

exercises are intended chiefly for the preservation and promotion of health.

**GYMNASTIC**, *n.* Athletic exercise.

**GYMNASTICALLY**, *adv.* In a gymnastic manner; athletically. *Brown.*

**GYMNASTICS**, *n.* The gymnastic art; the art of performing athletic exercises.

**GYMNIC**, *a.* [Gr. *gymnicos*; *L. gymnicius*.]

1. Pertaining to athletic exercises of the body.

2. Performing athletic exercises. *Milton.*

**GYMNIC**, *n.* Athletic exercise. *Barton.*

**GYMNOSOPHIST**, *n.* [Gr. *gymnos*, naked, and *sophistes*, a philosopher.]

A philosopher of India, so called from his going with bare feet, or with little clothing. The Gymnosophists in India lived in the woods and on mountains, subsisting on wild productions of the earth. They never drank wine nor married. Some of them traveled about, and practiced physic. They believed the immortality and transmigration of the soul. They placed the chief happiness of man in a contempt of the goods of fortune, and of the pleasures of sense. *Encyc.*

**GYMNOSOPHY**, *n.* [supra.] The doctrines of the Gymnosophists. *Good.*

**GYMNOSPERM**, *n.* [Gr. *gymnos*, naked,

and *σπέρμα*, seed.] In botany, a plant that bears naked seeds.

**GYMNOSPERMOUS**, *a.* [supra.] Having naked seeds, or seeds not inclosed in a capsule or other vessel.

**GYN**, *v. t.* To begin. *Obs.*

**GYNDER**, *n.* [Gr. *γυνή*, a female, and *αὐρ*, a male.]

In botany, a plant whose stamens are inserted in the pistil.

**GYNDARIAN**, *a.* Having stamens inserted in the pistil.

**GYNARCHY**, *n.* [Gr. *γυνή*, woman, and *αρχή*, rule.] Government by a female. *Chesterfield.*

**GYPSEOUS**, *a.* [See *Gypsum*.] Of the nature of gypsum; partaking of the qualities of gypsum.

**GYPSUM**, *n.* [L. from Gr. *γύψος*; Ch. *ἰπ* and *ἰπ* to overspread with plaster; Ar. *ἰπ* gypsum.]

Plaster stone; sulphate of lime; a mineral not unfrequently found in crystals, often in amorphous masses. There are several subspecies and varieties; as the foliated, compact, earthy, granular, suowy and branched. *Cleveland.*

Gypsum is of great use in agriculture and the arts. As a manure, it is invaluable.

**GYPSEY**, *n.* [See *Gipsy*.]

**GYPSEY**, *a.* [See *Gyre*.] Whirling; moving in a circular form.

**GYRATION**, *n.* [L. *gyratio*. See *Gyre*.] A turning or whirling round; a circular motion. *Newton.*

**GYRE**, *n.* [L. *gyrus*; Gr. *γύρος*. Class Gr.]

A circular motion, or a circle described by a moving body; a turn.

Quick and more quick he spins in giddy gyres. *Dryden.*

**GYRED**, *a.* Falling in rings. *Shak.*

**GYRFALCON**, *n.* [Fr. *gerfaut*.] This is said to be in Latin *hierofalco*, from Gr. *hieros*, sacred, and *falco*, and so named from the veneration of the Egyptians for hawks. *Cuvier.* A species of Falco, or hawk.

**GYROMANCY**, *n.* [Gr. *gyros*, a circuit, and *μαντεία*, divination.]

A kind of divination performed by walking round in a circle or ring. *Cyc.*

**GYVE**, *n.* [W. *gewyn*; Ir. *geibheal*, or *geibion*, from holding or making fast. See *Gavel*.] Gyves are fetters or shackles for the legs.

Gyves and the mill had tamed thee. *Milton.*

**GYVE**, *v. t.* To fetter; to shackle; to chain. *Shak.*

## H.

**H**, is the eighth letter of the English Alphabet. It is properly the representative of the Chaldee, Syriac and Hebrew *h*, which is the eighth letter in those alphabets. Its form is the same as the Greek *H eta*. It is not strictly a vowel, nor an articulation; but the mark of a stronger breathing, than that which precedes the utterance of any other letter. It is pronounced with an expiration of breath, which, preceding a vowel, is perceptible by the ear at a considerable distance. Thus, *harm* and *arm*, *hear* and *ear*, *heat* and *eat*, are distinguished at almost any distance at which the voice can be heard. It is a letter *sui generis*, but as useful in forming and distinguishing words as any other.

In our mother tongue, the Anglo-Saxon, and other Teutonic dialects, *h* sometimes represents the *L*, *c*, and the *Gr.* *h* in *horn*, *L* in *cornu*, *Gr.* *κρῖν*; *hide*, *Gr.* *ἡδ*, *Sax.* *hūd*, *D.* *huid*, *Dan.* *hud*, *L.* *cutis*; *Sax.* *hlimin*, *L.* *clino*, *Gr.* *κλῖνω*, to lean; *L.* *celo*, to conceal, *Sax.* *helan*, *Gr.* *ἔχlein*, *Dan.* *hæler*. In Latin, *h* sometimes represents the Greek *χ*; as in *hala*, *Gr.* *χάλας*; *hio*, *χῖο*. In the modern European languages, it represents other guttural letters.

In English, *h* is sometimes mute, as in *honor*, *honest*; also when united with *g*, as in *right*, *fight*, *brought*. In *which*, *what*, *who*, *whom*, and some other words in which

it follows *vr*, it is pronounced before it, *hunch*, *hvat*, &c. As a numeral in Latin, *H* denotes 200, and with a dash over it *H* 200,000.

As an abbreviation in Latin, *H* stands for *homo*, *hæres*, *hora*, &c.

**HA**, an exclamation, denoting surprise, joy or grief. With the first or long sound of *a*, it is used as a question, and is equivalent to "What do you say?" When repeated, *ha, ha*, it is an expression of laughter, or sometimes it is equivalent to "Well! it is so."

**HAAR**, *n.* A fish. *Ainsworth.*

**HABAS CORPUS**, [L. have the body.] A writ for delivering a person from false imprisonment, or for removing a person from one court to another, &c. *Cowell.*

**HABERDASHER**, *n.* [perhaps from *Gr.* *habe*, *D.* *have*, goods, and *G.* *tauschen*, to barter, to truck. If not, I can give no account of its origin.]

A seller of small wares; a word little used or not at all in the *U. States*.

**HABERDASHERY**, *n.* The goods and wares sold by a haberdasher.

**HABERDINE**, *n.* A dried salt cod. *Ainsworth.*

**HABERGEON**, *n.* [Fr. *haubergeon*; Norm. *hauberion*; Arm. *hobregon*.] It has been written also *habege*, *hauberke*; &c. *G.* *halsberge*; *hals*, the neck, and *bergen*, to save or defend.]

A coat of mail or armor to defend the neck

and breast. It was formed of little iron rings united, and descended from the neck to the middle of the body.

*Encyc.* Ex. xxviii. [Not in use.]

**HABILE**, *a.* Fit; proper. *Spenser.*

**HABILIMENT**, *n.* [Fr. *habillement*, from *habiller*, to clothe, from *L.* *habeo*, to have.] A garment; clothing; usually in the plural, *habiliments*, denoting garments, clothing or dress in general.

**HABILITATE**, *v. t.* [Fr. *habilitier*.] To qualify. [Not used.] *Bacon.*

**HABILITATION**, *n.* Qualification. [Not in use.] *Bacon.*

**HABILITY**. [See *Ability*.]

**HABIT**, *n.* [Fr. *habit*; Sp. *habito*; It. *abito*; *L.* *habitus*, from *habeo*, to have, to hold. See *Hare*.]

1. Garb; dress; clothes or garments in general.

The scenes are old, the habits are the same, We were last year. *Dryden.*

There are among the statues, several of Venus, in different habits. *Addison.*

2. A coat worn by ladies over other garments.

3. State of any thing, implying some continuance or permanence; temperament or particular state of a body, formed by nature or induced by extraneous circumstances; as a costume or lax habit of body; a sanguine habit.

4. A disposition or condition of the mind or body acquired by custom or a frequent