

TIMBER, *n.* [Sax. *timber*, wood, a tree, structure; *timbrian*, to build, to edify, in a moral sense; Goth. *timbryan*, to construct; Sw. *timmer*, wood fit for building; *timra*, to build, to frame; Dan. *tommer*, timber; *tömrer*, to build; D. *timmer*, an apartment; *timber*, a crest; *timmeren*, to build; *timmerhout*, timber; G. *zimmer*, an apartment; *zimmer*, to square, fit, fabricate; *zimmerholz*, timber. If *m* is radical, which is probable, this word coincides with Gr. *δεωω*, L. *domus*, a house, and Gr. *δεωας*, the body. The primary sense is probably to set, lay or found.]

1. That sort of wood which is proper for buildings or for tools, utensils, furniture, carriages, fences, ships and the like. We apply the word to standing trees which are suitable for the uses above mentioned, as a forest contains excellent *timber*; or to the beams, rafters, scantling, boards, planks, &c. hewed or sawed from such trees. Of all the species of trees useful as *timber*, in our climate, the white oak and the white pine hold the first place in importance.

2. The body or stem of a tree. *Shak.*
3. The materials; in *irony*.

Such dispositions are the fittest *timber* to make politics of. *Bacon.*

4. A single piece or squared stick of wood for building, or already framed.

Many of the *timbers* were decayed.

5. In *ships*, a timber is a rib or curving piece of wood, branching outward from the keel in a vertical direction. One *timber* is composed of several pieces united in one frame. *Mar. Dict.*

TIMBER, *v. t.* To furnish with timber. [See *Timbered*.]

TIMBER, *v. i.* To light on a tree. [Not in use.] *L'Estrange.*

2. In *fulconry*, to make a nest.

Timber or *timmer* of *furs*, as of martens, ermines, sables and the like, denotes forty skins; of other skins, one hundred and twenty. *Laws of Ed. Confessor.*

Timbers of *ermine*, in *heraldry*, denote the ranks or rows of ermine in noblemen's coats.

TIMBERED, *pp.* or *a.* Furnished with timber; as a well *timbered* house. In the United States, we say, land is well *timbered*, when it is covered with good timber trees.

2. Built; formed; contrived. [Little used.] *Wotton.*

TIMBER-HEAD, *n.* [*timber* and *head*.] In *ships*, the top end of a timber, rising above the gunwale, and serving for belaying ropes, &c.; otherwise called *kevel-head*. *Mar. Dict.*

TIMBERING, *ppr.* Furnishing with timber.

TIMBER-SOW, *n.* A worm in wood. *Bacon.*

TIMBER-TREE, *n.* [*timber* and *tree*.] A tree suitable for timber.

TIMBER-WORK, *n.* [*timber* and *work*.] Work formed of wood.

TIMBER-YARD, *n.* [*timber* and *yard*.] A yard or place where timber is deposited.

TIMBRE, *n.* [D. *timber*.] A crest on a coat of arms. It ought to be written *timber*.

TIMBREI, *n.* [Sp. *tamboril*, a tabor or

drum; It. *tamburo*; Fr. *tambourin*, *tambour*; It. *timpan*; L. *tympanum*; Gr. *τυμπαρον*. This is probably the same as *tabor*, or from the same root; *m* being casual. It is from beating; Gr. *τυτωω*.]

An instrument of music; a kind of drum, tabor or tabret, which has been in use from the highest antiquity.

And Miriam took a *timbrel* in her hand—and all the women went out after her with *timbrels* and with dances. Ex. xv.

TIMBRELED, *a.* Sung to the sound of the timbrel. *Milton.*

TIME, *n.* [Sax. *tim*, *time*, time in general; Dan. *time*, Sw. *timme*, an hour; L. *tempus*; It. Port. *tempo*; Sp. *tiempo*; Fr. *temps*, time in general; all from the root of the Sw. *tima*, to happen, to come, to befall; but the root in some of its applications, must have signified to rush with violence. Hence the sense of *temples*, L. *tempora*, the falls of the head, also *tempest*, &c. See *Tempest*. *Time* is primarily equivalent to *season*; to the Gr. *καιρος* in its original sense, *opportunity*, *occasion*, a fall, an event, that which comes.]

1. A particular portion or part of duration, whether past, present or future. The *time* was; the *time* has been; the *time* is; the *time* will be.

Lost *time* is never found again. *Franklin.*
God, who at sundry *times*, and in divers manners, spoke in *time* past to the fathers by the prophets. Heb. i.

2. A proper time; a season.
There is a *time* to every purpose. Eccles. iii.
The *time* of figs was not yet. Mark xi.

3. Duration.
The equal and uniform flux of *time* does not affect our senses. *Cyc.*

Time is *absolute* or *relative*; *absolute* time is considered without any relation to bodies or their motions. *Relative* time is the sensible measure of any portion of duration, by means of motion. Thus the diurnal revolution of the sun measures a space of time or duration. Hence,

4. A space or measured portion of duration. We were in Paris two months, and all that *time* enjoyed good health.

5. Life or duration, in reference to occupation. One man spends his *time* in idleness; another devotes all his *time* to useful purposes.

Believe me, your *time* is not your own; it belongs to God, to religion, to mankind. *Buckminster.*

6. Age; a part of duration distinct from other parts; as ancient *times*; modern *times*. The Spanish armada was defeated in the *time* of Queen Elizabeth.

7. Hour of travail.
She was within one month of her *time*. *Clarendon.*

8. Repetition; repeated performance, or mention with reference to repetition. The physician visits his patient three *times* in a day.

9. Repetition; doubling; addition of a number to itself; as, to double cloth four *times*; four *times* four amount to sixteen.

10. Measure of sounds in music; as common *time*, and treble *time*. In concerts, it is all important that the performers keep *time*, or exact *time*.

11. The state of things at a particular period; as when we say, good *times*, or bad

times, hard *times*, dull *times* for trade, &c. In this sense, the plural is generally used.

12. In *grammar*, tense.
In *time*, in good season; sufficiently early. He arrived in *time* to see the exhibition.

2. A considerable space of duration; process or continuation of duration. You must wait patiently; you will in *time* recover your health and strength.

At *times*, at distinct intervals of duration. At *times* he reads; at other *times*, he rides.

The spirit began to move him at *times*. Judges xiii.

Time enough, in season; early enough.
Stanley at Bosworth-field, came *time enough* to save his life. *Bacon.*

To lose *time*, to delay.
2. To go too slow; as, a watch or clock loses *time*.

Apparent time, in *astronomy*, true solar time, regulated by the apparent motions of the sun.

Mean time, equated time, a mean or average of apparent time.

Sidereal time, is that which is shown by the diurnal revolutions of the stars.

TIME, *v. t.* To adapt to the time or occasion; to bring, begin or perform at the proper season or time; as, the measure is well *timed*, or ill *timed*. No small part of political wisdom consists in knowing how to *time* propositions and measures.

Mercy is good, but kings mistake its *timing*. *Dryden.*

2. To regulate as to time; as, he *timed* the stroke. *Addison.*

3. To measure; as in music or harmony. *Shak.*

TIMED, *pp.* Adapted to the season or occasion.

TIMEFUL, *a.* Seasonable; timely; sufficiently early. [Not much used.] *Raleigh.*

TIMEIST, *n.* In *music*, a performer who keeps good time. *Bushy.*

TIME-KEEPER, *n.* [*time* and *keeper*.] A clock, watch or other chronometer.

TIMELESS, *a.* Unseasonable; done at an improper time.

Nor fits it to prolong the heav'nly feast
Timeless— [Not used.] *Pope.*

2. Untimely; immature; done or suffered before the proper time; as a *timeless* grave. [Not used.] *Shak.*

TIMELESSLY, *adv.* Unseasonably. *Milton.*

TIMEINESS, *n.* [from *timely*.] Seasonableness; a being in good time.

TIMELY, *a.* Seasonable; being in good time; sufficiently early. The defendant had *timely* notice of this motion. *Timely* care will often prevent great evils.

2. Keeping time or measure. [Not used.] *Spenser.*

TIMELY, *adv.* Early; soon; in good season.

Timely advis'd, the coming evil shun. *Prior.*

TIME-PIECE, *n.* [*time* and *piece*.] A clock, watch or other instrument to measure or show the progress of time; a chronometer.

TIME-PLEASER, *n.* *s* as *z.* [*time* and *please*.]

One who complies with the prevailing opinions, whatever they may be. *Shak.*