

DECARBONIZE, *v. t.* [*de* and *carbonize*.] To deprive of carbon; as, to *decarbonize* steel. *Chemistry.*

DECARBONIZED, *pp.* Deprived of carbon.

DECARBONIZING, *pp.* Depriving of carbon.

DEC'ASTICH, *n.* [*Gr. δῆκα, ten, and σῆκος, a verse*.] A poem consisting of ten lines.

DEC'ASTYLE, *n.* [*Gr. δῆκα, ten, and σῆκος, a column*.] A building with an ordnance of ten columns in front. *Encyc.*

DECA'Y, *v. i.* [*Fr. décroir, from L. de and cado, to fall, or decedo; It. scadere; Sp. decaer; Port. descahir*.]

1. To pass gradually from a sound, prosperous, or perfect state, to a less perfect state, or towards destruction; to fail; to decline; to be gradually impaired. Our bodies *decay* in old age; a tree *decays*; buildings *decay*; fortunes *decay*.
2. To become weaker; to fail; as, our strength *decays*, or hopes *decay*.

DECA'Y, *v. t.* To cause to fail; to impair; to bring to a worse state.

Infidelity, that *decays* the wise, doth ever make better the fool. *Shak.*

[The transitive sense of the verb is now rarely used.]

DECA'Y, *n.* Gradual failure of health, strength, soundness, prosperity, or any species of excellence or perfection; decline to a worse or less perfect state; tendency towards dissolution or extinction; a state of deprivation or diminution. Old men feel the *decay* of the body. We perceive the *decay* of the faculties in age. We lament the *decay* of virtue and patriotism in the state. The northern nations invaded the Roman Empire, when in a state of *decay*.

Declension from prosperity; decline of fortune.

If thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay. *LEV. XXV.*

3. Cause of decay. [*Not usual.*]

He that plots to be the only figure among ciphers, is the *decay* of the whole age. *Bacon.*

DECA'YED, *pp.* Having fallen from a good or sound state; impaired; weakened; diminished.

DECA'YEDNESS, *n.* A state of being impaired; decayed state.

DECA'YER, *n.* That which causes decay. *Shak.*

DECA'YING, *pp.* Failing; declining; passing from a good, prosperous or sound state, to a worse condition; perishing.

DECA'YING, *n.* Decay; decline.

DECE'ASE, *n.* [*L. decessus, from decedo, to depart; de and cado, to withdraw; Fr. decess*.] Literally, departure; hence, departure from this life; death; applied to human beings only.

Moses and Elias, who appeared in glory, and spoke of his *decease*, which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. *Luke ix.*

DECE'ASE, *v. i.* To depart from this life; to die.

Gen. Washington *deceased*, December 14, 1799, in the 68th year of his age.

DECE'ASED, *pp.* or *a.* Departed from life. This is used as a passive participle. He is *deceased*, for he has *deceased*; he was *deceased*, for he *had deceased*. This use

of the participle of an intransitive verb is not infrequent, but the word omitted is really *has*. He has *deceased*. It is properly an adjective, like *dead*.

DECE'ASING, *pp.* Departing from life; dying.

DECE'DENT, *n.* [*L. decedens*.] A deceased person. *Lucas of Penn.*

DECE'IT, *n.* [*Norm. deccut, contracted from L. decipio. See Deceive.*]

1. Literally, a catching or ensnaring. Hence, the misleading of a person; the leading of another person to believe what is false, or not to believe what is true, and thus to ensnare him; fraud; fallacy; cheat; any declaration, artifice or practice, which misleads another, or causes him to believe what is false.

My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter *deceit*. *Job xxvii.*

2. Stratagem; artifice; device intended to mislead.

They imagine *deceits* all the day long. *Ps. xxxviii.*

3. In scripture, that which is obtained by guile, fraud or oppression.

Their houses are full of *deceit*. *Jer. vi. Zeph. i.*

4. In law, any trick, device, craft, collusion, shift, covin, or underhand practice, used to defraud another. *Covell.*

DECE'ITFUL, *a.* Tending to mislead, deceive or ensnare; as *deceitful* words; *deceitful* practices.

Favor is *deceitful*. *Prov. xxxi.*

5. Full of deceit; tricky; fraudulent; cheating; as a deceitful man.

DECE'ITFULLY, *adv.* In a deceitful manner; fraudulently; with deceit; in a manner or with a view to deceive.

The sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father *deceitfully*. *Gen. xxxiv.*

DECE'ITFULNESS, *n.* Tendency to mislead or deceive; as the *deceitfulness* of sin.

6. The quality of being fraudulent; as the deceitfulness of a man's practices.

7. The disposition to deceive; as, a man's deceitfulness may be habitual.

DECE'TLESS, *a.* Free from deceit. *Hall.*

DECE'IVABLE, *a.* [*See Deceive.*] Subject to deceit or imposition; capable of being misled or entrapped; exposed to imposture; as, young persons are very *deceivable*.

Fair promises often prove *deceivable*. *Milton. Hayward.*

[The latter use of the word is incorrect, and I believe, not now used.]

DECE'IVABLENESS, *n.* Liableness to be deceived.

2. Liableness to deceive.

The *deceitableness* of unrighteousness. *2 Thes. ii.*

DECE'IVE, *v. t.* [*L. decipio, to take aside, to ensnare; de and capio; Fr. decroir; Arm. deccai. See Cripple.*]

1. To mislead the mind; to cause to err; to cause to believe what is false, or disbelieve what is true; to impose on; to delude.

Take heed that no man *deceive* you. *Matt. xxiv.*

If we say we have no sin, we *deceive* ourselves. *1 John i.*

2. To beguile; to cheat.

Your father hath *deceived* me, and changed my wages ten times. *Gen. xxxi.*

3. To cut off from expectation; to frustrate or disappoint; as, his hopes were *deceived*. *Dryden.*

4. To take from; to rob.

Plant fruit trees in large borders, and set therein fine flowers, but thin and sparingly, lest they *deceive* the trees. [*The literal sense, but not now used.*] *Bacon.*

DECE'IVED, *pp.* Misled; led into error; beguiled; cheated; deluded.

DECE'IVER, *n.* One who deceives; one who leads into error; a cheat; an impostor.

I shall seem to my father as a *deceiver*. *Gen. xxxvii.*

DECE'IVING, *pp.* Misleading; ensnaring; beguiling; cheating.

DECEMBER, *n.* [*L. december, from decem, ten; this being the tenth month among the early Romans, who began the year in March.*]

The last month in the year, in which the sun enters the tropic of Capricorn, and makes the winter solstice.

DECEMBER, *n.* [*L. decem, ten, and dentatus, toothed.*] Having ten points or teeth.

DECEMFID, *a.* [*L. decem, ten, and fido, to divide.*]

Ten-cleft; divided into ten parts; having ten divisions. *Martyn.*

DECEML'OCULAR, *a.* [*L. decem, ten, and oculus, a little bag or cell.*] Having ten cells for seeds. *Martyn.*

DECEMPEDAL, *a.* [*L. decem, ten, and pes, a foot.*] Ten feet in length.

DECEMVIR, *n.* [*L. decem, ten, and vir, a man.*]

One of ten magistrates, who had absolute authority in ancient Rome.

DECEMVIRAL, *a.* Pertaining to the decemvirs in Rome. *Encyc.*

DECEMVIRATE, *n.* [*L. decemviratus. See Decemvir.*]

1. The office or term of office of the decemvirs or ten magistrates in Rome, who had absolute authority for two years.
2. A body of ten men in authority.

DE'CENCY, *n.* [*Fr. decence; L. decentia, from decens, deco, to be fit or becoming; Sp. decencia; It. decenza.*]

The *L. deco* coincides in elements with the *G. laugen*, to be good, or fit for; *D. degen*, to be good or virtuous; *Sax. dugan*, to avail, to be strong, to be worth; *duguth*, virtue, valor; *dohtig*, doughty; *dohter*, daughter; *W. tygrina*, to prosper, to befit, to succeed. The Teutonic and Welsh words have for their radical sense, to advance or proceed, to stretch forward. In Welsh also, *fig* signifies clear, fair, smooth, beautiful; *figu*, to make smooth, fair, beautiful, which would seem to be allied to *deco*, whence *decus, decoro*. See Class Dg. No. 18. 25.]

1. That which is fit, suitable or becoming, in words or behavior; propriety of form, in social intercourse, in actions or discourse; proper formality; becoming ceremony. It has a special reference to behavior; as *decency* of conduct; *decency* of worship.