

**DISCULPATING**, *ppr.* Freeing from blame; excusing.

**DISCUMBENCY**, *n.* [*L. discumbens.* See *Discubitory.*]

The act of leaning at meat, according to the manner of the ancients. *Brown.*

**DISCUMBER**, *v. t.* [*dis* and *cumber.*] To unburden; to throw off any thing cumbersome; to disengage from any troublesome weight, or impediment; to disencumber. [*The latter is generally used.*]

**DISCURE**, *v. t.* To discover; to reveal. [*Not used.*] *Spenser.*

**DISCURRENT**, *a.* Not current. [*Not used.*] *Sandys.*

**DISCURSION**, *n.* [*L. discurre;* *dis* and *curro*, to run.] A running or rambling about. *Bailey.*

**DISCURSIST**, *n.* [*See Discourse.*] A disputer. [*Not in use.*] *L. Addison.*

**DISCURSIVE**, *a.* [*Sp. discursivo*, from *L. discurre*, supra.] Moving or roving about; desultory. *Bacon.*

2. Argumentative; reasoning; proceeding regularly from premises to consequences; sometimes written *discursive*. Whether brutes have a kind of *discursive* faculty. *Hale.*

**DISCURSIVELY**, *adv.* Argumentatively; in the form of reasoning or argument. *Hale.*

**DISCURSIVENESS**, *n.* Range or gradation of argument.

**DISCURSORY**, *a.* Argumental; rational. *Johnson.*

**DISCUS**, *n.* [*L. See Eng. Dish and Disk.*]

1. A quoit; a piece of iron, copper or stone, to be thrown in play; *used by the ancients.*

2. In *botany*, the middle plain part of a radiated compound flower, generally consisting of small florets, with a hollow regular petal, as in the marigold and daisy. *Bailey. Encyc.*

3. The face or surface of the sun or moon. [*See Disk.*]

**DISCUSSE**, *v. t.* [*L. discutio, discussum; dis* and *cutio*; *Fr. discuter*; *Sp. discutir.* *Quatio* may be allied to *quasso*, and to *cuo* and *cardo*, to strike. See *Class Gs.* No. 17, 28, 68, 79, and *Class Gd.* No. 38, 40, 76.]

Literally, to drive; to beat or to shake in pieces; to separate by beating or shaking.

1. To disperse; to scatter; to dissolve; to repel; as, to *discuss* a tumor; a *medical use* of the word.

2. To debate; to agitate by argument; to clear of objections and difficulties, with a view to find or illustrate truth; to sift; to examine by disputation; to ventilate; to reason on, for the purpose of separating truth from falsehood. *We discuss* a subject, a point, a problem, a question, the propriety, expedience or justice of a measure, &c.

3. To break in pieces. [*The primary sense, but not used.*] *Brown.*

4. To shake off. [*Not in use.*] *Spenser.*

**DISCUSSED**, *ED*, *pp.* Dispersed; dissipated; debated; agitated; argued.

**DISCUSSEER**, *n.* One who discusses; one who sifts or examines.

**DISCUSSEING**, *ppr.* Dispersing; resolving; scattering; debating; agitating; examining by argument.

**DISCUSSING**, *n.* Discussion; examination.

**DISCUSSION**, *n.* In surgery, resolution; the dispersion of a tumor or any coagulated matter. *Core. Wiseman.*

2. Debate; disquisition; the agitation of a point or subject with a view to elicit truth; the treating of a subject by argument, to clear it of the difficulties, and separate truth from falsehood.

**DISCUSSIVE**, *a.* Having the power to discuss, resolve or disperse tumors or coagulated matter.

**DISCUSSIVE**, *n.* A medicine that discusses; a discutient.

**DISCUTIENT**, *a.* [*L. discutiens.*] Discussing; dispersing morbid matter.

**DISCUTIENT**, *n.* A medicine or application which disperses a tumor or any coagulated fluid in the body; sometimes it is equivalent to *carminative*. *Core.*

**DISDAIN**, *v. t.* [*Fr. dedaigner*; *Sp. desdenar*; *It. sdegnare*; *Port. desdenhar*; *L. designor*; *de*, *dis*, and *dignor*, to think worthy; *dignus*, worthy. See *Dignity.*]

To think unworthy; to deem worthless; to consider to be unworthy of notice, care, regard, esteem, or unworthy of one's character; to scorn; to contemn. The man of elevated mind *disdains* a mean action; he *disdains* the society of profligate, worthless men; he *disdains* to corrupt the innocent, or insult the weak. *Goliath disdained David.*

Whose fathers I would have *disdained* to set with the dogs of my flock. *Job xxx.*

**DISDAIN**, *n.* Contempt; scorn; a passion excited in noble minds, by the hatred or detestation of what is mean and dishonorable, and implying a consciousness of superiority of mind, or a supposed superiority. In ignoble minds, *disdain* may spring from unwarrantable pride or haughtiness, and be directed toward objects of worth. It implies hatred, and sometimes anger.

How my soul is moved with just *disdain*. *Pope.*

**DISDAINED**, *pp.* Despised; contemned; scorned.

**DISDAINFUL**, *a.* Full of disdain; as *disdainful* soul.

2. Expressing disdain; as a *disdainful* look.

3. Contemptuous; scornful; haughty; indignant. *Hooker. Dryden.*

**DISDAINFULLY**, *adv.* Contemptuously; with scorn; in a haughty manner. *South.*

**DISDAINFULNESS**, *n.* Contempt; contemptuousness; haughty scorn. *Sidney.*

**DISDAINING**, *ppr.* Contemning; scorning.

**DISDAINING**, *n.* Contempt; scorn.

**DISDIACLAS TIC**, *a.* An epithet given by Bartholine and others to a substance supposed to be crystal, but which is a fine pellucid spar, called also Iceland crystal, and by Dr. Hill, from its shape, *parallel-pipedum*. *Encyc.*

**DISDIAPASON**, } *n.* [*See Diapason.*]

In music, a compound concord in the quadruple ratio of 4 : 1 or 8 : 2.

*Disdiapason diapente*, a concord in a sextuple ratio of 5 : 1.

*Disdiapason semi-diapente*, a compound concord in the proportion of 16 : 3.

*Disdiapason ditone*, a compound consonance in the proportion of 10 : 2.

*Disdiapason semi-ditone*, a compound concord in the proportion of 24 : 5. *Encyc.*

**DISEASE**, *n.* *dise'ze.* [*dis* and *ease.*] In its primary sense, pain, uneasiness, distress, and so used by Spenser; but in this sense, obsolete.

2. The cause of pain or uneasiness; distemper; malady; sickness; disorder; any state of a living body in which the natural functions of the organs are interrupted or disturbed, either by defective or preternatural action, without a disruption of parts by violence, which is called a *wound*. The first effect of disease is uneasiness or pain, and the ultimate effect is death. A disease may affect the whole body, or a particular limb or part of the body. We say, a *diseased* limb; a *disease* in the head or stomach; and such partial affection of the body is called a *local* or *topical* disease. The word is also applied to the disorders of other animals, as well as to those of man; and to any derangement of the vegetative functions of plants.

The shafts of *disease* shoot across our path in such a variety of courses, that the atmosphere of human life is darkened by their number, and the escape of an individual becomes almost miraculous. *Buckminster.*

3. A disordered state of the mind or intellect, by which the reason is impaired.

4. In society, vice; corrupt state of morals. Vices are called *moral diseases*.

A wise man converses with the wicked, as a physician with the sick, not to catch the *disease*, but to cure it. *Maxim of Antisthenes.*

5. Political or civil disorder, or vices in a state; any practice which tends to disturb the peace of society, or impede or prevent the regular administration of government.

The instability, injustice and confusion introduced into the public councils have, in truth, been the mortal diseases under which popular governments have every where perished. *Federalist, Madison.*

**DISEASE**, *v. t.* *dise'ze.* To interrupt or impair any or all the natural and regular functions of the several organs of a living body; to afflict with pain or sickness; to make morbid; used chiefly in the passive participle, as a *diseased* body, a *diseased* stomach; but *diseased* may here be considered as an adjective.

2. To interrupt or render imperfect the regular functions of the brain, or of the intellect; to disorder; to derange.

3. To infect; to communicate disease to, by contagion.

4. To pain; to make uneasy. *Locke.*

**DISEASED**, *pp.* or *a.* *dise'zed.* Disordered; distempered; sick.

**DISEASEDNESS**, *n.* *dise'zedness.* The state of being diseased; a morbid state; sickness. *Burnet.*

**DISEASEFUL**, *a.* *dise'zeful.* Abounding with disease; producing diseases; as a *diseased* climate.

2. Occasioning uneasiness.

**DISEASEMENT**, *n.* *dise'zement.* Uneasiness; inconvenience. *Bacon.*

**DISEDGED**, *a.* [*dis* and *edge.*] Blunted; made dull. *Shak.*

**DISEMBARK**, *v. t.* [*Dis* and *embark*; *Fr. desembarquer.*]

To land; to debark; to remove from on