

used. *Ephemeros* is not analogically formed.]

EPIHEMERIS, *n.* plu. *ephemerides*. [Gr. *ἐφημερίς*.]

1. A journal or account of daily transactions; a diary.

2. In astronomy, an account of the daily state or positions of the planets or heavenly orbs; a table, or collection of tables, exhibiting the places of all the planets every day at noon. From these tables are calculated eclipses, conjunctions and other aspects of the planets. *Encyc.*

EPIHEMERIST, *n.* One who studies the daily motions and positions of the planets; an astrologer. *Hovell.*

EPIHEMERON-WORM, *n.* [See *Ephemera*.] A worm that lives one day only. *Derham.*

EPIHESIAN, *a.* *s.* *z.* Pertaining to Ephesus, in Asia Minor. As a noun, a native of Ephesus.

EPHIALTES, *n.* [Gr.] The night-mar.

EPIHOD, *n.* [Heb. *לילה* from *לילה* to bind.] In Jewish antiquity, a part of the sacerdotal habit, being a kind of girdle, which was brought from behind the neck over the two shoulders, and hanging down before, was put across the stomach, then carried round the waist and used as a girdle to the tunic. There were two sorts: one of plain linen, the other embroidered for the high priest. On the part in front were precious stones, on which were engraved the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. Before the breast was a square piece or breastplate. *Encyc. Calmet.*

EPIPHOR, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπιφορά*, from *ἐπιφορά*, to inspect.]

In ancient Sparta, a magistrate chosen by the people. The ephors were five, and they were intended as a check on the regal power, or according to some writers, on the senate. *Encyc. Mitford.*

EPHORALTY, *n.* The office or term of office of an ephor. *Mitford.*

EPIC, *a.* [L. *epicus*, Gr. *ἐπικός*, from *ἔπος*, a song, or *ἔπω*, to speak.]

Narrative; containing narration; rehearsing. An epic poem, otherwise called heroic, is a poem which narrates a story, real or fictitious, or both, representing, in an elevated style, some signal action or series of actions and events, usually the achievements of some distinguished hero, and intended to form the morals and affect the mind with the love of virtue. The matter of the poem includes the action of the fable, the incidents, episodes, characters, morals and machinery. The form includes the manner of narration, the discourses introduced, descriptions, sentiments, style, versification, figures and other ornaments. The end is to improve the morals, and inspire a love of virtue, bravery and illustrious actions. *Encyc.*

EPICEDE, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπικήδειος*.] A funeral song or discourse.

EPICEDIAN, *a.* Elegiac; mournful.

EPICEDIM, *n.* An elegy.

EPICENE, *a.* [Gr. *ἐπικαινός*; *ἐπικ* and *καίος*, common.] Common to both sexes; of both kinds.

EPICETIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Epictetus, the Grecian writer. *Arbutnot.*

EPICURE, *n.* [L. *epicurus*, a voluptuary, from *Epicurus*.]

Properly, a follower of Epicurus; a man devoted to sensual enjoyments; hence, one who indulges in the luxuries of the table.

[The word is now used only or chiefly in the latter sense.]

EPICUREAN, *a.* [L. *epicureus*.] Pertaining to Epicurus; as, *ing* to Epicurus; as the Epicurean philosophy or tenets. *Reid.*

2. Luxurious; given to luxury; contributing to the luxuries of the table.

EPICUREAN, *a.* A follower of Epicurus.

EPICUREAN, *n.* rus. *Encyc. Shaftesbury.*

EPICUREANISM, *n.* Attachment to the doctrines of Epicurus. *Harris.*

EPICURISM, *n.* Luxury; sensual enjoyments; indulgence in gross pleasure; voluptuousness. *Shak.*

2. The doctrines of Epicurus. *Warton. Bailey.*

EPICURIZE, *v. i.* To feed or indulge like an epicure; to riot; to feast. *Fuller.*

2. To profess the doctrines of Epicurus. *Cudworth.*

EPICYCLE, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπί* and *κύκλος*, a circle.] A little circle, whose center is in the circumference of a greater circle; or a small orb, which, being fixed in the deferent of a planet, is carried along with it, and yet by its own peculiar motion, carries the body of the planet fastened to it round its proper center. *Harris.*

EPICYCLOID, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπικυκλοειδής*; *ἐπί*, *κύκλος*, and *ειδός*, form.]

In geometry, a curve generated by the revolution of the periphery of a circle along the convex or concave side of the periphery of another circle. *Encyc. Harris.*

A curve generated by any point in the plane of a movable circle which rolls on the inside or outside of the circumference of a fixed circle. *Ed. Encyc.*

EPICYCLOIDAL, *a.* Pertaining to the epicycloid, or having its properties. *Encyc.*

EPIDEMIC, *a.* [Gr. *ἐπί* and *δῆμος*, people.]

EPIDEMICAL, *a.* [ple.] Common to many people. An epidemic disease is one which seizes a great number of people, at the same time, or in the same season. Thus we speak of epidemic measles; epidemic fever; epidemic catarrh. It is used in distinction from *endemic* or *local*. Intemperate persons have every thing to fear from an epidemic influenza.

2. Generally prevailing; affecting great numbers; as *epidemic* rage; an *epidemic* evil.

EPIDEMIC, *n.* A popular disease; a disease generally prevailing. The influenza of October and November 1789, that of March and April 1790, that of the winter 1824–5, and that of 1825–6, were very severe epidemics.

EPIDERMIC, *a.* Pertaining to the cuticle; covering the skin.

EPIDERMIDAL, *a.* *Idem.*

The epidermic texture. *Kirwan.*

EPIDERMIS, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπίδερμις*; *ἐπί* and *δέρμα*, skin.]

In anatomy, the cuticle or scarf-skin of the body; a thin membrane covering the skin of animals, or the bark of plants. *Encyc. Martyn.*

EPIDOTE, *n.* [from Gr. *ἐπίδοσις*; so named from the apparent enlargement of the base of the prism in one direction. It is called by Werner, *pietazit*, and by Hausmann, *thalit*.]

A mineral occurring in lamellar, granular or compact masses, in loose grains, or in prismatic crystals of six or eight sides, and sometimes ten or twelve. Its color is commonly some shade of green, yellowish bluish or blackish green. It has two varieties, *zoisite* and *arenaceous* or granular epidote. *Jarvis. Cleaveland.*

Epidote is granular or manganous. *Phillips.*

EPIGASTRIC, *a.* [Gr. *ἐπί* and *γάστρον*, belly.] Pertaining to the upper part of the abdomen; as, the *epigastric* region; the *epigastric* arteries and veins. *Quincy.*

EPIGEE or **EPIGEUM**. [See *Perigee*.]

EPIGLOT, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπιγλωττίς*; *ἐπί* and *γλωττίς*, the tongue.]

In anatomy, one of the cartilages of the larynx, whose use is to cover the glottis, when food or drink is passing into the stomach, to prevent it from entering the larynx and obstructing the breath. *Quincy.*

EPIGRAM, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπίγραμμα*, inscription; *ἐπί* and *γράμμα*, a writing.]

A short poem treating only of one thing, and ending with some lively, ingenious and natural thought. Conciseness and point form the beauty of epigrams.

Epigrams were originally inscriptions on tombs, statues, temples, triumphal arches, &c. *Encyc.*

EPIGRAMMATIC, *a.* Writing epigrams; dealing in epigrams; as an *epigrammatic* poet.

2. Suitable to epigrams; belonging to epigrams; like an epigram; concise; pointed; poignant; as *epigrammatic* style or wit.

EPIGRAMMATIST, *n.* One who composes epigrams, or deals in them. Martial was a noted *epigrammatist*.

EPIGRAPH, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπιγραφή*; *ἐπί* and *γράφω*, to write.]

Among antiquaries, an inscription on a building, pointing out the time of its erection, the builders, its uses, &c. *Encyc.*

EPILEPSY, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπιληψία*, from *ἐπιλαμβάνω*, to seize.]

The falling sickness, so called because the patient falls suddenly to the ground; a disease accompanied with spasms or convulsions and loss of sense. *Quincy.*

EPILEPTIC, *a.* Pertaining to the falling sickness; affected with epilepsy; consisting of epilepsy.

EPILEPTIC, *n.* One affected with epilepsy.

EPILOGISM, *n.* [Gr. *ἐπιλογισμός*.] Computation; enumeration. *Gregory.*

EPILOGISTIC, *a.* Pertaining to epilogue; of the nature of an epilogue.

EPILOGUE, *n.* *ep'ilog*. [L. *epilogus*, from Gr. *ἐπιλογος*, conclusion; *ἐπι*, to conclude; *λόγος* and *λέγω*, to speak.]

1. In oratory, a conclusion; the closing part of a discourse, in which the principal matters are recapitulated. *Encyc.*

2. In the drama, a speech or short poem addressed to the spectators by one of the actors, after the conclusion of the play.