

**ASPHURRELATES**, *n.* [Gr. *a. priv.* and *σφρα*, a hammer; not malleable.]

A series of semimetallic fossils, fusible by fire, and in their purest state, they are mixed with sulphur and other adventitious matter, in the form of ore. Under this denomination are classed bismuth, antimony, cobalt, zinc and quicksilver. *Core. Encyc.*

**ASPHYXY**, *n.* [Gr. *ασφύξια*, of a priv. and *σφύξ*, pulse.]

A temporary suspension of the motion of the heart and arteries; swooning; fainting. *Quincy. Core.*

**ASPIRE**, *n.* The asp, which see.

2. A piece of ordnance carrying a twelve pound shot.

**ASPIRE**, *n.* A plant growing in France, a species of lavender, which it resembles in the blue color of its flowers, and in the figure and green color of its leaves. It is called male-lavender, spica nardi, and Pseudo-nardus. The oil of this plant is used by painters, farriers and other artificers. It is very inflammable, of a white color and aromatic; and it is almost the only dissolvent of sandarac. *Nicholson. Fourcroy.*

**ASPIRANT**, *n.* [See *Aspire*.] One who aspires, breathes after, or seeks with eagerness. *Faber.*

**ASPIRATE**, *v. t.* [L. *aspiro*, to breathe or blow; Gr. *ασπασμα*, to palpitate; from *spiro*,

and *σπασω*; Ar. *سافرا*, to hiss, or make a hissing by blowing on a wind instrument. See *Spire, Spirit*.]

To pronounce with a breathing or full emission of breath. We *aspirate* the words *horse* and *house*. *Dryden.*

**ASPIRATE**, *v. i.* To be uttered with a strong breathing; as, the letter *h* *aspirates*. *Dryden.*

**ASPIRATE**, *a.* A letter marked with an *asper*, or note of breathing; a mark of aspiration, as the Greek accent. *Bentley.*

**ASPIRATE**, *a.* Pronounced with a full breath. *Holder.*

**ASPIRATED**, *pp.* Uttered with a strong emission of breath.

**ASPIRATING**, *pp.* Pronouncing with a full breath.

**ASPIRATION**, *n.* The pronunciation of a letter with a full emission of breath. *Holder.*

2. A breathing after; an ardent wish or desire, chiefly of spiritual blessings. *Watts.*

3. The act of aspiring or of ardently desiring what is noble or spiritual.

**ASPIRE**, *v. i.* [L. *aspiro*, to breathe. See *Aspirate*.]

1. To desire with eagerness; to pant after an object, great, noble or spiritual; followed by *to* or *after*; as to aspire to a crown, or after immortality.

2. To aim at something elevated; to rise or tower with desire.

*Aspiring* to be Gods, if angels fell;  
*Aspiring* to be angels, men rebel. *Pope.*

**ASPIRER**, *n.* One who aspires; one who aims to rise in power or consequence, or to accomplish some important object. *Milton.*

**ASPIRING** *pp.* Desiring eagerly; aiming at something noble, great, or spiritual.

**ASPIRING**, *a.* Ambitious; animated with an ardent desire of power, importance, or excellence.

**ASPIRING**, *n.* Ambition; eager desire of something great. *Hammond.*

2. Points; stops. [Not used.] *Herbert.*

**ASPORTATION**, *n.* [L. *asportatio*, of *abs* and *porto*, to carry; W. *porthi*, to carry. See *Bear*.]

A carrying away. In law, the felonious removal of goods from the place where they were deposited, is an asportation, and adjudged to be theft, though the goods are not carried from the house or apartment. *Blackstone.*

**ASQUINT**, *adv.* [D. *schuinde*, a slope; *schuins*, slopingly; Sp. *esquina*; D. *kant*, a corner. See *Askance*, and *Squint*.]

To the corner or angle of the eye; obliquely; towards one side; in the straight line of vision; as, to look *asquint*.

2. Not with regard or due notice. *For.*

**ASS**, *n.* [W. *asyn*; Ir. *asan*; L. *asinus*; Fr. *âne*, for *asne*; Arm. *asen*; Sp. *porc*, *asno*; It. *asino*. Qu. from Goth. *auso*, Gr. *ov*, an ear.]

1. A quadruped of the equine genus. This animal has long slouching ears, a short mane, and a tail covered with long hairs at the end. He is usually of an ash color, with a black bar across the shoulders. The tame or domestic ass is patient to stupidity, and carries a heavy burden. He is slow, but very sure footed, and for this reason very useful on rough steep hills.

2. A dull, heavy, stupid fellow; a dolt.

**ASS AI**, [Ital.] A term in music; added to a word signifying slow, it denotes a little quicker; and to a word signifying quick, it denotes a little slower. *Bailey.*

**ASSAIL**, *v. t.* [Fr. *assaillir*, from L. *assailio*, to leap or rush upon, of *ad* and *salio*, to leap, to rise.]

To leap or fall upon by violence; to assault; to attack suddenly, as when one person falls upon another to beat him.

2. To invade or attack, in a hostile manner, as an army, or nation. *Spenser.*

3. To attack with arguments, censure, abuse, or criticism, with a view to injure, bring into disrepute, or overthrow.

4. To attack, with a view to overcome, by motives applied to the passions.

Nor hide the encounter of assailing eyes. *Shak.*

**ASSAILABLE**, *a.* That may be assailed, attacked or invaded.

**ASSAILANT**, *n.* [Fr.] One who assails, attacks or assaults.

**ASSAILANT**, *a.* Assaulting; attacking; invading with violence.

**ASSAILED**, *pp.* Assaulted; invaded; attacked with violence.

**ASSAILER**, *n.* One who assails.

**ASSAILING**, *pp.* Assaulting; invading by force; attacking with violence.

**ASSAILMENT**, *n.* Attack. [Little used.] *Johnson.*

**ASSAPANIC**, *n.* The flying squirrel; an animal which flies a little distance by extending the skin between the fore and hind legs. [See *Squirrel*.] *Trevour.*

**ASSARON**, *n.* The omer or homer, a Hebrew measure of five pints. *Eaey.*

**ASSART**, *n.* [Old Fr. *assarter*, to grub up; In ancient laws, the offense of grubbing up trees, and thus destroying thickets or covers of a forest. *Spelman. Covel.*

2. A tree plucked up by the roots; also a piece of land cleared. *Shak.*

**ASSART**, *v. t.* To grub up trees; to commit an assart. *Ashmole.*

**ASSASSIN**, *n.* [Ar. *حاص*, *hassa*, to kill.]

One who kills or attempts to kill, by surprise or secret assault. The circumstance of *surprise* or *secrecy* seems essential to the signification of this word; though it is sometimes used to denote one who takes any advantage, in killing or attempting to murder; as by attacking one when unarmed.

**ASSASSINATE**, *v. t.* To kill or attempt to kill, by surprise or secret assault; to murder by sudden violence. *Assassin* is a verb not now used.

2. To way lay; to take by treachery. *Milton.*

**ASSASSINATE**, *a.* A murder or murderer. [Not used.] *B. Jonson.*

**ASSASSINATED**, *pp.* Murdered by surprise or secret assault.

**ASSASSINATING**, *pp.* Murdering by surprise or secret assault.

**ASSASSINATION**, *n.* The act of killing or murdering, by surprise or secret assault; murder by violence.

**ASSASSINATOR**, *n.* An assassin, which see.

**ASSASSINOUS**, *a.* Murderous. [Not used.]

**ASSASSINS**, *n.* In Syria, a tribe or clan called Ismaelians, Batastins or Batenians. They originated in Persia about the year 1080; whence a colony migrated and settled on the mountains of Lebanon, and were remarkable for their assassinations. Their religion was a compound of magianism, judaism, and christianity. One article of their creed was, that the Holy Spirit resided in their Chief, and that his orders proceeded from God himself. He was called *Sheik*, and is better known by the denomination of *Old man of the mountain*. This barbarous chieftain and his followers spread terror among nations far and near, for almost two centuries, when the tribe was subdued by Sultan Biharis. *Encyc.*

**ASSAULTION**, *n.* [Fr. from L. *assatus*.] A roasting. [Not used.]

**ASSAULT**, *n.* [Fr. *assault*, now *assaut*; It. *Port. assalto*; Sp. *assalto*; from L. *assulto*, of *ad* and *salto*, to leap, formed on *salio*, or its root. See *Assail*. We have the same root in *insult* and *result*.]

1. An attack or violent onset, whether by an individual, a company, or an army. An assault by private persons may be made with or without weapons. An assault by an army is a violent hostile attack; and when made upon a fort or fortified place is called a *storm*, as opposed to *sepp* or *siege*.

2. An attack by hostile words or measures; as, an *assault* upon the prerogatives of a prince, or upon a constitution of government.

3. In Law, an unlawful setting upon one's person; an attempt or offer to beat another, without touching his person; as by