

K E N

KEE/PERSHIP, *n.* The office of a keeper. [*Little used.*] *Carew.*
KEE/PING, *ppr.* Holding; restraining; preserving; guarding; protecting; performing.
KEE/PING, *n.* A holding; restraint; custody; guard; preservation.
 2. Feed; fodder. The cattle have good keeping.
 3. In painting, a representation of objects in the manner they appear to the eye at different distances from it.
KEE/PSAKE, *n.* Any thing kept, or given to be kept for the sake of the giver; a token of friendship.
KEP/FEKIL, *n.* A stone, white or yellow, which hardens in the fire, and of which Turkey pipes are made. *Nicholson.*
KEG, *n.* [*Fr. cage.*] A small cask or barrel; written more correctly *cage*.
KELL, *n.* A sort of pottage. [*Not used in America.*] *Ainsworth.*
KELL, *n.* The caul or omentum. [See *Caul*, the usual orthography of the word.] *Wiseman.*
 2. The chrysalis of the caterpillar. *B. Jonson.*
KELP, *n.* [*Ar. and Pers.*] The calcined ashes of sea weed, used in the manufacture of glass. This is a dark colored alkaline substance, which, in a furnace, vitrifies and becomes transparent. *Encyc.*
KELP'Y, *n.* An imaginary spirit of the waters, in the form of a horse. [*Local and vulgar.*]
KEL/SON. [See *Keelson*.]
KEL/TER, *n.* [*Dan. kiltter*, to gird, to truss up; *kille*, a folding.]
 The phrase, *he is not in kelter*, signifies, he is not in a proper dress or equipage, or not in readiness.
KEMB, *v. t.* [*Sax. cemban*, to comb.] To comb, which see. *Kemb* is an obsolete orthography. *B. Jonson. Dryden.*
KEM/ELIN, *n.* [*Qu. Gr. κεμηλον*, furniture.] A tub; a brewer's vessel. [*Not in use.*] *Chaucer.*
KEN, *v. t.* [*W. ceniau*, to see; *ceniau*, to take a view, to perceive; which Owen deduces from *can*, *cain*, clear, bright, fair, white, and sight, brightness, and this coincides with *L. canus*, white, *canto*, to be white, and this with *L. cano*, to sing, *canto*, *Eng.* to *cant*, to chant. These coincide in elements with *G. kennen*, to know, *erken*, to see, know, discern; *D. kennen*. *Sw. kunna*, *Dan. kiender*, to know, to be able; *Sax. connan*, *cunnan*, *Goth. kunnan*, to know. In *Sax. cennan* is to bear, *L. gigno*, *Gr. γεννω*. The radical sense is to strain, extend, reach. In *Sans. kanna* is an eye. See *Cun*.]
 1. To see at a distance; to descry.
We ken them from afar. *Addison.*
 2. To know; to understand. *Obs. Shak. Gay.*
[This verb is used chiefly in poetry.]
KEN, *v. i.* To look round. *Burton.*
KEN, *n.* View; reach of sight.
 Coasting they kept the land within their ken. *Dryden.*
KEN/DAL-GREEN, *n.* A species of green cloth made of kendal. *Shak.*
KEN/NEL, *n.* [*Fr. chenil*; *It. canile*; from *L. canis*, a dog.]
 1. A house or cot for dogs, or for a pack of hounds.
 2. A pack of hounds or their cry. *Encyc.*

K E R

3. The hole of a fox or other beast; a haunt.
KEN/NEL, *n.* [*It. canale*; *Fr. canal*; *Eng. channel*.]
 1. The water-course of a street; a little canal or channel.
 2. A puddle.
KEN/NEL, *v. i.* To lodge; to lie; to dwell; as a dog or a fox.
 The dog *kenned* in a hollow tree. *L'Estrange.*
KEN/NEL, *v. t.* To keep or confine in a kennel. *Tatler.*
KEN/NING, *n.* View; sight. *Bacon.*
KEN/TLE, *n.* [*W. cant*, a hundred; *L. centum*.]
 In commerce, a hundred pounds in weight; as a *kentle* of fish. [It is written and pronounced also *quintal*.]
KENT/LEDGE, *n.* In seamen's language, pigs of iron for ballast laid on the floor of a ship. *Mar. Dict.*
KEPT, *pret. and pp. of keep.*
KERB-STONE, *KIRB-STONE*. [See *Curb-stone*.]
KER/CHIEF, *n.* [contracted from *coverchief*; *Fr. couvrir*, to cover, and *chef*, the head. *Chaucer*.]
 1. A head dress; a cloth to cover the head. *Shak.*
 2. A cloth used in dress. *Hayward.*
 The word is now seldom used, except in its compound, *handkerchief*, and sometimes *neckkerchief*.
KER/CHIEFED, } *a.* Dressed; hooded;
KER/CHIEFT, } covered. *Milton.*
KERF, *n.* [*Sax. cyrf*; *ceorfan*, *cearfian*, to cut, *Eng.* to *carve*; *D. kerf*, a notch; *kerren*, to cut; *G. kerb*, *kerben*, *Ir. carbh*.]
 The cut of an ax, a saw, or other instrument; the notch or slit made in wood by cutting.
KERM/ES, *n.* [*Ar. قمر*, *qumran*, coccus baphica. *Castell*.]
 In zoology, an insect produced in the excrecences of a species of small oak, or the body of an insect transformed into a grain, berry, or husk. This body is full of reddish juice, which is used in dyeing red. Hence the word *crimson*. *Encyc.*
KERM/ES-MINERAL, *n.* A mineral substance, so called from its color. It is a precipitate of antimony, obtained by fusion with a fixed alkali and subsequent solution in boiling water, or by simple ebullition. *Nicholson. Encyc.*
KERN, *n.* An Irish footman or foot-soldier. *Spenser.*
 2. In *English laws*, an idle person or vagabond. *Encyc.*
KERN, *n.* A hand-mill consisting of two stones, one of which is turned by the hand; usually written *quern*, which see.
 2. A churn. *Obs.*
KERN, *v. i.* [*G. and D. kern*, a kernel; *G. kernen*, to curdle.]
 1. To harden, as corn in ripening. *Carew.*
 2. To take the form of corns; to granulate. *Grew.*
KERN/-BABY, *n.* [*corn-baby*.] An image dressed with corn, and carried before reapers to their harvest-home.
KERN/EL, *n.* [*Sax. cyrnel*, a little corn, grain or nut; *G. and D. kern*; *Fr. cerneau*; *W. cwaren*, a gland, a kernel.]

K E Y

1. The edible substance contained in the shell of a nut. *More.*
 2. Any thing included in a shell, husk or integument; a grain or corn; as a *kernel* of wheat or oats.
 3. The seed of pulpy fruit; as the *kernel* of an apple. *Bacon.*
 4. The central part of any thing; a small mass around which other matter is concentered; a nucleus. *Arbuthnot.*
 5. A hard concretion in the flesh.
KERN/EL, *v. i.* To harden or ripen into kernels; as the seeds of plants.
KERN/ELLY, *a.* Full of kernels; resembling kernels.
KER/SEY, *n.* [*D. kerzai*; *Fr. cariset*; *Sp. carisca*.]
 A species of coarse woolen cloth; a coarse stuff made chiefly in Kent and Devonshire in England. *Encyc.*
KERVE, *v. t.* To carve. [*Not used.*]
KERV/ER, *n.* A carver. [*Not used.*]
KE/SAR, *n.* [from *Cesar*.] An emperor. *Obs. Spenser.*
KES/TREL, *n.* A fowl of the genus *Falco*, or hawk kind; called also *stannel* and *windhover*. It builds in hollow oaks, and feeds on quails and other small birds. *Encyc.*
KETCH, *n.* [*Fr. quaique*; *G. and D. kits*.]
 A vessel with two masts, a main and mizen-mast, usually from 100 to 250 tons burden. Ketches are generally used as yachts or as bomb-vessels. The latter are called *bomb-ketches*. *Mar. Dict.*
KETCH/UP, *n.* A sauce. [See *Catchup*.]
KET/TLE, *n.* [*Sax. cell*, *celle* or *cytel*; *G. kessel*; *D. ketel*; *Dan. kedel*; *Sw. kittel*; *Russ. kotel*.]
 A vessel of iron or other metal, with a wide mouth, usually without a cover, used for heating and boiling water or other liquor. Among the *Tartars*, a *kettle* represents a family, or as many as feed from one kettle.
 Among the *Dutch*, a battery of mortars sunk in the earth, is called a *kettle*. *Encyc.*
KET/TLE-DRUM, *n.* An instrument of martial music, composed of two basins of copper or brass, rounded at the bottom and covered with vellum or goat-skin. *Encyc.*
KET/TLE-DRUMMER, *n.* The man who beats the kettle-drum.
KET/TLE-PINS, *n.* Nine pins; skittles.
KEV/EL, *n.* In *ships*, a piece of timber serving to belay the sheets or great ropes by which the bottoms of the fore-sail and main-sail are extended. *Mar. Dict.*
KEN, *n.* Hemlock; the stem of the teasel; a dry stalk. [See *Keeksy*.]
KEY, *n. kē*. [*Sax. cæg*.] In a general sense, a fastener; that which fastens; as a piece of wood in the frame of a building, or in a chain, &c.
 2. An instrument for shutting or opening a lock, by pushing the bolt one way or the other. Keys are of various forms, and fitted to the wards of the locks to which they belong.
 3. An instrument by which something is screwed or turned; as the *key* of a watch or other chronometer.
 4. The stone which binds an arch. [See *Key-stone*.]