

3. Relieving or curing the stone or gravel, or disorders of the kidneys in general; as a *nephritic* medicine.

*Nephritic stone*, a stone of the silicious kind, called jade.

*Nephritic wood*, a species of compact wood of a fine grain, brought from New Spain, which gives a blue color to spirit of wine and to water; which color is changed to yellow by acids, and again to blue by alkalies. *Nicholson. Encyc.*

*NEPHRITIC*, *n.* A medicine adapted to relieve or cure the diseases of the kidneys, particularly the gravel or stone in the bladder. *Cyc.*

*NEPHRITIS*, *n.* In medicine, an inflammation of the kidneys.

*NEPHROTOMY*, *n.* [Gr. νεφρος, a kidney, and τέμνω, to cut.]

In surgery, the operation of extracting a stone from the kidney. *Cyc.*

*NEPOTISM*, *n.* [Fr. nepotisme, from L. nepos, nephew.]

1. Fondness for nephews. *Addison.*

2. Undue attachment to relations; favoritism shown to nephews and other relations.

*NEPTUNIAN*, *a.* [from *Neptunus*, the fabled deity of the ocean.]

1. Pertaining to the ocean or sea.

2. Formed by water or aqueous solution; as *neptunian* rocks.

*NEPTUNIAN*, *n.* One who adopts the *neptunist* theory that the whole earth was once covered with water, or rather that the substances of the globe were formed from aqueous solution; opposed to the *Plutonic* theory. *Pinkerton. Good.*

*NE/REID*, *n.* [Gr. νηρηίδης, *phu.* of νηρης, from Νηρης, a marine deity; Sans. *nara*, water; Ar. Heb. נהר, to flow. See *Narrate*.]

In mythology, a sea nymph. In ancient monuments, the Nereids are represented as riding on sea horses, sometimes with the human form entire, and sometimes with the tail of a fish. They were the daughters of Nereus, and constantly attended Neptune. *Encyc.*

*NERF/LING*, *n.* A fresh water fish of Germany, of the lether-mouthed kind, and apparently a variety of the rudd. *Dict. Nat. Hist.*

*NER/ITE*, *n.* A genus of univalvular shells.

*NER/ITITE*, *n.* A petrified shell of the genus *Nerita*.

*NERVE*, *n.* *nerv.* [L. *nervus*; Fr. *nerf*; W. *nerth*, strength; Gr. νευρον, nerve; probably allied to ανηρ, a man, L. *vir*; Pers.

نر, the male of any animal; Sans. *nar*, a man. In Welsh, *ner* denotes one that possesses self-energy, and hence an epithet of God.]

1. An organ of sensation and motion in animals. The nerves are prolongations of the medullary substance of the brain, which ramify and extend to every part of the body. *Encyc. Parr.*

2. A sinew or tendon. *Pope.*

3. Strength; firmness of body; as a man of *nerve*.

4. Fortitude; firmness of mind; courage.

5. Strength; force; authority; as the *nerves* of discipline. *Gibbon.*

*NERVE*, *v. t.* To give strength or vigor; to arm with force; as, fear *nerved* his arm. *Ames.*

*NERVED*, *pp.* Armed with strength.

2. *a.* In botany, having vessels simple and unbranched, extending from the base towards the tip; as a *nerved* leaf.

*NERVELESS*, *a.* *nerv/less.* Destitute of strength; weak. *Pope.*

*NERVINE*, *a.* [Low L. *nervinus*.] That has the quality of relieving in disorders of the nerves.

*NERVINE*, *n.* A medicine that affords relief from disorders of the nerves.

*NERVOUS*, *a.* [L. *nervosus*.] Strong; vigorous; as a *nervous* arm.

2. Pertaining to the nerves; seated in or affecting the nerves; as a *nervous* disease or fever.

3. Having the nerves affected; hypochondriac; a colloquial use of the word.

4. Possessing or manifesting vigor of mind; characterized by strength in sentiment or style; as a *nervous* historian. *Adams.*

*NERVOUS*, *n.* In botany. [See *Nerved*, *NERVOSE*, *a.* No. 2.]

*NERVOUSLY*, *adv.* With strength or vigor. *Warton.*

*NERVOUSNESS*, *n.* Strength; force; vigor. *Warton.*

2. The state of being composed of nerves. *Goldsmith.*

*NERVY*, *a.* Strong; vigorous. *Shak.*

*NESCIENCE*, *n.* *nesh/ens.* [L. *nesciens*, *nescio*; *ne* and *scio*.]

Want of knowledge; ignorance. *Bp. Hall.*

*NESH*, *a.* [Sax. *nesc*.] Soft; tender; nice. *Chaucer.*

[*Not used.*] *NES*, a termination of names, signifies a promontory, from the root of *nose*, which see.

*NESS*, a termination of appellatives, [Sax. *nesse*, *nyssc*.] denotes state or quality, as in *goodness*, *greatness*.

*NEST*, *n.* [Sax. G. D. *id.*; Sw. *näste*; W. *nyth*; L. *nidus*; Fr. *nid*; It. Sp. *nido*; Arm. *neiz*; Ir. *nead*; Russ. *gnizdo*; Gr. νεστος, νεσσια, νεστια, unless the latter are from *neos*. In Persic, *nisim* is a nest, *nashiman*, a mansion, and *nishastan*, to sit down, to dwell or remain.]

1. The place or bed formed or used by a bird for incubation or the mansion of her young, until they are able to fly. The word is used also for the bed in which certain insects deposit their eggs.

2. Any place where irrational animals are produced. *Bentley.*

3. An abode; a place of residence; a receptacle of numbers, or the collection itself; usually in an ill sense; as a *nest* of rogues.

4. A warm close place of abode; generally in contempt. *Spenser.*

5. A number of boxes, cases or the like, inserted in each other.

*NEST*, *v. i.* To build and occupy a nest.

The king of birds *nested* with its leaves. *Howell.*

*NEST/EGG*, *n.* An egg left in the nest to prevent the hen from forsaking it. *Hudibras.*

*NESTLE*, *v. i.* *nes/l.* To settle; to harbor; to lie close and snug, as a bird in her nest.

The king-fisher *nestles* in hollow banks. *L'Estrange.*

Their purpose was to fortify in some strong place of the wild country, and there *nestle* till succors came. *Bacon.*

2. To move about in one's seat, like a bird when forming her nest; as, a child *nestles*. *Donne.*

*NESTLE*, *v. t.* *nes/l.* To house, as in a nest. *Donne.*

2. To cherish, as a bird her young. *Chapman.*

*NEST/LING*, *n.* A young bird in the nest, or just taken from the nest. *Barrington.*

2. A nest. [*Not used.*]

*NEST/LING*, *a.* Newly hatched; being yet in the nest. *Barrington.*

*NESTORIAN*, *n.* A follower of Nestorius, a heretic of the fifth century, who taught that Christ was divided into two persons.

*NET*, *n.* [Sax. *net*, *nyt*; D. Dan. *net*; G. *netz*; Sw. *nät*, *not*; Goth. *nali*, from the root of *knit*, Sax. *cnyttan*, whence *knot*, L. *nodus*.]

1. An instrument for catching fish and fowls, or wild beasts, formed with twine or thread interwoven with meshes.

2. A cunning device; a snare. Micah vii.

3. Inextricable difficulty. Job xviii.

4. Severe afflictions. Job xix.

*NET*, *v. t.* To make a net or net-work; to knot. *Seaward.*

*NET*, *a.* [Fr. *net*; It. *netto*. See *Neat*.]

1. Neat; pure; unadulterated. [*Little used.*]

2. Being without flaw or spot. [*Little used.*]

3. Being beyond all charges or outlay; as *net* profits.

4. Being clear of all tare and tret, or all deductions; as *net* weight. It is sometimes written *nett*, but improperly. *Net* is properly a mercantile appropriation of *neat*.

*NET*, *v. t.* To produce clear profit.

*NETHER*, *a.* [Sax. *neother*; G. *nieder*; D. Dan. *neder*. This word is of the comparative degree; the positive occurs only in composition, as in *beneath*, Sax. *neathan*. It is used only in implied comparison, as in the *nether* part, the *nether* millstone: but we never say, one part is *nether* than another. It is not much used.]

1. Lower; lying or being beneath or in the lower part; opposed to *upper*; as the *nether* millstone.

Distorted all my *nether* shape thus grew Transform'd. *Milton.*

2. In a lower place.

'Twixt upper, *nether* and surrounding fires. *Milton.*

3. Belonging to the regions below. *Dryden.*

*NETH/ERMÖST*, *a.* Lowest; as the *nethermost* hell; the *nethermost* abyss. *South. Milton.*

*NETTING*, *n.* [from *net*.] A piece of net-work.

2. A complication of ropes fastened across each other, to be stretched along the upper part of a ship's quarter to contain hammocks. Netting is also employed to hold the fore and main-top-mast sails when stowed. Netting is also extended along a ship's gunwale in engagements, to prevent the enemy from boarding. *Mar. Dict.*

*NETTLE*, *n.* *net/l.* [Sax. *nell*, *netele*; D. *netel*; G. *nessel*; Sw. *nässla*; Gr. *νεύρα*, from the root of *νείω*, *νραιω*, to scratch.]

A plant of the genus *Urtica*, whose prickles