

SECTION, *n.* [Fr. from *L. sectio*; *seco*, to cut off.]

1. The act of cutting or of separating by cutting; as the *section* of bodies.

Wotton.

2. A part separated from the rest; a division.

3. In *books* and *writings*, a distinct part or portion; the subdivision of a chapter; the division of a law or other writing or instrument. In laws, a *section* is sometimes called a paragraph or article.

Boyle. Locke.

4. A distinct part of a city, town, country or people; a part of territory separated by geographical lines, or of a people considered as distinct. Thus we say, the northern or eastern *section* of the United States, the middle *section*, the southern or western *section*.

5. In *geometry*, a side or surface of a body or figure cut off by another; or the place where lines, planes, &c. cut each other.

Encyc.

SECTIONAL, *a.* Pertaining to a section or distinct part of a larger body or territory.

SECTOR, *n.* [Fr. *secteur*, from *L. seco*, to cut.]

1. In *geometry*, a part of a circle comprehended between two radii and the arch; or a mixed triangle, formed by two radii and the arch of a circle.

Encyc.

2. A mathematical instrument so marked with lines of sines, tangents, secants, chords, &c. as to fit all radii and scales, and useful in finding the proportion between quantities of the same kind. The sector is founded on the fourth proposition of the sixth book of Euclid, where it is proved that similar triangles have their homologous sides proportional.

Encyc.

SECULAR, *a.* [Fr. *seculaire*; It. *secolare*; Sp. *secular*; L. *secularis*, from *seculum*, the world or an age.]

1. Pertaining to this present world, or to things not spiritual or holy; relating to things not immediately or primarily respecting the soul, but the body; worldly. The *secular* concerns of life respect making provision for the support of life, the preservation of health, the temporal prosperity of men, of states, &c. *Secular* power is that which superintends and governs the temporal affairs of men, the civil or political power; and is contradistinguished from *spiritual* or *ecclesiastical* power.

2. Among *catholics*, not regular; not bound by monastic vows or rules; not confined to a monastery or subject to the rules of a religious community. Thus we say, the *secular* clergy, and the *regular* clergy.

Temple.

3. Coming once in a century; as a *secular* year.

Secular games, in Rome, were games celebrated once in an age or century, which lasted three days and nights, with sacrifices, theatrical shows, combats, sports, &c.

Valerius Maximus.

Secular music, any music or songs not adapted to sacred uses.

Secular song or *poem*, a song or poem composed for the secular games, or sung or rehearsed at those games.

SECULAR, *n.* A church officer or officiate whose functions are confined to the vocal department of the choir.

Bushy.

SECULARITY, *n.* Worldliness; supreme attention to the things of the present life.

Buchanan.

SECULARIZATION, *n.* [from *secularize*.]

The act of converting a regular person, place or benefice into a secular one. Most cathedral churches were formerly regular, that is, the canons were of religious or monastic orders; but they have since been secularized. For the *secularization* of a regular church, there is wanted the authority of the pope, that of the prince, the bishop of the place, the patron, and even the consent of the people.

Encyc.

SECULARIZE, *v. t.* [Fr. *seculariser*; from *secular*.]

1. To make secular; to convert from spiritual appropriation to secular or common use; or to convert that which is regular or monastic into secular; as, the ancient regular cathedral churches were *secularized*.

At the reformation, the abbey was *secularized*.

Coxe, Switz.

2. To make worldly.

SECULARIZED, *pp.* Converted from regular to secular.

SECULARIZING, *ppr.* Converting from regular or monastic to secular.

SECULARLY, *adv.* In a worldly manner.

SECULARNESS, *n.* A secular disposition; worldliness; worldly mindedness.

SECUNDINE, *n.* [Fr. *secondines*; from *second*, L. *secundus*, from *sequor*, to follow.]

Secundines, in the plural, as generally used, are the several coats or membranes in which the fetus is wrapped in the womb; the after-birth.

Core. Encyc.

SECURE, *a.* [L. *securus*; It. *sicuro*; Sp. *seguro*. It coincides in elements with the oriental כָּכַר and כָּכַר to shut or inclose, to make fast.]

1. Free from danger of being taken by an enemy; that may resist assault or attack. The place is well fortified and very *secure*. Gibraltar is a *secure* fortress. In this sense, *secure* is followed by *against* or *from*; as *secure against* attack, or *from* an enemy.

2. Free from danger; safe; applied to persons; with *from*.

3. Free from fear or apprehension of danger; not alarmed; not disturbed by fear; confident of safety; hence, careless of the means of defense. Men are often most in danger when they feel most *secure*.

Confidence then bore thee on, *secure*
To meet no danger.

Milton.

4. Confident; not distrustful; with *of*.

But thou, *secure of* soul, unbent with woes.

Dryden.

It concerns the most *secure of* his strength, to pray to God not to expose him to an enemy.

Rogers.

5. Careless; wanting caution. [See No. 3.]

6. Certain; very confident. He is *secure of* a welcome reception.

SECURE, *v. t.* To guard effectually from danger; to make safe. Fortifications may *secure* a city; ships of war may *secure* a harbor.

I spread a cloud before the victor's sight,
Sustain'd the vanquish'd, and *secu'd* his flight.

Dryden.

2. To make certain; to put beyond hazard. Liberty and fixed laws *secure* to every citizen due protection of person and property. The first duty and the highest interest of men is to *secure* the favor of God by repentance and faith, and thus to *secure* to themselves future felicity.

3. To inclose or confine effectually; to guard effectually from escape; sometimes, to seize and confine; as, to *secure* a prisoner. The sheriff pursued the thief with a warrant, and *secured* him.

1. To make certain of payment; as, to *secure* a debt by mortgage.

5. To make certain of receiving a precarious debt by giving bond, bail, surety or otherwise; as, to *secure* a creditor.

6. To insure, as property.

7. To make fast; as, to *secure* a door; to *secure* a rafter to a plate; to *secure* the hatches of a ship.

SECURED, *pp.* Effectually guarded or protected; made certain; put beyond hazard; effectually confined; made fast.

SECURELY, *adv.* Without danger; safely; as, to pass a river on ice *securely*. But *safely* is generally used.

2. Without fear or apprehension; carelessly; in an ungarded state; in confidence of safety.

His daring foe *securely* him defy'd. *Milton.*
Devise not evil against thy neighbor, seeing he dwelleth *securely* by thee. Prov. iii.

SECUREMENT, *n.* Security; protection.

[Not used.] *Brown.*

SECURENESS, *n.* Confidence of safety; exemption from fear; hence, want of vigilance or caution.

Bacon.

SECURER, *n.* He or that which secures or protects.

SECURIFORM, *a.* [L. *securis*, an ax or hatchet, and *form*.]

In *botany*, having the form of an ax or hatchet.

Lce.

SECURITY, *n.* [Fr. *securité*; L. *securitas*.]

1. Protection; effectual defense or safety from danger of any kind; as a chain of forts erected for the *security* of the frontiers.

2. That which protects or guards from danger. A navy constitutes the *security* of Great Britain from invasion.

3. Freedom from fear or apprehension; confidence of safety; whence, negligence in providing means of defense. *Security* is dangerous, for it exposes men to attack when unprepared. *Security* in sin is the worst condition of the sinner.

1. Safety; certainty. We have no *security* for peace with Algiers, but the dread of our navy.

5. Any thing given or deposited to secure the payment of a debt, or the performance of a contract: as a bond with surety, a mortgage, the indorsement of a responsible man, a pledge, &c.

Blackstone.

6. Something given or done to secure peace or good behavior. Violent and dangerous men are obliged to give *security* for their good behavior, or for keeping the peace. This *security* consists in being bound with one or more sureties in a recognizance to the king or state.

Blackstone.

SEDAN, *n.* [Fr. from the L. *sedeo*; like L. *esseda*.]

A portable chair or covered vehicle for car-