

Pertness and ignorance may ask a question in three lines, which it will cost learning and ingenuity thirty pages to answer. *G. Spring.*
3. Petty liveness; sprightliness without force, dignity or solidity.

There is in Shaftsbury's works a lively *pertness* and a parade of literature. *Watts.*

PERTURB, *v. t.* [*L. perturbo*; *per* and *turbo*, properly to turn, or to stir by turning.]

1. To disturb; to agitate; to disquiet.
2. To disorder; to confuse. *Brown.*
[This verb is little used. The participle is in use.]

PERTURBATION, *n.* [*L. perturbatio*.]

1. Disquiet or agitation of mind. *Milton.*
2. Restlessness of passions; great uneasiness.
3. Disturbance; disorder; commotion in public affairs. *Bacon.*
4. Disturbance of passions; commotion of spirit. *B. Jonson.*
5. Cause of disquiet.

O polished *perturbation*, golden care!

PERTURBATOR, *n.* One that disturbs
PERTURBER, *n.* or raises commotion. [*Little used.*]

PERTURBED, *pp.* Disturbed; agitated; disquieted.

Rest, rest, *perturbed* spirit. *Shak.*

PERTUSE, *v. t.* [*L. pertusus, pertundo*; *per* and *tundo*, to beat.]

1. Punched; pierced with holes.
2. In *botany*, full of hollow dots on the surface, as a leaf.

PERTUSION, *n. s* as *z.* [*L. pertusus, pertundo*.]

1. The act of punching, piercing or thrusting through with a pointed instrument.

The manner of opening a vein in Hippocrates's time, was by stabbing or *pertusion*.

2. A little hole made by punching; a perforation. *Bacon.*

PERUKE, *n.* [*Fr. perruque*; *It. perrucca*; *Sp. peluca*; *D. paruik*; *G. perrücke*; *Sw. peruk*.]

An artificial cap of hair; a periwig.

PERUKE-MAKER, *n.* A maker of perukes; a wig-maker.

PERUSAL, *n. s* as *z.* [from *peruse*.] The act of reading.

This treatise requires application in the *perusal*.

2. Careful view or examination. [*Unusual.*]

PERUSE, *v. t. s* as *z.* [Some of the senses of this word would lead to the inference that it is from the Latin *perviso*. If not, I know not its origin.]

1. To read, or to read with attention.

2. To observe; to examine with careful survey. *Obs.*

I have *perus'd* her well. *Shak.*
Myself I then *perus'd*, and limb by limb Survey'd. *Milton.*

PERUSED, *pp.* Read; observed; examined.

PERUSER, *n.* One that reads or examines.

PERUSING, *ppr.* Reading; examining.

PERUVIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Peru, in South America.

Peruvian bark, the bark of the Cinchona, a tree of Peru; called also *Jesuits' bark*. The taste is bitter and pungent, and it is used as an astringent and tonic, in cases of debility, and particularly as a febrifuge in intermittents.

PERVADE, *v. t.* [*L. pervado*; *per* and *vado*, to go, Eng. to wade.]

1. To pass through an aperture, pore or interstice; to permeate; as liquors that *pervade* the pores. *Newton.*

2. To pass or spread through the whole extent of a thing and into every minute part. What but God

Pervades, adjusts and agitates the whole?

3. We use this verb in a transitive form to express a passive or an intransitive signification. Thus when we say, "the electric fluid *pervades* the earth," or "ether *pervades* the universe," we mean only that the fluid is diffused through the earth or universe, or exists in all parts of them. So when we say, "a spirit of conciliation *pervades* all classes of men," we may mean that such a spirit *passes* through all classes, or it exists among all classes.

PERVADED, *pp.* Passed through; permeated; penetrated in every part.

PERVADING, *ppr.* Passing through or extending to every part of a thing.

PERVATION, *n. s* as *z.* The act of pervading or passing through the whole extent of a thing. *Boyle.*

PERVERSE, *a. pervers'*. [*L. perversus*. See *Pervert*.]

1. Literally, turned aside; hence, distorted from the right. *Milton.*

2. Obstinate in the wrong; disposed to be contrary; stubborn; untractable.

To so *perverse* a sex all grace is vain.

3. Cross; petulant; peevish; disposed to cross and vex. *Dryden.*

I'll frown and be *perverse*, and say thee nay. *Shak.*

PERVERSELY, *adv. pervers'ly*. With intent to vex; crossly; peevishly; obstinately in the wrong. *Locke. Swift.*

PERVERSENESS, *n. pervers'ness*. Disposition to cross or vex; untractableness; crossness of temper; a disposition uncomplying, unaccommodating or acting in opposition to what is proper or what is desired by others.

Her whom he wishes most, shall seldom gain Through her *perverse*ness. *Milton.*

2. Perversion. [*Not used.*]

PERVERSION, *n.* [*Fr. from L. perversus*.] The act of perverting; a turning from truth or propriety; a diverting from the true intent or object; change to something worse. We speak of the *perversion* of the laws, when they are misinterpreted or misapplied; a *perversion* of reason, when it is misemployed; a *perversion* of Scripture, when it is willfully misinterpreted or misapplied, &c.

PERVERSITY, *n.* Perverseness; crossness; disposition to thwart or cross. *Norris.*

PERVERSIVE, *a.* Tending to pervert or corrupt.

PERVERT, *v. t.* [*L. pervertio*; *per* and *verto*, to turn.]

1. To turn from truth, propriety, or from its proper purpose; to distort from its true use or end; as, to *pervert* reason by misdirecting it; to *pervert* the laws by misinterpreting and misapplying them; to *pervert* justice; to *pervert* the meaning of an author; to *pervert* nature; to *pervert* truth. *Milton. Dryden.*

2. To turn from the right; to corrupt. He in the serpent had *perverted* Eve. *Milton.*

PERVERTED, *pp.* Turned from right to wrong; distorted; corrupted; misinterpreted; misemployed.

PERVERTER, *n.* One that perverts or turns from right to wrong; one that distorts, misinterprets or misapplies.

PERVERTIBLE, *a.* That may be perverted. *Ainsworth.*

PERVERTING, *ppr.* Turning from right to wrong; distorting; misinterpreting; misapplying; corrupting.

[*Pervert*, when used of persons, usually implies evil design.]

PERVESTIGATE, *v. t.* [*L. pervestigo*; *per* and *vestigo*, to trace; *vestigium*, a track.] To find out by research. *Cockeram.*

PERVESTIGATION, *n.* Diligent inquiry; thorough research. *Chillingworth.*

PERVICACIOUS, *a.* [*L. pervicax*; composed perhaps of *per* and Teutonic *icgan*, to strive or contend.]

Very obstinate; stubborn; willfully contrary or refractory. *Denham.*

PERVICACIOUSLY, *adv.* With willful obstinacy.

PERVICACIOUSNESS, *n.* Stubbornness; willful obstinacy. [*Little used.*]

PERVIOUS, *a.* [*L. pervius*; *per* and *via*, way, or from the root of that word.]

1. Admitting passage; that may be penetrated by another body or substance; permeable; penetrable. We say, glass is *pervious* to light; a porous stone is *pervious* to water; a wood is *pervious* or not *pervious* to a body of troops.

A country *pervious* to the arms and authority of the conqueror. *Gibbon.*

2. That may be penetrated by the mental sight.

By darkness they mean God, whose secrets are *pervious* to no eye. *Taylor.*

3. Pervading; permeating; as *pervious* fire. [*Not proper.*]

PERVIOUSNESS, *n.* The quality of admitting passage or of being penetrated; as the *perviousness* of glass to light. *Boyle.*

PESADE, *n.* [*Fr. passade*. See *Pass*.] The motion of a horse when he raises his fore quarters, keeping his hind feet on the ground without advancing. *Far. Dict.*

PESO, *n.* [*supra*.] A Spanish coin weighing an ounce; a piaster; a piece of eight. *Sp. Dict.*

PESARY, *n.* [*Fr. pessaire*; *It. pessario*; *L. pessus*.]

A solid substance composed of wool, lint or linen, mixed with powder, oil, wax, &c. made round and long like a finger, to be introduced into the neck of the matrix for the cure of some disorder. *Encyc.*

An instrument that is introduced into the va-