

OXFORD ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

SOME years before the last war it had become clear that there was a demand for a dictionary which would combine the essential features of an encyclopaedia and of a dictionary in the ordinary sense; that is to say, a work which would deal not only with words and phrases, but also with the things for which these words and phrases stand. The general reader would thus be able to find within a single pair of covers two types of information for which he would ordinarily have to consult at least two different books.

Mrs. J. Coulson was asked to draw up a plan for a reference book on these lines and one where the factual character of much of the information would be emphasized and the exposition aided by a copious use of illustration. The plan and specimens were approved and the work of building up the material was far advanced when towards the end of the war Mrs. Coulson was obliged for family reasons to abandon it. In 1945 Professor C. T. Carr of St. Andrews University took over the task of completing the text and revising it. By 1952, however, his academic duties had become too heavy for him to continue and the late Miss Lucy Hutchinson, who had already been called in to help with the problems of illustration, took over the whole dictionary, and in 1956 Miss H. M. Petter became responsible for the illustrations. When Miss Hutchinson died in 1959, at a tragically early age, the whole book was in galley proof. The task of seeing it through the press was undertaken by Mrs. Dorothy Eagle.

The publishers would like to express their gratitude to all these editors. They are grateful also to Mrs. Mary Alden who read the proofs at galley stage and to Mr. J. M. Wyllie who gave much helpful criticism in the early stages of the book's preparation.

It is not possible to make more than a general acknowledgement of help received from many other quarters, but the publishers would like to express particular thanks to the following for help on specialized and technical matters: Miss R. J. Banister, Mr. J. S. P. Bradford, Dr. C. J. Danby, Dr. T. K. Derry, Dr. R. B. Freeman, Dr. Ll. Hammick, Mrs. J. M. Harrison, Dr. B. M. Hobby, Mr. G. T. Hollis, Dr. D. H. Howling, Dr. W. O. James, Dr. R. H. Kay, Professor K. Kirkwood, Mr. G. E. Middleton, Mr. T. A. Morris, Mr. D. Maddison O'Brien, Mr. J. F. R. Peel, Dr. G. Rushworth, Dr. J. Sanders, Professor R. S. Sayers, Mr. W. F. Snook, Dr. J. M. K. Spalding, Dr. J. S. Weiner, Mr. J. S. de Wet, Dr. K. C. Wheare, Mr. M. J. White, Professor B. S. Yamey, Professor O. L. Zangwill.

The publishers would also like to thank the following artists who have made important contributions: G. F. Campbell (nautical subjects), Christine Court (anatomy), R. W. Ford (scientific, mechanical, and botanical subjects),

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PREFACE

ACCORDING to the distinction used by H. W. Fowler in the preface to the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, a dictionary normally takes the uses of words and phrases as such for its subject-matter and is concerned with giving information about the things for which these words and phrases stand only so far as correct use of the words depends upon knowledge of the things. In an encyclopaedia, on the other hand, the emphasis will be much more on the nature of the things for which the words and phrases stand.

This book attempts to combine in a form that can be handled conveniently the essential features of dictionary and encyclopaedia. Where things are more easily explained by pictures or diagrams than by words, illustration has been used to help out definition. As the dictionary thus becomes the first Oxford English dictionary to make use of illustration (apart from the *Oxford Dictionary of Nursery Rhymes* where illustration is used for a different purpose and in a different way), it has been given a title which distinguishes it from the rest of the family by its most conspicuous feature.

VOCABULARY

The general reader for whom the book is intended may not always have another dictionary or encyclopaedia at his ready disposal and so the vocabulary has been chosen with an eye to the needs of one who may require either type of information. Information about words, however, is more often sought by the average user of a reference book than information about things and the vocabulary has therefore been based on that of the *Concise Oxford Dictionary* and the definitions retain its historical ordering. Familiar words are less fully treated, however, and the phrases illustrating such words have been more sparingly used so as to obtain a wider scope for the treatment of things.

The vocabulary should thus be adequate for the reader who consults the book for ordinary dictionary purposes. But it also contains terms in everyday use which would be excluded from an ordinary dictionary because of their technical and scientific character or which would be very briefly dealt with; familiar words in semi-technical use (e.g. *vertical trust*, *combine*, etc.); the names of famous people (e.g. statesmen, explorers, inventors, artists, and writers), historical, contemporary, or fictitious; and the names of important places and events.

Special pains have been taken to ensure that scientific and technical terms are up to date and accurate in selection and in definition and at the same time intelligible to the user, but the present pace of development in science and technology is so swift that no reference book which deals with them in even the most general way can ever be completely up to date: between the time the

book is compiled and its publication new words and senses will have come into use and existing words and senses will have acquired fresh shades of meaning or become obsolescent.

In order to keep the book within reasonable compass obsolete words and phrases have been omitted except for a few which some special interest has made it desirable to retain.

ILLUSTRATIONS

So far as possible the illustrations have been planned to support the function of the text and each of them is independent and self-explanatory: each is intended to show the meaning of a word or indicate the character of the thing for which the word stands. To avoid wasteful repetition many subjects have been grouped together, especially where the members of the group help to explain one another: the picture of a machine, for example, will not only illustrate the machine itself but will exhibit the nature of its parts, and their relation to one another and to the whole. In some cases the illustrations demonstrate how things work, but only where this helps to define the words. Historical development may also be indicated where this information is an essential part of the definition, for instance costume may be dated, although it is not the intention to illustrate the history of costume.

The subjects chosen for illustration are those which can be defined more clearly by this means than verbally. Words are often best defined in general terms but a drawing has to be of a particular thing and therefore gives an example of the particular use of the word rather than a generalized statement. Thus the human body has been chosen to show the different bones of the skeleton, although the same terms are used for comparable bones in other vertebrates.

The subjects are limited to those of general interest, but very familiar words are not illustrated. Space has not permitted the illustration of every subject and therefore examples with a wide range of reference have usually been chosen; thus the zoological drawings are intended to illustrate one particular example from each order.

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations in current use appear in their alphabetical place in the body of the text to save a separate alphabet. But there is a separate list of those abbreviations used in the dictionary itself.

ETYMOLOGY

For the sake of space derivations have been omitted with a few exceptions. These occur where the etymology is especially interesting or unexpected (e.g. *penicillin*, *derrick*), or when a thing has been named after its inventor or

place of origin (e.g. *Fortin barometer, Borstal*). In these cases the etymology is given in square brackets at the end of the entry.

CROSS-REFERENCES

Where a word is given small capitals in a definition, this indicates that reference to the word in its alphabetical place will provide further information (e.g. CEREBRUM in the entry for *brain*) or discuss the term which is given in comparison or contradistinction (e.g. NOBLE or PRECIOUS metals as opposed to *base* metals). Where something is illustrated as part of a composite picture the reference is usually given in round brackets (e.g. *aileron* . . . (ill. AEROPLANE)).

PRONUNCIATION

1. **Accent.** The accentuation mark ' is usually placed at the end of the stressed syllable.

2. **Phonetic System.** Where the pronunciation of a word or part of a word cannot be shown by the ordinary spelling and markings, a phonetic spelling is given in round brackets immediately after the black-type word. The phonetic scheme is as follows:

CONSONANTS: b; ch (*chin*); d; dh (*dhe = the*); g (*go*); h; j; k; l; m; n; ng (*sing*); ngg (*finger*); p; r; s (*sip*); sh (*ship*); t; th (*thin*); v; w; y; z; zh (*vizhn = vision*).

ñ indicates French nasalization of preceding vowel.

The symbol χ represents the ch in *loch*.

VOWELS: ā ē ī ō ū ȳ (mate mete mite mote mute moot)

ǎ ě ĭ ǒ ů ȳ (rack reck rick rock ruck rook)

ār ēr ṛr ōr ūr (mare mere mire more mure)

ār ēr ōr (part pert port)

ah aw oi oor ow owr (bah bawl boil boor brow bower)

Vowels printed in italic within the brackets indicate vague sounds.

Vowels marked * may be pronounced either way, e.g. vǔlt.

3. **Pronunciation without Respelling.** As far as possible pronunciation is shown without respelling by placing symbols over the words (e.g. ā, ě, ār, ēr, ō, etc.) in the black type.

(a) The ordinary spelling often coincides with the phonetic system described in paragraph 2.

(b) The following additional symbols are used in the black type:

é = ĭ (nā'kéd, rĕly', cǒll'ége, prĭv'ĕt)

īr, ūr = ēr (bīrth, būrn)

ȳ, ŷ = ĭ, ĭ (ĭmplȳ', sŭnn'ŷ)

(c) final e when unmarked is mute, i.e. not to be pronounced. Thus **ape** is to be pronounced āp. Where final e is pronounced, it is marked as in **rĕ'cipé**.

- (d) Unless another pronunciation is indicated, the following letters and combinations have the usual values in English spelling which are shown alongside them:

Vowels

ae = ē (aegis)	ear, eer = ēr (fear, beer)
ai = ā (pain)	eu, ew = ū (feud, few)
air = ār (fair)	ie = ē (thief)
au = aw (maul)	ier = ēr (pier)
ay = ā (say)	oa = ō (boat)
ea, ee = ē (mean, meet)	ou = ow (bound)
	oy = oi (boy)

Consonants

c is 'hard' and = k (cob, cry, talc) <i>but</i>	n before k, 'hard' c, q, x = ng (zinc
c before e, i, y , is 'soft' and = s (ice,	uncle, tank, banquet, minx)
icy, city)	ph = f (photo)
dg = j (judgement)	qu = kw (quit)
g before e, i, y , is 'soft' and = j	tch = ch (batch)
(age, gin, orgy)	x = ks (fox)

Thus in **gēm** the pronunciation of *g* is not marked because it comes under the rule above: '**g** before **e, i, y**, is "soft" and = j'; but **gēt** is followed by (g-) to show that here exceptionally **g** before **e** is 'hard' as in *go*.

- (e) The following terminations have the values shown:

-age = -ij (garbage)	-sm = -zm (atheism, spasm)
-ate = -īt or -at (mandate)	-tion = -shon (salvation)
-ey = -ī (donkey)	-ture = -cher as well as -tūr,
-ous = -us (furious)	esp. in common words

SWUNG DASH (˜)

The 'swung dash' or 'tilde' is frequently used to save space in the body of the entry. It represents the headword when this is repeated as a different part of speech or when it is used in combination with another word, either hyphenated or detached (but not when it has become part of a complete new word). For example, in the article **pitch**¹ *n.* we have ˜ *v.t.* when the headword becomes a new part of speech, and ˜ *black* and ˜-*pine* when it is in combination (but *pitchblende* as a whole word). When a word repeated as a different part of speech is spelt the same but is differently accentuated, it is written again, as **trānsfer**^ˈ *v.*, **trāns**^ˈ*fer* *n.*

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE DICTIONARY

(Abbreviations in general use have entries in the main text)

abbrev./iation etc.
abl./ative
abs./olute
acc./ording
accus./ative
act./ive
adj./ective etc.
adjs., adjectives
adv./erb etc.
advs., adverbs
AF, Anglo-French
Afr./ica(n)
alg./ebra etc.
allus./ive etc.
Amer./ica(n)
anal./ogy etc.
anat./omy etc.
Anglo-Ind./ian
anon./ymous etc.
antiq./uities
anthrop./ology etc.
app./arently
app./endix
Arab./ic
Aram./aic
arbitr./ary
archaeol./ogy etc.
archit./ecture etc.
arith./metic etc.
assim./ilated etc.
assoc./iated etc.
astrol./ogy etc.
astron./omy etc.
at./omic
attrib./utive etc.
augment./ative etc.
Austral./ia(n)
auxil./iary
av./oirdupois

b./orn
back form./ation
bibl./ical etc.
bibliog./raphy etc.
biochem./istry etc.

biol./ogy etc.
Boh./emian
bot./any etc.
Br./itish
Braz./ilian
Brit./ish
Bulg./arian
Burm./ese
Byz./antine

c./entury
c./irca
cap./ital
Celt./ic
cf., compare
Ch./urch
chem./istry etc.
Chin./ese
chronol./ogy etc.
cinemat./ography etc.
cogn./ate
collect./ive(ly)
colloq./uial etc.
com./mon
comb./ination etc.
commerc./ial etc.
comp., compar./ative
compl./ement
conch./ology etc.
confus./ion
conj., conjunction, conjugation
conn./ect etc.
constr./uction etc.
contempt./uous etc.
contr./action etc.
cop./ulative
correl./ative etc.
corresp./onding etc.
corrupt./ion
cryst./allography
cu., cub., cubic

d./ied
Dan./ish
dat./ive

demonstr./ative
 deriv./ative etc.
 derog./atory etc.
 dial./ect etc.
 dict./ionary
 diff./erent
 dim./inutive etc.
 diplom./acy
 dist./inct
 distrib./utive etc.
 Du./tch
 dub./ious

E., east(ern)
 eccles./iastical etc.
 econ./omics
 Egyptol./ogy
 E. Ind., East Indian
 elect./ricity etc.
 ellipt./ical etc.
 embryol./ogy
 eng., engin./eering etc.
 Engl., England, English
 entom./ology etc.
 erron./eous(ly)
 esp./ecial(ly)
 ethnol./ogy etc.
 etym./ology etc.
 euphem./ism etc.
 Eur./ope(an)
 exagg./eration etc.
 exc./ept
 exch./ange
 excl., exclamation etc., exclusive etc.
 expl./ain etc.
 expr./essing etc.

f./rom
 facet./ious etc.
 fam./iliar etc.
 fem./inine etc.
 fig./urative etc.
 Fl./emish
 foll./owing (word)
 footb./all
 fort./ification
 Fr./ench
 freq./uent(ly)
 frequent./ative(ly)
 ft, foot, feet
 fut./ure

Gael./ic
 gal./lon(s)
 gen., general etc., genitive
 geog./raphy etc.
 geol./ogy etc.
 geom./etry etc.
 Ger./man
 Gk, Greek
 govt., government
 gram./mar etc.

Heb./rew
 her./aldry etc.
 Hind./ustani
 hist./orical etc., history
 hort./iculture etc.

i., intransitive
 Icel./andic
 ill./ustration
 illit./erate etc.
 imit./ative etc.
 imp., imper./ative
 imperf./ect
 impers./onal
 impropr./er(ly)
 incl./uding, inclusive
 Ind./ia(n)
 ind., indicative, indirect
 indecl./inable
 indef./inite
 inf./initive
 infl./uence etc.
 instr./umental (case)
 int./erjection
 interrog./ative(ly)
 intrans./itive
 Ir./ish
 iron./ically
 irreg./ular(ly)
 It., Ital./ian
 ital./ics

Jap./an(ese)
 Jew./ish
 joc./ose, -ular(ly)

L, Latin
 lang./uage
 Lat./in

ABBREVIATIONS

LG, Low German
lit./eral(ly)
Lith./uania(n)
LL, late Latin
log./ic etc.

magn./etism etc.
manuf./acture etc.
masc./uline
math./ematics etc.
MDu., Middle Dutch
ME, Middle English
mech./anics etc.
med./icine etc.
med.L, medieval Latin
metaph./or etc.
metaphys./ics etc.
meteor./ology etc.
Mex./ican, Mexico
MG, Middle German
MHG, Middle High German
mil./itary etc.
min./eralogy etc.
MLG, Middle Low German
mod./ern
morphol./ogy etc.
mus./ic etc.
myth./ology etc.

N., north(ern)
n./oun
N. Amer., North America(n)
nat. hist., natural history
naut./ical etc.
nav./al etc.
nec./essary, -essarily
neg./ative(ly)
neut./er
nom./inative
Norm./an
north./ern
Norw./egian, Norway
ns., nouns
N.T., New Testament
num./eral

obj./ect etc.
obl./ique
obs./olete
obsolesc./ent

occas./ional(ly)
OE, Old English
OF, Old French
OHG, Old High German
OIr., Old Irish
OLG, Old Low German
ON, Old Norse
onomat./opoeic etc.
opp., (as) opposed (to), opposite
ord./inary, -inarily
orig./inal(ly)
ornith./ology etc.
O.T., Old Testament

p./age
paint./ing
palaeog./raphy etc.
palaeont./ology etc.
parenth./etic etc.
parl./liament(ary)
part., participle
part. adj., participial adjective
pass./ive(ly)
past part./iciple
past t./ense
path./ology etc.
pedant./ic(ally)
perf./ect (tense)
perh./aps
Pers./ia(n)
pers./on(al)
Peruv./ian
pharm./acy etc.
philol./ogy etc.
philos./ophy etc.
phon., phonet./ics etc.
phot., photog./raphy etc.
phr./ase
phys./ics etc.
physiol./ogy etc.
pl./ural
pluperf./ect
poet./ical etc.
Pol./ish, Poland
pol./itics etc.
pol. econ., political economy
pop./ular etc.
Port./uguese, Portugal
poss./essive
pp., pages

pr./onounced etc.
 prec., (the) preceding (word)
 pred./icate etc.
 pref./ix
 prep./osition
 pres./ent (tense)
 pret./erite
 print./ing
 prob./able etc.
 pron., pronoun etc.,
 pronounced etc., pronunciation
 prop./er(ly)
 pros./ody etc.
 psych., psychol./ogy etc.
 psycho-anal./ysis

railw./ay
 R.C., Roman Catholic
 ref./erence
 refl./exive(ly)
 rel./ative
 repr./esent etc.
 rhet./oric etc.
 Rom./an
 Russ./ia(n)

S., south(ern)
 S. Afr., South Africa(n)
 Sansk./rit
 Sax./on
 sb., substantive
 Sc., Scotch. Scots, Scottish
 Scand./inavia(n)
 sculp./ture
 sent./ence
 Serb./ia(n)
 sing./ular
 Slav./onic
 sociol./ogy etc.
 Span./ish
 sp./elling
 spec./ial(ly)
 specif./ic(ally)
 sport./ing etc.
 St. Exch., Stock Exchange
 subj., subject etc., subjunctive
 superl./ative
 surg./ery etc.

surv./eying etc.
 Swed./ish, Sweden
 syn./onym

t., tense, transitive
 tech./nical(ly)
 teleg./raphy etc.
 term./ination etc.
 Teut./on(ic)
 theatr./ical
 theol./ogy etc.
 thr./ough
 trans./itive etc.
 transf., in transferred sense
 transl./ation etc.
 trig./onometry etc.
 Turk./ish, Turkey
 typ./ography etc.

U.K., United Kingdom
 ult./imate(ly)
 unexpl./ained
 U.S., United States
 usu./al(ly)

v./erb
 var., variant, various
 v. aux., verb auxiliary
 vb(s), verb(s)
 vbl, verbal
 v.i., verb intransitive
 voc./ative
 v.r., verb reflexive
 v.t., verb transitive
 vulg./ar(ly)

W., west(ern)
 w./ith
 W. Afr., West Africa(n)
 wd, word
 wds, words
 W. Ind., West Indian, Indies

yd(s), yard(s)
 yr(s), year(s)

zool./ogy etc.

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A

A, a (ā). 1. 1st letter of modern English and Roman alphabet, descended, through Greek and Latin, from first letter, alpha (Α), of Hebrew and Phoenician alphabets; representing originally in English a 'low-back-wide' vowel sound, and now a number of vowel sounds. 2. 1st in series, order, or class, esp. (alg.) first known quantity. 3. (mus.) 6th note of 'natural' major scale (C major). 4. (logic) Universal affirmation. 5. **A 1**, applied in Lloyd's Register to ships in first-class condition in respect of both hull (designated by A) and equipment (1); hence, first-class, prime, perfect.

a, an *adj.* The 'indefinite article'. One, some, any; a certain; each.

a- *prefix.* Without, not, un-, non-. **A abbrev.** Adult (i.e. for adults only, of cinema picture); air; also; amper; *avancer* (on timepiece regulator = to accelerate).

A.A. abbrev. Anti-aircraft; Automobile Association.

A.A.A. abbrev. Amateur Athletic Association; (U.S.) Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Aach'en (ahy-). German name of *Aix-la-Chapelle*, ancient city of Germany near Belgian and Dutch borders, scene of coronation of German kings until 16th c.

A.A.G. abbrev. Assistant Adjutant-General.

Aaland; see ÅLAND ISLANDS. **A. and M. abbrev.** (Hymns) Ancient and Modern.

A.A.O.M.G. abbrev. Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General.

aard-vark (ār-) *n.* S. Afr. ant-eating quadruped (*Orycteropus*



AARD-VARK

afra and *O. aethiopicus*) with long extensible tongue. [Du., = 'earthpig']

aard-wolf (ārd wōlf) *n.* Carnivorous mammal (*Proteles lalandii*) resembling the hyena.

Aaron (ār'on). Brother of Moses and traditional founder of Jewish priesthood; ~'s beard (see Ps. cxxxiii. 2), various plants, esp. St. John's wort; ~'s rod (see Numbers xvii. 8), plant with tall flowering stem, esp. great mullein and golden rod.

aasvogel (ahs'fōgl) *n.* Any of

several large S. Afr. vultures. [Du., = 'carrion-bird']

ab- Off, away, from.

A.B. abbrev. Able-bodied seaman.

āb'a, abaya (abā'ya) *ns.* Sack-like outer garment worn by Arabs. **abäck'** *adv.* Backwards; taken ~, (of ship) with square sails pressed back against the mast by the wind; (fig.) surprised, discomfited.

āb'acus *n.* (pl. -ci, pr. -si). 1. Frame for arithmetical calculation with balls sliding on wires, used before the adoption of the nine figures and zero, and still in China etc. and in elementary teaching. 2. (archit.) Upper member, often a square flat slab, of capital, supporting architrave (ill. ORDER). 3. (mus.) Diagram of pianoforte or organ keyboard.

Abād'on. Heb. name of APOLLYON (see Rev. ix. 11).

abatt' (-bah-) *adv.* On or towards stern of ship. ~ *prep.* Aft of, behind.

ābalō'nē *n.* Californian edible mollusc, a gastropod of genus *Halotis*, with ear-shaped shell lined with mother-of-pearl; sea-ear.

abān'don *v.t.* Give up, surrender, forsake. ~ *n.* Careless freedom. **abān'donment** *n.*

abān'doned *adj.* (esp.) Profligate, loose.

abāndonee' *n.* Underwriter to whom salvage of wreck is abandoned.

abāse' *v.t.* Humiliate, lower, make base. **abāse'ment** (-sm-) *n.*

abāsh' *v.t.* Put out of countenance, confound.

abāte' *v.* Diminish, make or become less; lower; deduct (part of price); (law) quash (action), end (nuisance). **abāte'ment** (-tm-) *n.*

āb'atis, abātt'is *n.* (mil.) Obstacle of felled trees with branches pointing outwards.

ābāttoir (abāt'wahr or āb'-) *n.* Slaughter-house.

Abb'a (ā-). Used (in ~, father) in invocations to God; title of bishops in Syriac and Coptic Churches. [Aramaic, = 'father']

ābb'acy *n.* Office, jurisdiction, or tenure of abbot or abess.

Abb'as¹ (ā-; or abahs') (566-632). Uncle of Mohammed, descent from whom was claimed by Abbas'ids, dynasty of caliphs ruling in Baghdad 750-1258.

Abb'as² (ā-; or abahs') 'the Great'. Shah of Persia; reigned 1587-1628.

abbā'tial (-shl) *adj.* Of an abbey, abbot, or abess.

ābb'é (-ā) *n.* Frenchman entitled to wear ecclesiastical dress, esp. without official duties.

ābb'ëss *n.* Female superior of

community of nuns, in those orders in which monks are governed by abbots.

ābb'ey (-i) *n.* Body of monks or nuns governed by an abbot or abess; monastic buildings; church or house once an abbey or part of it.

Abb'ey Theatre. Irish national theatre, located since 1904 in Abbey St., Dublin.

ābb'ot *n.* Superior of community of monks (now chiefly in Benedictine and Augustinian orders), usu. elected by the monks for life or period of years, and freq. holding certain episcopal rights; ~ of *misrule*: see MISRULE. [Aramaic *abbā* father]

Abb'otford (ā-). Sir Walter Scott's house, near Melrose on the Tweed.

ābbrev'iate *v.t.* Shorten, contract (esp. word, by writing part for the whole). **ābbrev'iation** *n.*

A B C n. Alphabet; rudiments of subject; alphabetical railway time-table; ~ *Powers*, Argentine, Brazil, Chile, the three principal States of S. America.

Abd'era (ā-). Ancient Greek city on coast of Thrace whose inhabitants were proverbial for their stupidity. **Abd'ëre** *adj.* & *n.* (Native, inhabitant) of Abdera; *the* ~, Democritus.

āb'dicāte *v.* Renounce, relinquish, (esp. crown) formally or by default. **āb'dicā'tion** *n.*

ābdōm'ën (or āb'do-) *n.* 1. Belly, lower part of body, containing digestive and other organs. 2. (zool.) Hinder part, not bearing walking limbs, of insects, spiders, etc. **ābdōm'inal** *adj.* (*Illustration*, p. 2.)

ābdū'cent *adj.* (anat., of muscles). Drawing back.

ābdūct' *v.t.* Take away (esp. woman) by force or fraud; (of muscle etc.) draw limb from normal position. **ābdūc'tion, ābdūc'tor** *ns.*

ābeam' *adv.* On a line at right angles to ship's length (also of aircraft); opposite the middle of ship's side (ill. BEARING).

ābécédār'ian *adj.* 1. Arranged alphabetically, as the 119th Psalm. 2. Elementary, ignorant. ~ *n.* Pupil learning the alphabet (U.S.).

ā Becket, Thomas (see BUCKET).

ābéd' *adv.* (archaic, poet.) In bed.

'A'bel (ā-). 2nd son of Adam, killed by his brother Cain: see Gen. iv. 1-16.

Abélard (āb'ā-), Pierre (1079-1142). French philosopher; lecturer in the schools of Paris; advocate of rational theological inquiry and founder of scholastic inquiry. See also HÉLOÏSE.

abele (abél', ā'bl) *n.* White poplar, *Populus alba*.

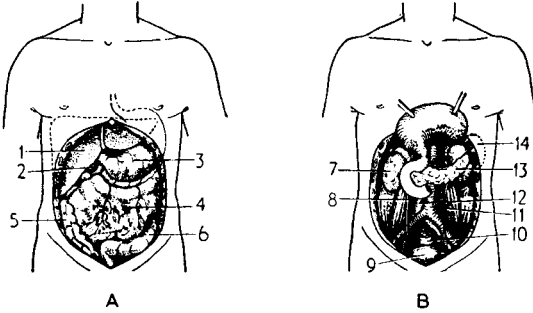
Aberdeen (ā-). University city and county borough on E. coast of N. Scotland, county town of the county of Aberdeenshire, known as the 'granite city' and humorously credited with extremely 'careful' population; ~ *terrier*, Scotch terrier. **Aberdōn'ian** *adj.* & *n.* (Citizen) of Aberdeen.

āberdēvine *n.* Bird-fancier's name for siskin.

Fletcher's 'Scornful Lady', the 'waiting gentlewoman' (cf. 1 Sam. xxv. 24-31); hence, waiting-woman, lady's-maid.

ability *n.* Sufficient power, capacity (*to do*); legal competency (*to act*); cleverness, talent, mental faculty.

Abim'ēlēch (a-, -k). 1. Son of Gideon, one of the judges of Israel: see Judges viii, ix. 2. King of Gerar, southern Palestine: see Gen. xx, xxvi.



ABDOMEN: VENTRAL VIEW: A. WITH STOMACH AND INTESTINES IN PLACE. B. WITH STOMACH TURNED BACK AND INTESTINES CUT AWAY

A. 1. Liver. 2. Gall bladder. 3. Stomach. 4. Omentum (part of peritoneum). 5. Ascending colon. 6. Descending colon. B. 7. Kidney. 8. Urethra. 9. Bladder. 10. Rectum. 11. Abdominal aorta. 12. Inferior vena cava. 13. Pancreas. 14. Position of spleen

aberglaube (ah'berglowbe) *n.* Superstition, irrational belief. [Ger. wd]

ābē'rrant *adj.* 1. Wandering, straying from moral standard. 2. (biol.) Diverging from normal type. **ābē'rrance** *n.*

āberrā'tion *n.* 1. Mental or moral slip or error; deviation from type. 2. (optics) Non-convergence of rays to one focus. 3. (astron.) Displacement of true position of heavenly body to observer on earth, due to earth's motion and non-instantaneous transmission of light; *planetary* ~, aberration due to motion of the planet itself.

ābēt' *v.t.* Countenance, incite, assist. **ābēt't'er**, **ābēt't'or** *n.*

āb ēx'tra *adv.* From outside. **ābey'ance** (-bā-) *n.* State of suspension, dormant condition (of rights etc.).

ābhōr' *v.t.* Regard with disgust and hatred. **ābhō'rrent** *adj.* Inspiring disgust, repugnant, detestable. **ābhō'rrently** *adv.* **ābhō'rrence** *n.*

ābide' *v.* (past t. and past part. *abode*). Remain; continue; dwell (archaic); wait for; (with neg.) bear, put up with; ~ *by*, remain faithful to.

ābiē'tic *adj.* Of resin; ~ *acid*, the chief constituent of common resin.

Ab'igail (ā-). 1. Wife of Nabal and subsequently of David (1 Sam. xxv). 2. In Beaumont and

āb inīt'tō. From the beginning (abbrev. *ab init.*). [L]

āblogē'nēsīs *n.* The (supposed) origination of living organisms from lifeless matter; spontaneous generation.

āb'jēct *adj.* Brought low, miserable, craven, degraded. **āb'jēctly** *adv.*

ābjure' (-oor) *v.t.* Renounce on oath. **ābjurā'tion** *n.*

ābl. *abbrev.* Ablative.

āblā'tion *n.* 1. Removal (esp. in surgery, of part of body). 2. (geol.) Wastage of a glacier by evaporation and melting.

āb'latīve *adj.* & *n.* (gram.) Case in (esp. Latin) nouns expressing direction from a place or time, and hence source, agent, cause, etc.; ~ *absolute*, Latin construction of noun and participle (both in ablative case), expressing time, occasion, or circumstances.

āb'laut (-owt) *n.* (philol.) Systematic vowel permutation (not due to influence of contiguous sounds) in root of word in derivation, as in *sing, sang, sung*.

āblāze' *adv.* Blazing; on fire.

ā'ble *adj.* Having the power or ability; talented, clever; ~-*bodied*, physically fit, robust; ~-*bodied seaman*, (abbrev. A.B.) fully trained and qualified sailor with special rating and higher pay than *ordinary seaman*. **ā'bly** *adv.*

āblu'tion (-ōō-, -ū-) *n.* Cere-monial washing; water or wine

used in this; (pl.) ordinary personal washing.

āb'négate *v.t.* Deny oneself (thing), renounce (right, belief).

ābnēgā'tion *n.*

ābnōrm'al *adj.* Deviating from type, exceptional, irregular. **āb-normal'ity** *n.*

ābnōrm'ity *n.* Irregularity; monstrosity.

Ab'ō (ā-) *n.* (Austral.) Aboriginal.

Åbo (ō'bōō). Swedish name of TURKU, Finland.

aboard' (-ōrd) *adv.* & *prep.* On board (ship, railway train, etc.).

ābōde' *n.* Dwelling-place.

ābōl'ish *v.t.* Do away with.

ābōl'ition *n.* Action or fact of abolishing; in 18th and 19th centuries esp. with ref. to negro slavery and the movement against it. **ābōl'itionism** *n.* **ābōl'itionist** *n.* & *adj.*

ābōmās'um *n.* Fourth stomach of ruminant (ill. RUMINANT).

A-bomb *abbrev.* Atomic bomb.

ābōm'inable *adj.* Morally or physically loathsome, detestable, odious, revolting; ~ *snowman*: see YETI. **ābōm'inably** *adv.*

ābōm'ināte *v.t.* Loathe, dislike strongly.

ābōminā'tion *n.* Loathing; object or practice deserving of aversion or disgust; ~ *of desolation*, desecration of the Temple at Jerusalem: see Dan. ix. 27, Matt. xxiv. 15.

ābōri'ginal *adj.* Indigenous, existing or present at dawn of history or before arrival of colonists or invaders. ~ *n.* Aboriginal inhabitant. **ābōri'ginēs** (-z) *n.pl.* Aboriginal inhabitants, plants, etc. (also found in sing. **ābōri'ginē**).

ābōrt' *v.t.* Miscarry; (biol.) become sterile, remain undeveloped.

ābōrtion *n.* Premature separation and expulsion of contents of pregnant uterus, esp. artificially induced; dwarfed or misshapen creature. **ābōrtionist** (-shōn-) *n.* One who procures illegal abortion.

ābōrt'ive *adj.* Premature; fruitless; rudimentary. **ābōrt'ively** *adv.* **ābōrt'iveness** *n.*

About Ibn Sina: see AVICENNA.

Aboukir (abōō'kēf) *Bay*. Bay on coast of Egypt at one of the mouths of the Nile; scene (1798) of Battle of the Nile, in which Nelson destroyed Napoleon's fleet.

ābou'lia (-ow-), **ābū'lia** *n.* Loss of will-power as mental disorder.

ābound' *v.t.* Be plentiful; be rich in, teem or be infested with.

ābout' *adv.* & *prep.* 1. All round from outside or from a centre; somewhere round; here and there; circuitously. 2. Near in number, amount, etc. 3. Facing round. 4. Occupied with; in connexion with. 5. *put* ~, distracted, annoyed; (*v.* of ship) turn on opposite tack; ~ *turn*! (mil. etc.) turn so as to face in opposite direction; *be* ~ *to* (do), *be on the point of* (doing).

about-sledge *n.* Largest hammer used by smiths.

above (-iv) *adv.* Higher up, overhead; up-stream; earlier in a book etc. ~ *prep.* Over, higher than, of higher rank, etc., than; in addition to; ~-board (*adv.* & *pred. adj.*) without concealment; fair, open, honest.

Abp *abbr.* Archbishop.
ābracadābra *n.* Cabbalistic word formerly used as charm, orig. by Gnostics, and believed to have power of curing agues etc. when written in triangular arrangement and worn as amulet; (now) spell, mysterious formula, gibberish.

abrāde *v.t.* Scrape off, wear away, injure, by rubbing.

Abrahām (ā-). Jewish patriarch, from whom all Jews trace their descent (Gen. xi. 27-xxv. 10); ~'s bosom, heavenly abode of the blessed dead; *Plains of* ~, plateau near Quebec, scaled from St. Lawrence River by English army under WOLFE (1759) and scene of subsequent battle with French under Montcalm which decided fate of Canada.

abrāsion (-zhn) *n.* Rubbing or scraping off; rough or sore place on skin caused by this; (geol.) wearing away of earth's surface by wind-borne particles of rock or 'sand' (cf. *erosion*).

abrāsive *adj.* Tending to produce abrasion. ~ *n.* Any substance, as emery, carborundum, etc., used for grinding or polishing.

ābrēc'cion *n.* (psycho-anal.) Removal, by revival and expression, of the emotion associated with an event which has undergone repression in memory.

abreast (-ēst) *adv.* On a level and facing the same way; ~ *of*, keeping up with, not behind (times etc.).

abridge *v.t.* Condense, shorten, curtail. **abridge'ment** (-im-) *n.* Curtailment; epitome, abstract.

abroad (-awd), *adv.* In or to foreign lands; broadly, in different directions; (of rumour etc.) current; *from* ~, from foreign countries.

ābrogāte *v.t.* Repeal, cancel. **ābrogā'tion** *n.*

abrupt *adj.* Sudden, hasty; disconnected; steep; (bot.) truncated; (geol., of strata) suddenly cropping out. **abruptly** *adv.* **abrupt'ness** *n.*

abs- *prefix.* Off, away, from.
Ab'salom (ā-). 3rd and favourite son of DAVID, killed while leading rebellion against his father (2 Sam. xiii-xix).

āb'scess (-sēs) *n.* Local inflammation of body tissues with deep suppuration caused by bacteria which destroy the cells in the centre of the area and leave a cavity filled with pus.

absciss'a (-sis-) *n.* (pl. -sae) (geom.) Portion of line intercepted between a fixed point within it and

an ordinate drawn from a given point without it (ill. GRAPH).

abscis'sion (-sishn) *n.* Cutting off (esp. surg.).

ābscōnd' *v.i.* Go away secretly, fly from the law.

āb'sence *n.* Being away or absent; non-existence, want (of); abstracted state.

āb'sent *adj.* Not present; not existing; abstracted in mind: ~-minded, abstracted, preoccupied, whence ~-mindedly, ~-mindedness. **ābsēnt'** *v.t.* Keep (oneself) away, withdraw (oneself).

ābsentee *n.* Person not present, one who absents himself from his duties; person (esp. landlord) habitually living away from property. **ābsentee'ism** *n.*

āb'sinth *n.* WORMWOOD, the plant or its essence; (also *āb'sinthe*) strong greenish-grey liqueur flavoured with wormwood and anise.

āb'sit ō'mēni May the ominous implication of the words not be realized. [L]

āb'solute (-ōōt, -ūt) *adj.* Complete, perfect, pure, mere; unrestricted, independent; ruling arbitrarily; not in (the usual) grammatical relation with other words; real, not relative or comparative; unqualified; self-existent and conceivable without relation to other things; ~ *alcohol*, containing at least 99% pure alcohol by weight; ~ *drought*, ~ *humidity*: see these words; ~ *music*, self-dependent instrumental music without literary or other extraneous suggestions (opp. PROGRAMME music); ~ *pitch*, ability to remember pitch of notes, (also) pitch of a note defined scientifically in terms of vibrations per second; ~ *temperature*, temperature measured on a Centigrade (Celsius) scale which has its zero at absolute zero; ~ *zero*, that temperature (approx. -273.1° C.) at which all substances have lost all their available heat and so can be cooled no further. **āb'solutely** *adv.*

ābsolu'tion (-ōō-) *n.* Formal forgiveness, esp. ecclesiastical declaration of forgiveness of sins; remission of penance.

āb'solutism (-ōōt-) *n.* 1. (theol.) Dogma that God acts absolutely in matter of salvation. 2. (pol.) Principle of absolute government, despotism. **āb'solutist** *n.* Supporter of absolute government; (metaphysics) one who maintains absolute identity of subject and object.

ābsolve' *v.t.* Set or pronounce free from blame etc.; acquit. **ābsorb'** *v.t.* Swallow up, incorporate; engross the attention of; suck in (liquid); take in (heat, light, etc.).

ābsorb'ent *adj.* Having a tendency to absorb; ~ *cotton*, cotton rendered suitable for use as dressing etc. by removal of natural wax. ~ *n.* Absorbent substance. **ābsorp'tion** *n.* Action of ab-

sorbing, fact of being absorbed; natural or medicinal removal of tissues or deposits.

abstain' *v.i.* Keep oneself away, refrain from; esp. refrain from alcohol. **abstain'er** *n.* One who abstains from alcohol.

abstēm'ious *adj.* Sparing or moderate in food, drink, etc. **abstēm'iously** *adv.* **abstēm'iousness** *n.*

abstēn'tion *n.* Refraining or holding back; (parl. etc.) not using one's vote.

abstēr'gent *adj.* Cleansing. ~ *n.* Cleansing substance. **abstēr'sion** *n.* **abstēr'sive** *adj.*

āb'stinēnce *n.* Abstaining from food, pleasure, etc.; *total* ~, abstaining from alcohol. **āb'stinēt** *adj.* Practising abstinence.

āb'strāct *adj.* Not concrete; ideal, not practical; abstruse; (of art) concerned with pure form and pattern, not representing forms of visible world. ~ *n.* 1. (the ~), ideal or theoretical way of regarding things. 2. Epitome, summary.

3. Abstraction, abstract term. **abstrāct'** *v.t.* Deduct, remove; steal; disengage (attention etc.); summarize; **abstrāct'ed**, withdrawn in thought, not attending.

abstrāc'tion *n.* Withdrawal; stealing; absent-mindedness; abstract art.

abstruse' (-ōōs) *adj.* Hard to understand, profound. **abstruse'ly** (-sli-) *adv.* **abstruse'ness** *n.*

absūrd *adj.* Incongruous, unreasonable, ridiculous, silly. **absūrd'ly** *adv.* **absūrd'ity** *n.* **Abt** (āpt), Franz (1819-85). German song-writer.

abūndance *n.* Plenty, more than enough; affluence, wealth; (physics) amount present. **abūndant** *adj.* Plentiful, rich, in abundance. **abūndantly** *adv.*

abūse' (-z) *v.t.* Make bad use of, misuse; revile; (archaic) deceive. ~ (-s) *n.* Misuse, perversion; unjust or corrupt practice; reviling. **abū'sive** *adj.* **abū'sively** (-vli-) *adv.* **abū'siveness** *n.*

abūt' *v.* Have common boundary with; border (upon); end upon, lean against. **abūt'ment** *n.* (archit.) Support from which arch, vault, etc., springs, and which receives the lateral thrust. **abūt'ter** *n.* (law) Owner of adjoining property.

Abū'dōs, 1. Ancient city on the Hellespont, whence (Gk myth.) LEANDER swam to Sestos. 2. Ancient ruined city of Upper Egypt.

abūsm' (poet.), **abūss'ns**. The primal chaos, bowels of the earth, supposed cavity of lower world; bottomless chasm; deep gorge.

abū'smal (-z-) *adj.* Bottomless (esp. fig.). **abū'smally** *adv.*

ābūss'al *adj.* Of lowest depths of ocean; ~ *rocks*, crystalline igneous rocks, as granite, which have solidified deep below earth's surface; ~ *zone*, strata of sea below 300 fathoms.