing down the charge of a gun.

RAM'MING, *ppr.* Driving with force.

RAMOON', *n.* A tree of America.

RAM'OUS, *a.* [*L. ramosus*, from *ramus*, a branch.]

1. In *botany*, branched, as a stem or root; having lateral divisions. *Martyn.*

2. Branchy; consisting of branches; full of branches. *Newton. Woodward.*

RAMP, *v. i.* [Fr. *rampier*, to creep; *It. rampa*, a paw; *rampare*, to paw; *rampicare*, to creep; *W. rhamp*, a rise or reach over; *rhament*, a rising up, a vaulting or springing; *ramu*, to reach over, to soar, to vault. See *Ramble* and *Romance*.]

1. To climb, as a plant; to creep up.

Plants furnished with tendrils catch hold, and so *ramping* on trees, they mount to a great height. *Ray.*

2. To spring; to leap; to bound; to prance; to frolic.

Their bridles they would champ—

And trampling the fine element, would fiercely *ramp*. *Spenser.*

Sporting the lion *ramp'd*. *Milton.*

[In the latter sense, the word is usually written and pronounced *ramp*; the word being originally pronounced with a broad.]

RAMP, *n.* A leap; a spring; a bound. *Milton.*

RAMPAL'LIAN, *n.* A mean wretch. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

RAMP'ANCY, *n.* [from *rampant*.] Excessive growth or practice; excessive prevalence; exuberance; extravagance; as the *rampancy* of vice. *South.*

RAMP'ANT, *a.* [Fr. from *rampier*; *Sax. rempend*, headlong. See *Ramp* and *Ramble*.]

1. Overgrowing the usual bounds; rank in growth; exuberant; as *rampant* weeds. *Clarissa.*

2. Overleaping restraint; as *rampant* vice. *South.*

3. In *heraldry*, applied to the lion, leopard or other beast, *rampant* denotes the animal reared and standing on his hind legs, in the posture of climbing. It differs from *saliant*, which indicates the posture of springing or making a sally. *Encyc.*

The lion *rampant* shakes his brinded mane.

*Milton.*

RAMPART, *n.* [Fr. *rempart*; *Arm. ramparz*, *ramparzi*: *Fr. se remparer*, to fence or intrench one's self; *It. riparamento*, from *riparare*, to repair, to defend, to stop; *Port. reparo*; *reparar*, to repair, to parry in defense. Hence we see *rampart* is from *L. reparo*; *re* and *paro*. See *Parry* and *Repair*.]

1. In *fortification*, an elevation or mound of earth round a place, capable of resisting cannon shot, and formed into bastions, curtains, &c. *Encyc.*

No standards from the hostile *ramparts* torn.

*Prüer.*