

voluntary evacuations; undue retention of some natural discharge.

Encyc. Core.

4. The act of withholding; restraint. *Shak.*
5. Custody; confinement. [*Not in use.*]

Shak.

RETEN'TIVE, *a.* [*Fr. retentif.*] Having the power to retain; as a *retentive* memory; the *retentive* faculty; the *retentive* force of the stomach; a body *retentive* of heat or moisture.

RETENTIVENESS, *n.* The quality of retention; as *retentiveness* of memory.

RETICENCE, *n.* [*Fr. reticence*, from *L. reticency*, *n.* *reticentia*, *reticeo*; *re* and *taceo*, to be silent.]

Concealment by silence. In *rhetoric*, *apophysis* or suppression; a figure by which a person really speaks of a thing, while he makes a show as if he would say nothing on the subject. *Encyc.*

RETICLE, *n.* [*L. reticulum*, from *rete*, a net.] A small net.

2. A contrivance to measure the quantity of an eclipse; a kind of micrometer. *Ash.*

RETICULAR, *a.* [*supra.*] Having the form of a net or of net-work; formed with interstices; as a *reticular* body or membrane. *Encyc.*

In *anatomy*, the *reticular body*, or *rete mucosum*, is the layer of the skin, intermediate between the cutis and the cuticle, the principal seat of color in man; the *reticular membrane* is the same as the cellular membrane. *Parr.*

RETICULATE, *a.* [*L. reticulatus*, from *rete*, a net.] Netted; resembling net-work; having distinct veins crossing like net-work; as a *reticulate* corol or petal. *Martyn.*

RETICULATION, *n.* Net-work; organization of substances resembling a net. *Darwin.*

RETIFORM, *a.* [*L. retiformis*; *rete*, a net, and *forma*, form.]

Having the form of a net in texture; composed of crossing lines and interstices; as the *retiform* coat of the eye. *Ray.*

RETINA, *n.* [*L. from rete*, a net.] In *anatomy*, one of the coats of the eye, being an expansion of the optic nerve over the bottom of the eye, where the sense of vision is first received. *Encyc.*

RETINASPIHALT, *n.* A bituminous or resinous substance of a yellowish or reddish brown color, found in irregular pieces very light and shining. [*See Retinite.*]

RETINITE, *n.* [*Gr. ρητιν, resin.*] Pitchstone; stone of fusible pitch, of a resinous appearance, compact, brown, reddish, gray, yellowish, blackish or bluish, rarely homogeneous, and often containing crystals of feldspar and scales of mica. It is the pectstein porphyry or obsidian of the Germans. It is called also *retinasphalt*. *Ure. Cyc.*

RETINUE, *n.* [*Fr. retinue*, from *retenir*, to retain, *L. retineo*; *re* and *teneo*, to hold.] The attendants of a prince or distinguished personage, chiefly on a journey or an excursion; a train of persons. *Dryden.*

RETIRADE, *n.* [*Fr. from retirer*, to withdraw; *Sp. retirada*, a retreat.]

In *fortification*, a kind of retrenchment in the body of a bastion or other work,

which is to be disputed inch by inch, after the defenses are dismantled. It usually consists of two faces, which make a re-entering angle. *Encyc.*

RETIRE, *v. i.* [*Fr. retirer*; *re* and *tirer*, to draw; *It. ritirare*; *Sp. retirar.*]

1. To withdraw; to retreat; to go from company or from a public place into privacy; as, to *retire* from the world; to *retire* from notice.

2. To retreat from action or danger; as, to *retire* from battle.

3. To withdraw from a public station. Gen. Washington, in 1796, *retired* to private life.

4. To break up, as a company or assembly. The company *retired* at eleven o'clock.

5. To depart or withdraw for safety or for pleasure. Men *retire* from the town in summer for health and pleasure. But in South Carolina, the planters *retire* from their estates to Charleston, or to an isle near the town.

6. To recede; to fall back. The shore of the sea *retires* in bays and gulfs.

RETIRE, *v. t.* To withdraw; to take away.

He *retired* himself, his wife and children into a forest. *Sidney.*

As when the sun is present all the year,
And never doth *retire* his golden ray. *Davies.*

[This transitive use of *retire* is now obsolete.]

RETIRE, *n.* Retreat; recession; a withdrawing. *Obs.* *Shak. Bacon.*

2. Retirement; place of privacy. *Obs.* *Milton.*

RETIRE, *a.* Secluded from much society or from public notice; private. He lives a *retired* life; he has a *retired* situation.

2. Secret; private; as *retired* speculations. *Locke.*

RETIRE, *adv.* In solitude or privacy. *Shenwood.*

RETIRE, *n.* A state of retirement; solitude; privacy or secrecy. *Atterbury.*

RETIREMENT, *n.* The act of withdrawing from company or from public notice or station. *Milton.*

2. The state of being withdrawn; as the *retirement* of the mind from the senses. *Locke.*

3. Private abode; habitation secluded from much society or from public life.

Caprea had been the *retirement* of Augustus. *Addison.*

Retirement is as necessary to me as it will be welcome. *Washington.*

4. Private way of life.

Retirement, rural quiet, friendship, books, Progressive virtue and approving heaven. *Thomson.*

RETIRING, *ppr.* Withdrawing; retreating; going into seclusion or solitude.

2. *a.* Reserved; not forward or obtrusive; as *retiring* modesty; *retiring* manners.

RETOLD, *pret.* and *pp.* of *retell*; as a story *retold*.

RETORT, *v. t.* [*L. retortus*, *retorqueo*; *re* and *torqueo*, to throw.]

1. To throw back; to reverberate.

And they *retort* that heat again
To the first giver. *Shak.*

2. To return an argument, accusation, cen-

sure or incivility; as, to *retort* the charge of vanity.

He pass'd through hostile scorn;
And with *retorted* scorn, his back he turn'd. *Milton.*

3. To bend or curve back; as a *retorted* line. *Bacon.*

RETORT, *v. i.* To return an argument or charge; to make a severe reply. He *retorted* upon his adversary with severity.

RETORT, *n.* The return of an argument, charge or incivility in reply; as the *retort* courteous. *Shak.*

2. In *chemistry*, a spherical vessel with its neck bent, to which the receiver is fitted; used in distillation. *Encyc.*

RETORTED, *pp.* Returned; thrown back; bent back.

RETORTER, *n.* One that retorts.

RETORTING, *ppr.* Returning; throwing back.

RETORTION, *n.* The act of retorting. *Spenser.*

RETOSS, *v. t.* [*re* and *toss*.] To toss back. *Pope.*

RETOSS, *pp.* Tossed back.

RETOSSING, *ppr.* Tossing back.

RETOUCH, *v. t.* [*retouch*.] [*re* and *touch*.] To improve by new touches; as, to *retouch* a picture or an essay. *Dryden. Pope.*

RETOUCHED, *pp.* *retouch'd.* Touched again; improved by new touches.

RETOUCHING, *ppr.* *retouch'ing.* Improving by new touches.

RETRACE, *v. t.* [*Fr. retracer*; *re* and *tracer*, to trace.]

1. To trace back; to go back in the same path or course; as, to *retrace* one's steps; to *retrace* one's proceedings.

2. To trace back, as a line.

Then if the line of Turnus you *retrace*,
He springs from Inachus of Argive race. *Dryden.*

RETRACED, *pp.* Traced back.

RETRACING, *ppr.* Tracing back.

RETRACT, *v. t.* [*Fr. retracter*; *Norm. retraiter*; *L. retractus*, *retraho*; *re* and *traho*, to draw.]

1. To recall, as a declaration, words or saying; to disavow; to recant; as, to *retract* an accusation, charge or assertion.

I would as freely have *retracted* the charge of idolatry, as I ever made it. *Stillingfleet.*

2. To take back; to rescind. [*Little used.*] *Woodward.*

3. To draw back, as claws.

RETRACT, *v. i.* To take back; to unsay; to withdraw concession or declaration.

She will, and she will not; she grants, denies, Consents, *retracts*, advances, and then flies. *Granville.*

RETRACT, *n.* Among *horsemen*, the prick of a horse's foot in nailing a shoe.

RETRACTABLE, *a.* That may be retracted or recalled.

RETRACTATION, *n.* [*Fr. from L. retractatio.*]

The recalling of what has been said; recantation; change of opinion declared. *South.*

RETRACTED, *pp.* Recalled; recanted; disavowed.

RETRACTIBLE, *a.* That may be drawn back; retractile. *Journ. of Science.*

RETRACTILE, *a.* Capable of being drawn back.