

CURB-STONE, *n.* A stone placed at the edge of a pavement, to hold the work together. It is written sometimes *kerb* or *kirb*.

CURD, *n.* [*Ir. cruth*; *Scot. cruds*. Sometimes in English, *crud*. The primary sense is to congeal or coagulate. See *Crystol*. The coagulated or thickened part of milk, which is formed into cheese, or, in some countries, eaten as common food. The word may sometimes perhaps be used for the coagulated part of any liquor.

CURD, *v. t.* To cause to coagulate; to turn to curd. *Bacon*.

CURDLE, *v. i.* [sometimes written *crudle*. See *Card*.]

1. To congeal or concretize; to thicken, or change into curd. Milk *curdles* by a mixture of rumet.

2. To thicken; to congeal; as, the blood *curdles* in the veins.

CURDLE, *v. t.* To change into curd; to cause to thicken, coagulate, or concretize. Rumet or brandy *curdles* milk.

At Florence they *curdle* their milk with artichoke flowers. *Encyc.*

2. To congeal or thicken. The recital *curdled* my blood.

CURDLED, *pp.* Coagulated; congealed.

CURDLING, *pp.* Concreting; coagulating.

CURDY, *a.* Like curd; full of curd; coagulated. *Arbuthnot*.

CURE, *n.* [*L. cura*; *Fr. cure*; *L. curo*, to cure, to take care, to prepare; *W. cur*, care, a blow or stroke, affliction; *curas*, to beat, throb, strike; *curia*, to trouble, to vex, to pine or waste away; *Fr. curer*, to cleanse; *se curer les dents*, to pick the teeth; *It. cura*, care, diligence; *curare*, to cure, attend, protect; also, to value or esteem; *Sp. cura*, cure, remedy, guardianship; *curar*, to administer medicines; to salt, as meat; to season, as timber; to bleach thread or linen; to take care; to recover from sickness; *curioso*, curious, neat, clean, handsome, fine, careful. The radical sense of this word is, to strain, stretch, extend, which gives the sense of healing, that is, making strong, and of care, superintendence. But the Welsh has the sense of *drinking*, a modified application of extending, and this gives the sense of separation and purification. In its application to lay, timber, provisions, &c., the sense may be to make right, as in other cases; but of this I am not confident.]

1. A healing; the act of healing; restoration to health from disease, and to soundness from a wound. We say, a medicine will effect a *cure*.

2. Remedy for disease; restorative; that which heals.

Colds, hunger, prisons, ills without a *cure*. *Dryden*.

3. The employment of a curate; the care of souls; spiritual charge.

CURE, *v. t.* [*L. curo*. See the Noun.] To heal, as a person diseased or a wounded limb; to restore to health, as the body, or to soundness, as a limb.

The child was *cured* from that very hour. *Math. xvi.*

2. To subdue, remove, destroy or put an end to; to heal, as a disease.

Christ gave his disciples power to *cure* diseases. *Luke ix.*

When the person and the disease are both mentioned, *cure* is followed by *of* before the disease. The physician *cured* the man of his fever.

3. To remedy; to remove an evil, and restore to a good state.

Patience will alleviate calamities, which it cannot *cure*.

4. To dry; to prepare for preservation; as, to *cure* hay; or to prepare by salt, or in any manner, so as to prevent speedy putrefaction; as, to *cure* fish or beef.

CURED, *pp.* Healed; restored to health or soundness; removed, as a disease; remedied; dried, smoked, or otherwise prepared for preservation.

CURELESS, *a.* That cannot be cured or healed; incurable; not admitting of a remedy; as a *cureless* disorder; a *cureless* ill. *Dryden*.

CURER, *n.* A healer; a physician; one who heals. *Harvey*.

CURFEW, *n.* [*Fr. couvre-feu*, cover-fire.] The ringing of a bell or bells at night, as a signal to the inhabitants to rake up their fires and retire to rest. This practice originated in England from an order of William the conqueror, who directed that at the ringing of the bell, at eight o'clock, every one should put out his light and go to bed. This word is not used in America; although the practice of ringing a bell, at nine o'clock, continues in many places, and is considered in New England, as a signal for people to retire from company to their own abodes; and in general, the signal is obeyed.

2. A cover for a fire; a fire-plate. [*Not used.*] *Bacon*.

CURIALTY, *n.* [*L. curialis*, from *curia*, a court.]

The privileges, prerogatives, or retinue of a court. [*Not used.*] *Bacon*.

CURING, *pp.* Healing; restoring to health or soundness; removing, as an evil; preparing for preservation.

CURING-HOUSE, *n.* A building in which sugar is drained and dried. *Edwards, W. Ind.*

CURIOLOGIC, *a.* [*Gr. xurioslogia*, propriety of speaking.]

Designating a rude kind of hieroglyphics, in which a thing is represented by its picture. *Warburton*.

CURIOSITY, *n.* [*L. curiositas*. See *Curious*.]

1. A strong desire to see something novel, or to discover something unknown, either by research or inquiry; a desire to gratify the senses with a sight of what is new or unusual, or to gratify the mind with new discoveries; inquisitiveness. A man's *curiosity* leads him to view the ruins of Balbec, to investigate the origin of Homer, to discover the component parts of a mineral, or the motives of another's actions. *Shak.*

2. Nicety; delicacy.

3. Accuracy; exactness; nice performance; curiousness; as the *curiosity* of workmanship. *Ray*.

4. A nice experiment; a thing unusual or worthy of curiosity.

There hath been practiced a *curiosity*, to set

a tree on the north side of a wall, and at a little height, to draw it through the wall, &c. *Bacon*.

5. An object of curiosity; that which excites a desire of seeing, or deserves to be seen, as novel and extraordinary.

We took a ramble together to see the *curiosities* of this great town. *Addison*.

[The first and the last senses are chiefly used.]

CURIO SO, *n.* [*It.*] A curious person; a virtuoso.

CURIOS, *s. a.* [*L. curiosus*, from *cura*, care. See *Cure*.]

1. Strongly desirous to see what is novel, or to discover what is unknown; solicitous to see or to know; inquisitive.

Be not curious in unnecessary matters, nor to pry into the concerns of your neighbors.

2. Habitually inquisitive; addicted to research or enquiry; as a man of a *curious* turn of mind: sometimes followed by *after*, and sometimes by *of*.

Curious after things elegant and beautiful; *curious* of antiquities. *Woodward. Dryden*.

3. Accurate; careful not to mistake; solicitous to be correct.

Men were not *curious* what syllables or particles they used. *Hooker*.

4. Careful; nice; solicitous in selection; difficult to please.

A temperate man is not *curious* of delicacies. *Taylor*.

5. Nice; exact; subtle; made with care.

Both these senses embrace their objects—with a more *curious* discrimination. *Holder*.

6. Artful; nicely diligent.

Each ornament about her secretly lies, *By curious* chance, or careless art, composed. *Fairfax*.

7. Wrought with care and art; elegant; neat; finished; as a *curious* girdle; *curious* work. *Ex. xxxviii. xxx.*

8. Requiring care and nicety; as *curious* arts. *Acts xix.*

9. Rigid; severe; particular. [*Little used.*] *Shak.*

10. Rare; singular; as a *curious* fact.

CURIOSLY, *adv.* With nice inspection; inquisitively; attentively.

I saw nothing at first, but observing it more *curiously*, the spots appeared. *Norton*.

2. With nice care and art; exactly; neatly; elegantly. *Ps. cxxxix.*

3. In a singular manner; unusually.

CURIOSNESS, *n.* Fitness to excite curiosity; exactness of workmanship.

2. Singularity of contrivance.

CURL, *v. i.* [*D. krullen*; *Dan. krøller*; to curl, to crisp; *Corn. krillia*.]

1. To turn, bend or form into ringlets; to crisp; as the hair.

2. To writhe; to twist; to coil; as a serpent.

3. To dress with curls.

The snaky locks *curled* Megara. *Milton*.

4. To raise in waves or undulations; to ripple.

Seas would be pools, without the brushing air *To curl* the waves. *Dryden*.

CURL, *v. i.* To bend in contraction; to shrink into ringlets. *Boyle*.

2. To rise in waves or undulations; to ripple; and particularly, to roll over at the summit; as a *curling* wave.