

uous; just; as when we say, a particular action is not *moral*.

5. Conformed to law and right in exterior deportment; as, he leads a good *moral* life.

6. Reasoning or instructing with regard to vice and virtue.

Whilst thou, a *moral* fool, sitt'st still and eith'.

7. In general, *moral* denotes something which respects the conduct of men and their relations as social beings whose actions have a bearing on each other's rights and happiness, and are therefore right or wrong, virtuous or vicious; as *moral* character; *moral* views; *moral* knowledge; *moral* sentiments; *moral* maxims; *moral* approbation; *moral* doubts; *moral* justice; *moral* virtue; *moral* obligations, &c. Or *moral* denotes something which respects the intellectual powers of man, as distinct from his physical powers. Thus we speak of *moral* evidence, *moral* arguments, *moral* persuasion, *moral* certainty, *moral* force; which operate on the mind.

*Moral law*, the law of God which prescribes the moral or social duties, and prohibits the transgression of them.

*Moral sense*, an innate or natural sense of right and wrong; an instinctive perception of what is right or wrong in moral conduct, which approves some actions and disapproves others, independent of education or the knowledge of any positive rule or law. But the existence of any such moral sense is very much doubted.

*Paley. Encyc.*

*Moral philosophy*, the science of manners and duty; the science which treats of the nature and condition of man as a social being, of the duties which result from his social relations, and the reasons on which they are founded.

*MORAL, n.* Morality; the doctrine or practice of the duties of life. [*Not much used.*]

*Prior.*

2. The doctrine inculcated by a fiction; the accommodation of a fable to form the morals.

The *moral* is the first business of the poet.

*Dryden.*

*MORAL, v. i.* To moralize. [*Not in use.*]

*MOR'ALER, n.* A moralizer. [*Not in use.*]

*Shak.*

*MOR'ALIST, n.* [*It. moralista; Fr. moraliste.*]

1. One who teaches the duties of life, or a writer of essays intended to correct vice and inculcate moral duties.

*Addison.*

2. One who practices moral duties; a mere moral person.

*Hammond.*

*MORAL'ITY, n.* [*Fr. moralité.*] The doctrine or system of moral duties, or the duties of men in their social character; ethics.

The system of *morality* to be gathered from the writings of ancient sages, falls very short of that delivered in the gospel.

*Swift.*

2. The practice of the moral duties; virtue. We often admire the politeness of men whose *morality* we question.

3. The quality of an action which renders it good; the conformity of an act to the divine law, or to the principles of rectitude. This conformity implies that the act must be performed by a free agent, and from a

motive of obedience to the divine will. This is the strict theological and scriptural sense of morality. But we often apply the word to actions which accord with justice and human laws, without reference to the motives from which they proceed.

*MORALIZA'TION, n.* Moral reflections, or the act of making moral reflections.

*Warton.*

2. Explanation in a moral sense.

*Elyot.*

*MOR'ALIZE, v. t.* [*Fr. moraliser; Sp. moralizar; It. moralizzare.*]

1. To apply to a moral purpose, or to explain in a moral sense.

This fable is *moralized* in a common proverb.

*L'Estrange.*

Did he not *moralize* this spectacle?

*Shak.*

2. To furnish with manners or examples.

*Spenser.*

3. To render moral or virtuous; to correct the morals of.

It had a large share in *moralizing* the poor white people of the country.

*Ramsay.*

[This sense, though the most strictly etymological, is rare, but not to be condemned.]

*MOR'ALIZE, v. i.* To speak or write on moral subjects, or to make moral reflections.

*MOR'ALIZED, pp.* Applied to a moral purpose, or explained in a moral sense.

2. Rendered moral or less corrupt.

*Ch. Relig. Appeal.*

*MOR'ALIZER, n.* One who moralizes.

*MOR'ALIZING, ppr.* Applying to a moral purpose, or explaining in a moral sense.

2. Making moral reflections in words or writing.

*MOR'ALIZING, n.* The application of facts to a moral purpose, or the making of moral reflections.

His *moralizings* are always pleasant, and he does not spare, where he thinks it useful to moralize.

*Ch. Obs.*

*MOR'ALLY, adv.* In a moral or ethical sense; according to the rules of morality.

By good, *morally* so called, *bonum honestum* ought chiefly to be understood.

*South.*

2. Virtuously; honestly; according to moral rules in external deportment. He resolves to live *morally*.

3. According to the rules of the divine law. An action is not in strictness *morally* good, which does not proceed from good motives, or a principle of love and obedience to the divine law and to the lawgiver. Charity bestowed to gratify pride, or justice done by compulsion, cannot be *morally* good in the sight of God.

4. According to the evidence of human reason or of probabilities, founded on facts or experience; according to the usual course of things and human judgment.

It is *morally* impossible for a hypocrite to keep himself long on his guard.

*L'Estrange.*

From the nature of things, I am *morally* certain that a mind free from passion and prejudice is more fit to pass a true judgment than one biased by affection and interest.

*Wilkins.*

*MOR'ALS, n. plu.* The practice of the duties of life; as a man of correct *morals*.

2. Conduct; behavior; course of life, in regard to good and evil.

Some, as corrupt in their *morals* as vice could make them, have been solicitous to have their children virtuously and piously educated.

*South.*

What can laws do without *morals*?

*Franklin.*

*MORASS', n.* [*D. moeras, from moer, a marsh; Sw. moras; G. morast; Sax. merse; Fr. marais; from mare or moor, a tract of level ground.*]

A marsh; a fen; a tract of low moist ground.

*Watts. Thomson.*

*MORASS'Y, a.* Marshy; fenney.

*Pennant.*

*MORA'VIAN, a.* Pertaining to Moravia.

*MORA'VIAN, n.* One of a religious sect, called the United Brethren.

*MOR'ID, a.* [*L. morbidus, from morbus, a disease, from the root of morior, to die; W. marw, to die, from mar, laid flat. The sense of the verb then is to fall, fail or sink; Ir. marbh, W. marw, dead. In Ch. מרע is to be sick. Class Mr. No. 12.*]

Diseased; sickly; not sound and healthful; as *morbid* humors; a *morbid* constitution; a *morbid* state of the juices of a plant; a *morbid* sensibility.

*MOR'IDNESS, n.* A state of being diseased, sickly or unsound.

*MORBIF'IC, a.* [*Fr. morbifique; L. MORBIFICAL, a. morbus, disease, and facio, to make.*]

Causing disease; generating a sickly state; as *morbific* matter.

*MORBIL'LOUS, a.* [*L. morbilli, measles, a medical term from morbus.*]

Pertaining to the measles; measly; partaking of the nature of measles, or resembling the eruptions of that disease.

*MORBO'SE, a.* [*L. morbosus.*] Proceeding from disease; unsound; unhealthy; as a *morbose* tumor or excrescence in plants.

*Ray.*

*MORBOS'ITY, n.* A diseased state.

*Brown.*

*MORDA'CIOUS, a.* [*L. mordax, infra.*] Biting; given to biting.

*Evelyn.*

*MORDA'CIOUSLY, adv.* In a biting manner; sarcastically.

*Waterhouse.*

*MORDAC'ITY, n.* [*L. mordacitas, from mordeo, to bite.*]

The quality of biting.

*MOR'DANT, n.* [*Fr. biting.*] A substance which has a chemical affinity for coloring matter and serves to fix colors; such as alum.

*Fawcroy.*

*MOR'DICANCY, n.* A biting quality; corrosiveness.

*Evelyn.*

*MOR'DICANT, a.* [*Fr.; from L. mordeo, to bite.*]

Biting; acrid; as the *mordicant* quality of a body.

*Boyle.*

*MORDICA'TION, n.* [*from L. mordeo, to bite.*]

The act of biting or corroding; corrosion.

Another cause is the *mordication* of the orifices, especially of the mesentery veins.

*Bacon.*

*MORE, a.* [*Sax. more, mara or mare, more or greater; D. meer; G. mehr; Dan. meere; Sw. mer.* The Saxon *ma* and *mo*, in Chaucer, have the same sense. In *W. maur*, *Ir. mor*, signifies *great*, in the positive degree. The word may be contracted from *mag*, the root of *L. magis*; *mare*, for *mager*; but this is conjecture.]

1. Greater in quality, degree or amount; in a general sense; as *more* land; *more* water; *more* courage; *more* virtue; *more* power or wisdom; *more* love; *more* praise; *more* light. It is applicable to every thing, material or immaterial.