

MURR, *n.* A catarrh. [*Not in use.*]

Gascoigne.

MURRAIN, *n.* *mur'rin.* [*Sp. murrina*, a disease among cattle, sadness; *Port. murrinha*; *It. moria*; *morire*, *Port. morrér*, *Sp. morir*, *L. morior*, to die.]

An infectious and fatal disease among cattle. Ex. ix. *Bacon. Garth.*

MUR'RE, *n.* A kind of bird. *Carew.*

MUR'REY, *a.* [from the root of *Moor*, an African.] Of a dark red color. *Bacon. Boyle.*

MURRHINE, *a.* [*L. murrhinus*.] An epithet given to a delicate kind of ware or porcelain brought from the east; *Pliny* says from Carmania, now Kerman, in Persia. *Encyc. Pinkerton.*

MUR'RION, *n.* [*Port. murrion*; *It. morione*; from the root of *L. murus*, a wall. See *Mural*.]

A helmet; a casque; armor for the head; written also *morion*. *King.*

MUS'ARD, *n.* [*Fr. See Muse*.] A dreamer; one who is apt to be absent in mind. *Obs. Chaucer.*

MUS'CADEL, } [*It. moscatello*; *Port. Sp. moscatel*; *Fr. muscat*,
MUS'CADINE, } *a. muscadin, muscadet*;
MUSCAT, } from *It. moscado*, musk,
MUS'CADEL, } or *muscala* [noce *moscada*,] a nutmeg, *Fr. muscade*, from *musc*. Hence, in Italian, *vin muscato*, muscat, or muscadine wine.]

1. An appellation given to a kind of rich wine, and to the grapes which produce it. The word is also used as a noun.
2. A sweet pear.

MUS'CLE, *n.* [*Fr. from L. musculus*, a muscle, and a little mouse; *D. Sw. Dan. muskel*; *G. muschel*; *Gr. μυς*, a mouse, and a muscle.]

1. In *anatomy*, the muscles are the organs of motion, consisting of fibers or bundles of fibers inclosed in a thin cellular membrane. The muscles are susceptible of contraction and relaxation, and in a healthy state the proper muscles are subject to the will, and are called *voluntary* muscles. But other parts of the body, as the heart, the urinary bladder, the stomach, &c. are of a muscular texture, and susceptible of contraction and dilatation, but are not subject to the will, and are therefore called *involuntary* muscles. The red color of the muscles is owing to the blood vessels which they contain. The ends of the muscles are fastened to the bones which they move, and when they act in opposition to each other, they are called *antagonists*. *Encyc.*

Muscles are divided into the head, belly and tail. The head is the part fixed on the immovable joint called its origin, and is usually tendinous; the belly is the middle fleshy part, which consists of the true muscular fibers; the tail is the tendinous portion inserted into the part to be moved, called the insertion; but in the tendon, the fibers are more compact than in the belly of the muscle, and do not admit the red globules. *Parr.*

2. A bivalvular shell fish of the genus *Mytilus*; sometimes written *muscl*.

MUSCOS'ITY, *n.* Mossiness.

MUSCOVA'DO, *n.* Unrefined sugar; the raw material from which loaf and lump

sugar are procured by refining. *Muscovado* is obtained from the juice of the sugar cane by evaporation and draining off the liquid part called *melasses*. *Edwards.*

[This word is used either as a noun or an adjective.]

MUS'COVY-DUCK, *n.* The mask-duck, *Anas moschala*.

MUS'COVY-GLASS, *n.* Mica, which see.

MUS'CLAR, *a.* [from *muscle*.] Pertaining to a muscle; as a *muscular* fiber.

2. Performed by a muscle; as *muscular* motion.

3. Strong; brawny; vigorous; as a *muscular* body or frame.

MUSCULAR'ITY, *n.* The state of being muscular. *Grew.*

MUS'CLITE, *n.* A petrified muscle or shell. *Kirwan.*

MUS'CULOUS, *a.* [*L. musculosus*.] Full of muscles.

2. Strong; brawny.

3. Pertaining to a muscle or to muscles.

MUSE, *n. s* as *z.* [*L. musa*; *Gr. μουσα*. See the Verb.]

1. Properly, song; but in usage, the deity or power of poetry. Hence poets in modern times, as in ancient, invoke the aid of the Muse or Muses, or in other words, the genius of poetry.

Granville commands; your aid, O Muses, bring,

What Muse for Granville can refuse to sing? *Pope.*

2. Deep thought; close attention or contemplation which abstracts the mind from passing scenes; hence sometimes, absence of mind.

As in great muse, no word to creature spake. *Spenser.*

He was fill'd

With admiration and deep muse to hear
Of things so high and strange. *Milton.*

MUSE, *v. i. s* as *z.* [*Fr. muser*, to loiter or trifle; *It. musare*, to gaze, to stand idle; allied to this word probably are *L. musso* and *mussilo*, to mutter or murmur, to demur, to be silent. The Greek *μῦω* signifies to press, or utter sound with the lips compressed. The latter verb belongs to Class *Mg*; for *μύμα*, a sound uttered through the nose or with close lips, is of the same family, *L. mussitatio*. The word then primarily denotes what we call humming, to hum, as persons do when idle, or alone and steadily occupied. If the elements of the word are *Ms*, it may be referred to the Ar. Syr. *مسهس*. Class *Ms*. No. 35.]

1. To ponder; to think closely; to study in silence.

He mused upon some dangerous plot.

I muse on the works of thy hands. *Ps. cxliii.*

2. To be absent in mind; to be so occupied in study or contemplation, as not to observe passing scenes or things present. *Shak.*

3. To wonder.

Do not muse of me. *Obs. Shak.*

MUSE, *v. t.* To think on; to meditate on. *Thomson.*

MUSEFUL, *a.* Thinking deeply or closely; silently thoughtful.

Full of *museful* mopings. *Dryden.*

MU'SELESS, *a.* Disregarding the power of poetry. *Milton.*

MU'SER, *n.* One who thinks closely in silence, or one apt to be absent in mind. *Johnson.*

MU'SET, *n.* The place through which the hare goes to relief; a hunting term. *Bailey.*

MUSE'UM, *n.* [*Gr. μουσεον*, a place for the muses or for study.]

A house or apartment appropriated as a repository of things that have an immediate relation to the arts; a cabinet of curiosities.

MUSH, *n.* [*G. mus*, pap.] The meal of maize boiled in water.

MUSH'ROOM, *n.* [*Fr. mousseron*, the white mushroom, from *mousse*, moss, or the same root, bearing the sense of softness or nap.]

1. The common name of numerous cryptogamian plants of the natural order of Fungi. Some of them are esculent, others poisonous. Mushrooms grow on dunghills and in moist rich ground, and often spring up in a short time.

The origin of man, in the view of the atheist, is the same with that of the mushroom. *Dwight.*

2. An upstart; one that rises suddenly from a low condition in life. *Bacon.*

MUSH'ROOM-STONE, *n.* A fossil or stone that produces mushrooms; the *Lynceus*. *Woodward.*

MU'SIC, *n. s* as *z.* [*L. musica*; *Gr. μουσική*; *Fr. musique*. See *Muse*.]

1. Melody or harmony; any succession of sounds so modulated as to please the ear, or any combination of simultaneous sounds in accordance or harmony. Music is vocal or instrumental. Vocal music is the melody of a single voice, or the harmony of two or more voices in concert. Instrumental music is that produced by one or more instruments.

By music minds an equal temper know.

2. Any entertainment consisting in melody or harmony. *Pope.*

What music and dancing and diversions and songs are to many in the world, that prayers and devotions and psalms are to you. *Law.*

3. The science of harmonical sounds, which treats of the principles of harmony, or the properties, dependencies and relations of sounds to each other. This may be called *speculative* or *theoretical* music. *Encyc.*

4. The art of combining sounds in a manner to please the ear. This is *practical* music or composition. *Encyc.*

5. Order; harmony in revolutions; as the music of the spheres.

MU'SICAL, *a.* Belonging to music; as musical proportion; a musical instrument.

2. Producing music or agreeable sounds; as a musical voice.

3. Melodious; harmonious; pleasing to the ear; as musical sounds or numbers.

MU'SICALLY, *adv.* In a melodious or harmonious manner; with sweet sounds.

MU'SICALNESS, *n.* The quality of being melodious or harmonious.

MU'SIC-BOOK, *n.* A book containing tunes or songs for the voice or for instruments.

MU'SICIAN, *n.* A person skilled in the science of music, or one that sings or per-