

The Oxford English Dictionary

VOLUME VIII

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THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

BEING A CORRECTED RE-ISSUE

WITH AN

INTRODUCTION, SUPPLEMENT, AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

OF

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES

FOUNDED MAINLY ON THE MATERIALS COLLECTED BY

The Philological Society

VOLUME VIII



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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual values.

g as in *go* (gō).
h ... *ho!* (hō).
r ... *run* (rŭn), *terrier* (ter'ri-er).
r ... *her* (hēr), *farther* (fā'r-er).
s ... *see* (sē), *cess* (ses).
w ... *wen* (wen).
hw ... *when* (hwen).
y ... *yes* (yes).

þ as in *thin* (þin), *bath* (bap).
ð ... *then* (ðen), *bath* (bap).
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃop), *dish* (diʃ).
tʃ ... *chop* (tʃop), *ditch* (diʃ).
ʒ ... *vision* (vi'ʒən), *déjeuner* (deʒ'ne).
dʒ ... *judge* (dʒʌdʒ).
ŋ ... *singing* (si'ŋŋ), *think* (piŋk).
ŋg ... *finger* (fiŋg-er).

(FOREIGN.)

ñ as in *French nasal*, *environ* (aŋv'ron).
lʲ ... It. *seraglio* (serā'l'io).
nʲ ... It. *signore* (sīn'ō-re).
x ... Ger. *ach* (ax), Sc. *loch* (lox, lox').
xʲ ... Ger. *ich* (ixʲ), Sc. *nicht* (nēxʲt).
γ ... Ger. *sagen* (zā'γ-chen).
γʲ ... Ger. *legen*, *regnen* (lē'γ-chen, rē'γ-nēn).

II. VOWELS.

ORDINARY.

a as in Fr. *à la mode* (a la mōd').
ai ... *aye=yes* (ai), *Isaiah* (əizai-ä).
æ ... *man* (mæn).
ɑ ... *pass* (pas), *chant* (tʃant).
au ... *loud* (laud), *now* (nau).
v ... *cut* (kvt), *son* (søn).
e ... *yet* (yet), *ten* (ten).
e ... *survey sb.* (sə'v'v), Fr. *attaché* (ataʃe).
|| ɛ ... Fr. *chef* (ʃɛf).
ə ... *ever* (evər), *nation* (nə'ʃən).
əi ... *I, eye*, (əi), *bind* (bāind).
|| ɐ ... Fr. *eau de vie* (ə də vī').
i ... *sit* (sit), *mystic* (mistik).
i ... *Psyche* (sai'kɛ), *react* (ri'ækt).
o ... *achor* (ə'kor), *mortality* (mɔrə'liti).
oi ... *oil* (oil), *boy* (boi).
o ... *hero* (hī'ro), *zoology* (zɔlɔ'dʒi).
ɔ ... *what* (hwɔt), *watch* (wɔtʃ).
ɔ, ɔ* ... *got* (gɔt), *soft* (sɔft).
|| ɔ ... Ger. *Köln* (kōln).
|| ɔ ... Fr. *peu* (pø).
u ... *full* (ful), *book* (buk).
iu ... *duration* (diur'jən).
u ... *unto* (vntu), *frugality* (fru-).
iu ... *Matthew* (mæ'piu), *virtue* (vɜ'tiu).
|| ü ... Ger. *Müller* (mü'l-er).
|| ü ... Fr. *dune* (dün).
o (see iə, ēə, ōə, ūə) } see Vol. I, p. xxxiv, note 3.
u (see ē', ū') }
' as in *able* (ə'b'l), *eaten* (i'ten) = voice-glide.

LONG.

ā as in *alms* (āmz), *bar* (bār).
ō ... *curl* (kūrl), *fur* (fūr).
ē (ēə) ... *there* (ðē-er), *pear*, *pere* (pē-er).
ē (ē') ... *rein*, *rain* (rē'n), *they* (ðē').
ē ... Fr. *faire* (fē').
ō ... *fur* (fūr), *fern* (fōrn), *earth* (ē-er).

ī (īə) ... *bier* (bi-er), *clear* (klī-er).
ī ... *thief* (þīf), *see* (sē).
ō (ōə) ... *boar*, *bore* (bō-er), *glory* (glō-ri).
ō (ōə) ... *so*, *sow* (sō-er), *soul* (sō-er).
ō ... *walk* (wɔk), *wart* (wɔt).
ō ... *short* (ʃɔt), *thorn* (þɔrn).
|| ɔ ... Fr. *coeur* (kœr).
|| ɔ ... Ger. *Göthe* (gōtē), Fr. *jeune* (ʒōn).
ū (ūə) ... *poor* (pū-er), *moorish* (mū-er).
iū, iū ... *pure* (piū-er), *lure* (lū-er).
ū ... *two moons* (tū mūnz).
iū, iū ... *few* (fiū), *lute* (lū-er).
|| ü ... Ger. *grün* (grün), Fr. *jus* (ʒū).

OBSCURE.

ä as in *amceba* (ām'čä).
æ ... *accept* (ækse'pt), *maniac* (mā'niæk).
ø ... *datum* (dā'tm).
ē ... *moment* (mō'mēnt), *several* (se'verāl).
ē ... *separate* (aʃ-) (se'pā-er).
è ... *added* (æ'ded), *estate* (estē't).
ī ... *vanity* (væn'iti).
ī ... *remain* (rīmē'n), *believe* (bēl'v).
ō ... *theory* (þē'ōri).
ø ... *violet* (vōi-ōlēt), *parody* (pær'ōdi).
ø ... *authority* (ə'þō-riti).
ø ... *connect* (kə'nekt), *amazon* (æ'māzən).
iū, iū *verdure* (vɜ'rdiū), *measure* (me'z'ū).
iū ... *altogether* (əltə'ge-er).
iū ... *circular* (sə'ikl-ār).

* ɔ the ɔ in soft, of medial or doubtful length.

|| Only in foreign (or earlier English) words

In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. *e*, *o*, representing an earlier *a*, are distinguished as *ɛ*, *ɔ* (having the phonetic value of *ɛ* and *ɔ*, or *ɔ*, above); as in *ende* from *andi* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *monn* from *mann*, *en* from *an*.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

a. [in Etymol.] ... = adoption of, adopted from.	gen. = genitive.	pa. t. = past tense.
a (as a 1300) = ante, before.	gen. = general, -ly.	Path. = in Pathology.
absol., absol. = absolutely.	Geol. = in Geology.	Pers. = Persian.
abst. = abstract.	Geom. = in Geometry.	pers. = person, -al.
acc. = accusative.	Goth. = Gothic (= Mæso-Gothic).	pf. = perfect.
ad. [in Etymol.] ... = adaptation of.	Gr. = Greek.	Pg. = Portuguese.
adv., adv. = adverb.	Gram. = in Grammar.	Philol. = in Philology.
advb. = adverbial, -ly.	Heb. = Hebrew.	phonet. = phonetic, -ally.
AF., AFR. = Anglo-French.	Her. = in Heraldry.	phr. = phrase.
Anat. = in Anatomy.	Herb. = with herbalists.	Phren. = in Phrenology.
Antiq. = in Antiquities.	Hort. = in Horticulture.	Phys. = in Physiology.
aphet. = aphetic, aphetized.	imp. = Imperative.	pl., pl. = plural.
app. = apparently.	impers. = impersonal.	poet. = poetic.
Arab. = Arabic.	impf. = imperfect.	pop. = popular, -ly.
Arch. = in Architecture.	ind. = Indicative.	ppl. a., ppl. adj. = participial adjective.
arch. = archaic.	indef. = indefinite.	ppl. = participle.
Archæol. = in Archæology.	inf. = Infinitive.	Pr. = Provençal.
assoc. = association.	infl. = influenced.	prec. = preceding (word or article).
Astr. = in Astronomy.	int. = interjection.	pref. = prefix.
Astrol. = in Astrology.	intr. = intransitive.	prep. = preposition.
attrib. = attributive, -ly.	It. = Italian.	pres. = present.
bef. = before.	J., (J.) = Johnson (quotation from).	Prim. sign. = Primary signification.
Biol. = in Biology.	(Jam.) = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict.	priv. = privative.
Boh. = Bohemian.	(Jod.) = Jodrell (quoted from).	prob. = probably.
Bot. = in Botany.	L. = Latin.	pron. = pronoun.
Build. = in Building.	(L.) (in quotations) = Latham's edn. of Todd's	pronunc. = pronunciation.
c (as c 1300) = circa, about.	lang. = language. [Johnson.	prop. = properly.
c. (as 13th c.) = century.	LG. = Low German.	Pros. = in Prosody.
Cat. = Catalan.	lit. = literal, -ly.	pr. pple. = present participle.
catachr. = catachrestically.	Lith. = Lithuanian.	Psych. = in Psychology.
Cf., cf. = confer, compare.	LXX. = Septuagint.	q.v. = quod vide, which see.
Chem. = in Chemistry.	Mal. = Malay.	(R.) = in Richardson's Dict.
cl. L. = classical Latin.	masc. (rarely m.) = masculine.	R. C. Ch. = Roman Catholic Church.
cogn. w. = cognate with.	Math. = in Mathematics.	refash. = refashioned, -ing.
collect. = collective, -ly.	ME. = Middle English.	refl., refl. = reflexive.
colloq. = colloquially.	Med. = in Medicine.	reg. = regular.
comb. = combined, -ing.	med. L. = mediæval Latin.	repr. = representative, representing.
Comb. = Combinations.	Mech. = in Mechanics.	Rhet. = in Rhetoric.
Comm. = in commercial usage.	Metaph. = in Metaphysics.	Rom. = Romanic, Romance.
comp. = compound, composition.	MHG. = Middle High German.	sb., sb. = substantive.
compl. = complement.	midl. = midland (dialect).	Sc. = Scotch.
Conch. = in Conchology.	Mil. = in military usage.	sc. = scilicet, understand or supply.
concr. = concretely.	Min. = in Mineralogy.	sing. = singular.
conj. = conjunction.	mod. = modern.	Skr. = Sanskrit.
cons. = consonant.	Mus. = in Music.	Slav. = Slavonic.
Const., Const. ... = Construction, construed	(N.) = Nares (quoted from).	Sp. = Spanish.
with.	n. of action. = noun of action.	sp. = spelling.
Cryst. = in Crystallography.	n. of agent. = noun of agent.	spec. = specifically.
(D.) = in Davies (Supp. Eng.	Nat. Hist. = in Natural History.	subj. = subject, subjunctive.
Glossary).	Naut. = in nautical language.	subord. cl. = subordinate clause.
Da. = Danish.	neut. (rarely n.) = neuter.	subseq. = subsequently.
dat. = dative.	NF., NFr. = Northern French.	subst. = substantively.
def. = definite.	N. O. = Natural Order.	suff. = suffix.
deriv. = derivative, -ation.	nom. = nominative.	superl. = superlative.
dial., dial. = dialect, -al.	north. = northern (dialect).	Surg. = in Surgery.
Dict. = Dictionary.	N. T. = New Testament.	Sw. = Swedish.
dim. = diminutive.	Numism. = in Numismatics.	s.w. = south western (dialect).
Du. = Dutch.	obj. = object.	T. (T.) = in Todd's Johnson.
Ecll. = in ecclesiastical usage.	Obs., obs., obs. ... = obsolete.	techn. = technical, -ly.
ellipt. = elliptical, -ly.	occas. = occasional, -ly.	Theol. = in Theology.
e. midl. = east midland (dialect).	OE. = Old English (= Anglo-	tr. = translation of.
Eng. = English.	Saxon).	trans. = transitive.
Ent. = in Entomology.	OF., OFr. = Old French.	transf. = transferred sense.
erron. = erroneous, -ly.	OFris. = Old Frisian.	Trig. = in Trigonometry.
esp., esp. = especially.	OHG. = Old High German.	Typog. = in Typography.
etym. = etymology.	OIr. = Old Irish.	ult. = ultimate, -ly.
euphem. = euphemistically.	ON. = Old Norse (Old Icelandic).	unkn. = unknown.
exc. = except.	ONF. = Old Northern French.	U.S. = United States.
f. [in Etymol.] ... = formed on.	Opt. = in Optics.	v., vb. = verb.
f. (in subordinate	Ornith. = in Ornithology.	v. str., or w. = verb strong, or weak.
entries) = form of.	OS. = Old Saxon.	vbl. sb. = verbal substantive.
fem. (rarely f.) ... = feminine.	OSL. = Old Slavonic.	var. = variant of.
fig. = figurative, -ly.	O. T. = Old Testament.	wd. = word.
F., Fr. = French.	OTeut. = Original Teutonic.	WGer. = West Germanic.
freq. = frequently.	orig. = original, -ly.	w. midl. = west midland (dialect).
Fris. = Frisian.	Palæont. = in Palæontology.	WS. = West Saxon.
G., Ger. = German.	pa. pple. = passive or past participle.	(Y.) = in Col. Yule's Glossary.
Gael. = Gaelic.	pass. = passive, -ly.	Zool. = in Zoology.

Before a word or sense.

† = obsolete.

‡ = not naturalized.

In the quotations.

* sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms.

1 = before 1100.

2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200).

3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300).

5-7 = 15th to 17th century. (See General Explanations, Vol. I, p. xxx.)

In the Etymol.

* indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred.

:- = extant representative, or regular phonetic descendant of.

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

Poyesye, Poyet, obs. ff. POESY, POET.

† **Poygné, poynyé.** Obs. Forms: 4-5 *poygne*, *poyne*, *Sc. punje*, *pwynje*, 5 *Sc. poynyhe*, *poyhne*, *poynye*. [a. OF. *poignit* or *poignice*: late L. type *pugnāla*, f. *pugnāre* to fight.] A fight, combat, skirmish.

1375 BARBOUR *Brucie* xii. 373 For in punjeis is oft hapnyne. *Ibid.* xvi. 307 Bot gif that any pwnjhe wer That is nocht for till speik of her. c. 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 556 He broght with him to that poyne Of gode knyghtes thousandes thre [*MS.* twyne, but cf. *Dest. Troy* 6880]. *Ibid.* 12924 With hardy hert & gret ferte Come he thedur to that poygne. c. 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* ix. iii. 217 Welle thre hundyr and fourty Of Inglis at that poynehe war tane. *Ibid.* v. 355 Poyhneis and iuperdeis of were.

Poyle, poylley, obs. ff. PULLEY.

Poy, var. POIN v. Obs., to prick, stitch. **Poy-nado, poynard**, obs. ff. PONTIARD. **Poynant, -naunt**, obs. ff. POIGNANT. **Poynd**, obs. f. **POIND**; see also quot. c. 1450 s. v. **POUND** v. 2. **Poynde**, obs. f. **POND**. **Poyne**, var. **POYGNÉ**, **PUNYE**. **Poynette**, var. **POIGNET** Obs. **Poyng-garnette**, obs. f. **POMEGRANATE**. **Poyniard, -yard**, obs. ff. PONTIARD.

Poyning's Law. See quot.

1656 *Blount Glossogr.*, *Poyning's Law* is an Act of Parliament made in Ireland, 10 Hen. 7, and was so called, because Sir Edw. Poyning was Lieutenant of Ireland, when that Law was made; whereby all the Statutes of England were made of force in Ireland [etc.].

Poyson, obs. f. PUNCEON. **Poynt**, etc., obs. ff. PAINT, POINT, etc. **Poyny(h)e**, var. **POYGNÉ** Obs. **Poynyss**, obs. f. PUNISH.

|| **Poyou** (poi-ū). [Native name in Guarani.] The six-banded armadillo, *Dasyurus sexcinctus*.

1834 *Penny Cyc.* II. 353/2 The *poyou*... or yellow-footed armadillo (for thus Azara interprets the name), measures about sixteen inches from the nose to the origin of the tail. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist.*, *Mammalia* IV. 195. 1896 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 185.

Poyr, obs. north. f. POOR. **Poyra**, var. **PORRAY**. **Poyse**, obs. f. POISE. **Poyse**, -see, etc., obs. ff. POESY. **Poyson**, -son, -syn, etc., obs. ff. POISON, etc. **Poyte**, obs. form of POET.

† **Poz** (poz). Obs. colloq. Also 8 *pos*, *pozz*. [Abbreviation of POSITIVE.] Positive, certain; esp. in phrase *that's pos*. Also as *adv.* = positively.

1710 *Swift Tatler* No. 230 ¶ 5, I can't d't, that's Pozz. 1711 - *Lett.* (1767) III. 231 'Tis very cold; but I will not have a fire till November, that's pozz. 1716 *Addison Drummer* III. i, I will be flattered, that's pos! 1801 *Scurr. Splendid Misery* II. 143 'Fie, fie, Lady Amelia', said I. 'I will, pozz', replied she. 1839 *Thackeray Catherine* ii, I will have a regiment to myself, that's pozz.

Poze, Pozed, Pozer, obs. ff. POSE, etc.

|| **Pozzolana, pozzolana** (pottso-, pottswolā-nā) Also 8 *puzzolane*; 8-9 *pouzzo*-, *puzzolana*, 9 *pozzo*-, *puzzolano*, *puozzo*-, *puzzuolana*. [It. *pozz(u)olana*, prop. adj. (sc. *terra* earth) 'belonging to Pozzuoli' (L. *Puteoli* little springs) a town near Naples; whence *F. pozzolane*, by which some of the Eng. spellings are affected.] A volcanic ash, containing silica, alumina, lime, etc., found near Pozzuoli, and in the neighbourhood of various volcanoes, much used in the preparation of hydraulic cement. Also, used as the name of similar artificial preparations.

1706 *Phillips, Pozzolana*, a kind of Sand found in the Territory of Pozzuoli near Naples. 1777 *Hamilton in Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 6 They grind down this sort of stone... into a powder, which they use as a puzzolane for all their buildings under water. 1791 *Smeaton Elystone L.* § 185. 111 The two substances of so much consequence in water building; viz. *Tarras* and *Puzzolana*. 1828 E. HENDERSON *Iceland* xii. 111 A yellowish alluvial formation resembling the tuffas or puzzolana of Iceland. 1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVI. 294 The clays used in the fabrication of certain puzzolanas. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 33 Rome is built, one may say, of puzzolana.

attrib. 1794 *Sullivan View Nat.* II. 190 The catacombs of Rome are hollowed in a sort of puzzolana earth, of a brown violet colour. 1799 *Kirwan Geol. Ess.* 45 Tartar in hogheads of wine, and puzzolana mortar.

Hence **Pozzolanic** a., of the nature of or containing puzzolana.

1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 85 There is also pozolanic or watery limestone.

Pra, obs. Sc. f. PRAY, PREY. **Praam**, var. **PRAM**. **Pra'bble**, sb. Obs. exc. dial. rare. [Dial. variant (in Shaks., a Welshman's pronunciation) of BRABBLE.] A quarrel, a squabble.

1598 [see PRIBBLE]. 1599 *Shaks. Hen. V.* iv. viii. 69 *Fluellen*... I pray you to serue God, and keepe you out of flaws and prabbles, and quarrels and dissensions. 1883 *Almondbury & Huddersfield Gloss.* s. v., Au darn't differ wi' him for fear on a prabble.

So **Pra'bble v. trans.**, to chatter noisily.

1881 *Blackmore Christowell* xvi, And let the others prabble truculent philosophy.

Prace, obs. form of PRESS.

Prachant, variant of PRACHANT Obs.

† **Pract**, v. Sc. Obs. [f. stem of *pract-ic*, -ice.] *trans.* and *intr.* = PRACTISE v. (in various senses).

a. 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 121 (Bann. MS.) Yit scho callit to hir cheir On apostita freir, A peruerst perdonair And prac-

tand palmair. *Ibid.* 163 Bot presumpteuous in pryde, Practing no thing expert, In cunnynge compass nor kert.

Practic (præ-'tik), sb.¹ arch. Forms: a. 4-6 *practik*, 4-7 -ike, 5 -yk, -yke, -yque, 5-9 -ique, 6-7 -ieke, -icque, 6-8 -iok, 6- *practio*; 5 *praktik*, -ike; 7 *practik*. β. Sc. 6 *praticke*, -yke, 6-7 *prattik*, 6-8 -iok, 7-8 -ique, 7 *prattique*; 6 *prettie*, -iok, -ik, -ike, -icque: see also **PRACTIQUE**. [ME. *practik(e)*, a. OF. *practike*, -ique, variants of *pract(i)que* (13th c. in *Hatz-Darm.*) practice, usage, intrigue, form of pleading, etc. (whence the β forms); ad. med.L. *practica*, a. Gr. *πρακτική* (also *πρακτική ἐπιστήμη*, Plato) practical (as opposed to theoretical) science, fem. sing. of *πρακτικός* adj.: see next.] The earlier Eng. and esp. Sc. equivalent of PRACTICE.

1. The action of practising; practical work or application of (something); practice as opposed to theory; = PRACTICE 1.

a. 1387 *Trevisa Higden* (Rolls) I. 43 Wise men and wel i-taught in be practike of geometrie. c. 1391 *Chaucer Astrol. Prolog.* The second partie shal teche the werken the verrey practik of the forseide conclusions. a. 1460 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 241 Hatrede and praptik of fals auctoritei Algood consencie they putten owte. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 77 To lerne the pratique of law or custom of lande, or of civile matier. c. 1480 *Henryson Test. Cres.* 269 Of rhetorik the praktik he nicht leir. 1508 *Barret (title)* The Theorie and Praktike of Moderne Warres. 1600 *Abbott Exp. Jonah* 537 Thou thoughtest it so in Theorie but beleevdest it not in Practique. 1631 *Massinger Emperor East* II. i, He has the theory only, not the practice. 1700 *Wallis in Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 317 As to the practick of it; there are... consorts of music. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 294 They ignored the practick and theoric of every sect. 1855 *Kingsley Westw. Hol* vi, Amyas... cunning as a fox in all matters of tactic and practice.

β. 1530 *Lyndesay Test. Papyngo* 30 Boith in practick & speculation. 1535 *Stewart Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 221 In all prattik of weir he was perqueir. 1552 *Lyndesay Monarchie* 263 This was the prettike of sum pylgrimage. 1691 *T. [Hale] Acc. New Invent.* p. vi, [To] obstruct their pratique in those Arts of life wherein they were expert.

† b. As one of the ancient divisions of Philosophy. 1290 *Gower Conf. III* 85 The laste science of the thre it is Practique. 1483 *Caxton Gold. Leg.* 389 b/2 Phyllosophye is deuyded in thre, in theorie in practique and in logyque.

c. An action, deed, work; pl. works, doings, deeds, practices; things practical, practical matters.

1641 'Smectymnus' *Answer* § 13 (1653) 56 Our Bishops challenge (if not in their Polemicks, yet in their Practicks) a Power that Timothy and Titus... never did. 1653 *Gauden Hierasp.* 204 The moralls and practiques of men, as well as their intellectualls, are much to be considered. 1748 *Richardson Clarissa* (1810) III. lxiii. 355 This dear lady is prodigiously learned in theories. But as to practices, as to experimentals, must be, as you know from her tender years, a mere novice. 1889 *A. Gissing Both of this Parish* II. vi. 135 Accomplished in all the practicks of tilth and tillage.

† 2. Mode of action or operation; custom, habit, usage; = PRACTICE 2 c. Obs.

a. c. 1286 *Chaucer Wife's Prolog.* 187 Telle forth youre tale... And teche vs yonge men of youre praktike. c. 1449 *Pecock Repr.* II. xx. (Rolls) 269 The oolde practick of deuoute Cristen man. 1563 *Winet Four Scoir Thre Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 57 The common practick of our aduersaris, to mak of obscur mirkes a commentare to the clair licht. 1653 *H. Cogran tr. Scarlat Gown Ep. Ded.* Particularities of the cocaine. in the elections of the said Cardinals.

β. c. 1560 *Rolland 7 Sages* 34 Of their prettike to me ane point propyne.

3. Legal usage; case-law; particularly in Scots Law: see quot. 1708.

a. 1533 *Lo. Berners Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I i vij, To make newe offyces and to ordeyne statutes and practikes. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 353 According to the... Actis of Parliament, lawis, and practik of this realme. a. 1578 *Lyndesay (Pittscott) Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 64 The lawis and practik of this realme. c. 1588 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 253 The use and the prattik of the kirk. 1678 *Sir G. Mackenzie Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xv. § 2 (1699) 82 Albeit the manner of death is not express in this act, yet practick hath determined the same to be hanging. 1708 *J. Chamberlayne St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. v. (1737) 408 Upon the Civil Law the solemn judgments in Law Cases have been collected, which are called Practiques [in Scotland], a Word of the same Import with that of Reports in England. a. 1765 *Erskine Instit. Laws Scot.* I. i. § 47 An uniform tract of decisions of the court of session, i.e. of their judgments on particular points, either of right or of form... anciently called Practicks, is by Mackenzie... accounted part of our customary law. 1818 *Scott Hrt. Midl.* xii, What say ye to try young Mackenzie? he has a' his uncle's practiques at the tongue's end.

† 4. Practical acquaintance; habitual intercourse or dealings; experience; = PRACTICE 3. Obs.

1592 *Wotton in Relig.* (1685) 663 A certain Florentine, of great practick with Strangers. 1624 *Sir T. Roe in Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 206 One that hath experience and practique with all nations. a. 1734 *North Exam.* II. iv. § 140 (1740) 306 How could any one, of English Education and Practique, swallow such a low Kabble Suggestion?

† 5. Artful dealing, contrivance, cunning, policy; with a and pl., an art or kind of practical skill, esp. an artful device or contrivance, a stratagem, trick, or deception. Obs.

a. 1490 *Henryson Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xlii, His deith be practik may be preuit eith. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 19 (Edw. IV) willed that my lord Dynham shuld assaie some practik therin and fele the mynde of the said lord Corder. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* xi.

x. heading, Heyr Turnus and Camylla gan devys Practikis of weir, the Troianis to supprys. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 94 He visit the samen practik contrair irland and valis. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 319 Medeaes practiques schohad plane, That could mak auld men young agane. 1584 *Lodge Alarm agst. Usurers*, etc. (Hunter. Cl.) 62 He brought forth a mirrour of notable operation, a practice in prospectue.

β. 1500-20 *Dunbar Poems* xxii. 13 Of quhome the gled dois prettikis preir. 1573 *Douglas Æneis* xi. 66 A prattik of weir devys will I. 1596 *Dalrymple tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 316 To occupie the tounne with sum practick or policie. 1693 *Scotch Presbyterian. Eloquence* (1738) 117 Thou art always proving Practicks.

Practic (præ-'tik), a. (sb.²) arch. Forms: 4, 6 *practik*, 6-7 -ike, -icque, -ique, 7-8 -iok, 7-10, (7 *prattik*). [a. obs. *F. pratique*, variant of *pratique* practical, ad. late L. *practicus* (Fulgentius, a. 550), a. Gr. *πρακτικός* concerned with action, practical, f. *πράττειν* to do, act: see prec. and -io.]

1. Pertaining to, consisting of or exhibited in practice or action; = PRACTICAL 1.

1551 *Reorde Pathow. Knowl.* i. heading, The practike workinge of sondry conclusions Geometrical. 1598 *Barret Theor. Warres* vi. i. 182 The practike rules whereof I have... at large set downe. 1612 *Woodall Surg. Mate Pref.*, Wks. (1653) 8 Performing the art of healing in a practick way, namely, by the hand. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* ix. ¶ 18 Our attendance on practick duties. 1732 *Berkeley Alciphr.* v. § 4 All things of a practice nature. 1833 *G. Colman Br. Grins. Vagaries Vind.* xlix, Writings who in practice waggery deal. 1833 *H. Coleridge Poems* I. 121 Spurning the dictates of a practick creed. a. 1849 - *Ess.* (1851) I. 135 Its benign and sublimating influences are conveyed to the lower orb of practick works and secular relations.

b. Opposed to *theoretic, speculative, or contemplative*. (So in earliest use.) arch. or Obs.

Often applied to that department of a subject, art, or science, which relates to practice.

c. 1380 *Wyclif Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 241 Dis cunnynge was not speculatif, but practik, put in dede, how men shulde lyve by Goddis lawe. 1584 *R. Scot Discon. Witcher.* xv. ii. (1886) 322 He perfetliche teacheth practick philosophia. 1599 *Shaks. Hen. V.* i. 1. 51 The Art and Practique part of Life, Must be the Mistress to this Theorique. 1606 *Braycott Civ. Life* 120 Vertues are generally deuyded into Speculative and Practique; or we may say, into Intellective and Actiue. 1617 *J. Moore Mappe Mans Mortalitie* III. x. 250 Let our skill herein not only be contemplative, but practique. 1621 *Burton Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iv. (1651) 280 What more pleasing studies can there be than the Mathematicks, Theoric or Practick parts? 1715 *Hearne Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 103 Famous for his Knowledge in the Theory of Musick; in the practick part of which Faculty he was likewise very considerable. 1804 *W. Taylor in Crit. Rev.* Ser. III. 111. 526 These were daily instructed for some hours both in the theoric and practick parts of the Pythagorean philosophy.

† c. Of persons or their faculties. ? Obs.

1610 *Donne Pseudo-martyr Pref.* Div, As the invention of Gun-powder is attributed to a contemplative Monke; so these practique Monkes thought it belonged to them, to put it into vse and execution, to the destruction of a State and a Church. 1687 *New Atlantis* i. 375 The Practick Minds may in State Matters dive, In hidden Knowledge the Contemplative. 1798 *W. Taylor in Monthly Rev.* 212 The practick Essenes were mostly occupied in keeping sheep.

† 2. = PRACTICAL a. 2, 4. Obs.

1604 *R. Cadwrey Table Alph.*, *Practique*, practising. 1620 *Donne Serm.* lxvii. (1640) 756 It shall do him no good, to say, that he was no speculative Atheist... if hee lived a practique Atheist. 1642 *Rogers Naaman* 348 Practicke Atheists, who are led by sense as brute beasts.

† 3. That has had experience in any process or course of action; experienced, practised, well-versed, skilled. Obs.

1596 *Spenser F. Q.* iv. iii. 7 Right practique was Sir Priamond in fight, And throughly skilld in use of shield and speare. 1611 *Speed Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xx. (1623) 981 This Ambassadors was a practicke man, of much experience. 1639 *N. N. tr. Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* i. 14 These Pamphlets, after they have made many women bold, it makes them practick in it, they finde out subtilties, with safty in them.

† 4. Artful, crafty, cunning. Obs.

1585 *T. Washington tr. Nicholas's Voy.* i. viii. 8 [The corsairs] with their practick art bryng dayly too Alger a number of pore Christians, which they sell vnto the Moores. 1590 *Spenser F. Q.* II. iii. 9 Wylie witted, and growne old In cunning sleights and practick knavery.

† B. sb.² [absolute use of the adj.] A practical man, a man of action, as opposed to a theorist; one who practises something, as opposed to studying it; spec. a member of the Jewish sect of the Essenes, who took part in the active affairs of life.

1599 *Daniel Musophilus* cxxxvii, I grant, that some unletter'd Practick may... with impious Cunning sway The Courses fore-begun with like Effect. 1625 *T. Godwin Moses & Aaron* i. xii. 62 Of these Essenes there were two sorts, some Theorikes...; others Practicks, laborious and painfull in the daily exercise of those handy-crafts in which they were most skillfull. 1633 *T. Adams Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 3 They are mere sceptics, because they would not be practicks. 1650 *Elderfield Tythes* 20 Two sorts of them there were; the students, and the practiques.

† **Practic**, v. Sc. Obs. Also 5 *pratik*, 6 *pratik*, *pretyk*, *practi(o)k*, -ique. [ad. *F. pratique-r*, obs. *practiquer* = med.L. *practicare* to practise (a profession, etc.), It. *praticare*, Prov. *praticar*, Sp. *practicar*. Subseq. conformed to Gr. and L. stem.] *trans.* = PRACTISE (in various senses). a. To put into action or operation. b. To actuate or influence craftily. c. In pa. pple. Practised, versed.

a. 1456 *Sir G. Have Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 207 [They] pratik the granting of mark to get resoun be done. 1533

GAU Richt *Vay* 62 Peter practik[ist] his keys in the second chaiptr of the dedis of the apostils, be preching of ye law he brocht the pepil to knowlege of thair sine. c1588 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 253 To reeue the bodie and bluid of Chryst, as some tyme was practikid in the kirkis of Scotland.

b. 1561 LETHINGTON *Let. to Cecil* 15 Aug., St. Pap. Scotl., Eliz. VI. 56 (P.R.O.) Thinking y^e the Quenes majesty will by some meanes practique the subiectes off this Realme she [Mary] hath written to divers... to continue thintelligence.

c. 1549 *Compl. Scot. Pro.* 15 Them that was neuyr pretykkit in the veyris. a1578 LINDSAY (Pittcott) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 160 Quhan any ciuill insurrectioun wes in the cuntries and specialie lesmaiestie aganis the kingis own persone quhairin he was well practickid.

Practicability (præ'tikəb'li), *a.* [f. next: see -ITY. Cf. mod.F. *praticabilité* (Littre).] The quality or state of being practicable; capability of being done or carried out in practice; feasibility. In *pl.* practicable conditions or things.

1767 SMEATON (*title*) Report... concerning The Practicability and Expence of joining the Rivers Forth and Clyde by a Navigable Canal. 1772-84 *Cook Voy.* (1790) IV. 1193 As to the existence, or at least as to the practicability of a northern passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 191 Of all the practicabilities, which at present offer themselves to that country, the one that is most [promising] is the stability of the government of the Bourbons. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 122 He has... lost faith in the practicability of his scheme.

Practicable (præ'tikəb'li), *a.* [ad. F. *praticable* (*praticable*, 1594 in Hatz-Darm.), f. *pratiquer* to practise: see -ABLE. Conformed in the stem to *practic*, *practice*, and med.L. *practicare*.]

1. Capable of being put into practice, carried out in action, effected, accomplished, or done; feasible.

1670 MAYNWARING (*title*) *Vita Sana & Longa*. The Preservation of Health... proved. In the due observance of Remarkable Precautions And daily practicable Rules, Relating to Body and Mind. 1688 PENTON *Guardian's Instr.* 63 There was so much plain, practicable Truth in what he had said. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 169, I knew not how it was practicable to let it about. 1860 LYNDALE *Glac.* I. iii. 26 Ascended the glacier as far as practicable.

2. Capable of being actually used or traversed, as a road, passage, ford, etc.

1710 *London Gaz.* No. 4700/1 The Breach... being already practicable. Preparations were making for the general Assault. 1784 BELKNAP *Tour White Mts.* (1876) 16 The only practicable pass through these Mountains to the upper settlements on Connecticut River. 1828 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 309 From Gibraltar the road to Cadiz is likewise very practicable for ladies. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 519 By the time the breach was practicable the town was distressed for provisions.

b. *Theatr.* Said of windows, doors, etc., which are capable of actual use in the play, as distinct from things merely simulated. Also (*colloq.*) *ellipt.* as *sb.* 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxii. He put his head out of the practicable door in the front grooves O. P. 1842 PENNY *Cycl.* XXIV. 296/1 Although they [narrow passages at the back of the stage] are, in stage language, 'practicable', hardly could they have been made use of. 1856 MAYHEW *Rhine* 92 The heads of all the tinsel busts... you now find to be 'practicable', as they say in theatrical language. 1859 WRAXALL tr. *R. Houdin xviii* 267 The machinist had put up a plank running from the stage to the end of the pit, and... two other 'practicables', much shorter than the centre one, ran across to the boxes. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* I. 362 His [Southey's] scenery and enchantments are always 'practicable', to use theatrical language.

3. *slang.* Easily practised upon or manipulated, gullible; open to connivance or collusion; facile.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. F. 5 As practicable greenhorns as ever fell into the hands of a man of genius. *Ibid.* vii. xv. F. 12 You might as well be a little more practicable with the clerk of the kitchen.

Hence **Practicableness**, the quality of being practicable; practicability; **Practically** *adv.*, in a practicable manner; in actual practice or operation, practically.

1643 NETHERSOLE *Proj. for Peace* (1648) 5 Without having respect to the practicableness thereof. 1649 *Bounds Publ. Obd.* 11 All our scruples therefore are concerning things to us practically lawful or unlawful in themselves. a 1729 J. ROGERS (J.), The meanest capacity, when he sees a rule practically applied before his eyes, can no longer be at a loss how 'tis to be performed. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 344 Which I mention only to shew the Practicableness of a Reformation. 1883 *Christian* 1 Nov. 12/1 The question of the practicableness... of the Jordan Valley Canal scheme.

Practical (præ'tikəl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as PRACTICE a. + -AL.]

I. 1. Of, pertaining or relating to practice; consisting or exhibited in practice or action. Opp. to *speculative, theoretical, or ideal*.

Often applied to that department of a subject, art, or science, which relates to practice as distinguished from theory, as in *practical agriculture, arithmetic, chemistry, geometry, logic, music, philosophy, etc.* *Practical joke*: see JOKE *sb.* 1.

1617 Bp. HALL *No Peace with Rome* § 8 Vnlesse it be determined (vnder some false semblance) by the verdict of our practical iudgement, we will it not. 1660 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* xxi Of Arts some contemplative, some practical. 1657 *Norfolk's Plutarch* II. 19 The rest of Aristotles books must be referred to his Philosophy, which he divided into two parts, namely, speculative and practical. 1682 FLAVEL *Fear* 18 Hypocrisis is a lie done, a practical lie. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 28a We suppose the Maker very well versed in Practical Geometry, Mechanics and Optics. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 78 A Constitution, that at the time of the writing had not so much as a practi-

cal existence. 1849 THACKERAY *Lett.* 14 Sept., He said solemnly, that he did not approve of practical jokes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 202/2 The whole system... shows... the practical application of technical education.

b. Having, or implying, value or consequence in relation to action; available or applicable in practice; capable of being turned to account; practically useful.

1642 HOWELL (*title*) *Instructions for Forreine Travell*. Shewing by what cours... one may arrive to the practical knowledge of the Languages. 1673 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Mar., Time and experience may forme him to a more practical way... of University lectures and erudition. 1701 J. JONES (*title*) *Practical Phonography*: or, the new Art of Rightly Spelling... By the Sound. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 323 He should... see the joyner set and fasten it in a steady and practical position. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery Pref.* 7, I make no pretension to literary style, but have aimed to produce a practical work for practical men. 1897 *Daily News* 24 July 5/2 Practical politics is to do what you can, and not what you ought. 1898 LADY MALMESBURY in *Cycling* 93 A woman's cycling dress should be, in the first place, practical—that is, composed of materials which do not suffer from rain or dust and will stand a certain amount of hard wear.

2. Actually engaged in the practice of some occupation; practising, working.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Practical*, practising. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 23 note, Experience has led the practical farmers into the opinion, that these things are the food of plants. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 546 Of all this, the practical iron men are much better judges than we theorists. 1847 *Westm. Rev.* VII. 294 Had Mongolfier not been a practical man as well as a philosopher. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* II. (1872) 40 The highest botanical authorities and practical men can be quoted to show that the sessile and pedunculated oaks are either good and distinct species or mere varieties.

+ b. Actively engaged in; active, busy. *Obs.*

1617 MORVSON *Itin.* I. 289 They are most practical in all kinds of business. 1641 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 13 Jan. 9 There is... scarce any of them, who is not practical in their own great cause in hand.

+ c. Practised, experienced. *Obs.*

1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 108 A Traveller... that hath given us good Discourse, and he speaks as though he were practical in things.

3. Devoted or inclined to action (as opp. to speculation, etc.); whose knowledge is derived from practice rather than theory; also, having capacity or ability for action.

1667 M. LOCKE in C. Simpson *Compendium* A v b, We poor Practical men, who doe, because we doe (as they are pleas'd to censure us). 1844 STANLEY *Arnold* I. iv. 187 He remained eminently practical to the end of his life. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* I. iii, The English... being a practical people, it is possible that they might have achieved their object and yet retained their native princes. 1861 BUCKLE *Hist. Civiliz.* II. 310 They... whose knowledge is almost confined to what they see passing around them, and who, on account of their ignorance, are termed practical men. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 76 The practical man, who relies on his own experience.

4. That is such in practice or conduct (as distinguished from belief or theory); that is such in effect, though not nominally or professedly so; virtual.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. vii. 387 In a word, if he was not a practical Atheist, I know not who was. a 1688 W. CLAGETT *17 Sermon* (1699) 126 Every wicked man... may indeed be called a practical atheist. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonement* vii. (1852) 194 To suspend a law, is, in that instance, to exercise a practical veto against its being law. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* xxxii. 475 We are not to be guilty of that practical atheism, which, seeing no guidance for human affairs but its own limited foresight, endeavours itself to play the god. 1882 FREEMAN *Amer. Lett.* II. v. 390 The great advantage of our practical republic over your avowed republic.

II. +5. That practises art or craft; crafty, scheming, artful. (Cf. PRACTICE a. 4, PRACTICE 6, 7.) *Obs.* (The earliest recorded sense.)

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1906/1 Not only perceiving their practical proceedings, but also much greued with their troublesome vnquietnes.

III. 6. *Comb.*, as *practical-minded*.

1881 C. GIBSON *Heart's Problem* iv, He had endured some banter from his practical-minded friend as to the folly of thinking about love instead of law. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 14 Apr. 4/6 The practical-minded makers of modern Egypt.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*)

+ 1. Practical matters; points of practice. *Obs.*

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* Introd. ii. 31 How in Practicals, They Direct in well-doing. 1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 20 Credenda, as opposed to the Agenda, or Practicals of Christianity. 1737 M. GREEN *Spleen* 322 That tribe, whose practicals decree Small beer the deadliest heresy.

b. Practical jokes or tricks. *colloq.* ? *Obs.*

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii, Give over your practicals, Lucifer.

2. Practical men; persons concerned with practice.

1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 44 The Practicals never heard of it; or if they had, they disdained it as visionary theory. 1844 *Ess. Pol. Econ.* 42 The practicals would endeavour to determine this question by a direct induction.

Hence **Practicalism**, devotion to practical affairs; **Practicalist**, one who devotes himself to or advocates what is practical.

1843 *Tail's Mag.* X. 146 Among the Parliamentary men belonging to Hardington's set, there prevailed a tendency to practicalism, the origin of the sect of Utilitarians. 1856 J. GROVE in *Cambr. Ess.* 88 The very practicalism of the English has guarded them against much mistaken and

superficial practicalism. 1865 MILL *Comte* 86 The theorists... have successfully retaliated on the practicalists.

Practicality (præ'tikə'li), [f. prec. + -ITY.]

1. The quality of being practical: usually in senses 1 b and 3 of the *adj.*

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 265 If he... had not courage, promptitude, practicality, and other suitable vulpine gifts and graces, he would catch no geese. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* June 815 A certain prosaic practicality and hard realism.

2. A practical matter or affair. (Chiefly in *pl.*)

1854 tr. *Lamartine's Celebr. Char.* II. Fénelon 384 These two dreams of Fénelon have been looked upon as serious practicalities by short-sighted reasoners. 1887 MISS E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* (1888) 303 Miss Wynyard had been educated to practicalities, and knew her own requirements.

Practicalize, *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *trans. nonce-use.* To subject to practical jokes.

(PRACTICAL *sb.* 1 b.) Hence **Practicalization**.

1818 KEBLE in Coleridge *Mem.* v. (1869) 74, I only hope I shall not be practicalized to death. 1869 COLERIDGE *Ibid.* 75 His fears of death by the slow process of practicalization.

2. To render practical.

1844 J. CAIRNS *Let. in Life* x. (1895) 225 Walker is thoroughly practicalised... more evangelically simple than heretofore. 1861 MILL *Autobiog.* i. (1874) 37 He made no effort to provide me any sufficient substitute for [the] practicalizing influences [of school life]. 1863 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 289 The strong sense which practicalises the ideal to the common sympathies and comprehension of multitudes.

Practically (præ'tikəli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a practical manner; in the way of, or in relation to, practice; in practice; as a matter of fact, actually. Often opposed to *theoretically, speculatively, or formally*.

1623 T. POWELL (*title*) *The Attorneys Academy*: or, the Manner and Forme of proceeding practically, vpon any Suite, Plaint or Action whatsoever, in any Court of Record whatsoever, within this Kingdom. 1628 DONNE *Serm.* xxiii. (1640) 233 He loves himself... Contemplatively, by knowing as he is known, and Practically, by loving, as he is loved. 1646 JENKYN *Remora* 12 They said not so verbally, but mentally and practically. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* II. § 6 It being impossible a thing should be practically wrong and speculatively right. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* ix. i, Neither physic, nor law, are to be practically known from books. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Jan. 3/1 Questions which are theoretically interesting to thoughtful people and practically interesting to every one.

2. So far as concerns practice (though not completely or formally); for practical purposes; to all intents and purposes, as good as; in effect, virtually.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ.* *Man* I. iii. 349 The true Root, or such an Approximation as is practically equivalent. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* v. 190 Their own limbs and lives... were practically altogether at their masters' mercy. 1869 TOZER *High. Turkey* I. 318 Thanks to its padding... [the saddle] was practically unhurt, except for a broken girth. 1891 *Lay Times* XCII. 97/2 The application was supported by practically all the creditors.

Practicalness, [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being practical (in various senses: see the *adj.*); practicality.

1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* II. 73 The practicalness of Prudence as distinct from pure Theory chiefly consists, in that it contemplates Truth for the sake of Good. 1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 217 From it he doubtless derived the practicalness (if the word may be pardoned) in which the more purely speculative Frenchmen of the present day... are generally deficient. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* x. (1875) 425 A stringent practicalness worthy of Franklin.

+ **Practitioner**. *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *practicans*, -ant-em, pr. pple. of *practicare*, -ari to practise medicine; after obs. F. *praticquant* (a 1550 in Godef.); so mod.Ger. *praktikant*.] One who practises (medicine); a practitioner.

1637 BRIAN *Pisse-prop.* (1679) 66, I was then a young practitioner in Physick. 1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 12 This is the Patient with whose hurts, sores, bruises, wounds and sorrows, these practitioners have most impudently padded. 1827 *Lancet* 17 Nov. 256/2 At some [German] universities, the clinical students are divided into *auscultants* and *practicants*.

+ **Practicate**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 -at. [ad. med.L. *practicat-us*, pa. pple. of *practicare*.]

1. Practised, experienced, skilled.

c 1475 *Clariodius* (Maitl. Cl.) v. 1689 For in sik thing I am not practicate. a 1578 LINDSAY (Pittcott) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 160 Quhilk he was also practicat in.

2. as *pa. pple.* Legally decided. (Cf. PRACTICE *sb.* 1 3.)

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 173 As wes practicate, for Schir Johne Grenelaw callit civilie befor the Lordis of Session. *Ibid.* 174 As wes practicate by the saidis Lordis of Session contra ane Spaneyart.

Practicate, *v. rare.* [Latinized adaptation of F. *pratiquer*, after med.L. *practicare*: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To construct: = PRACTISE *v.* 13.

1862 *Builder* XX. 8 A great centre, from which, too, there are now two near exits actually practicated.

Practice (præ'tiks), *Forms*: 5-6 *practyse*, 6 -ysse, praictes, 6-7 *practis*, -ise, 6-8 -ise, 6-*practice*. [Formerly *practyse*, -ize, app. f. PRACTISE *v.*, substituted for the earlier PRACTIC. The later spelling -ice is conformed to that of the suffix in *justice, service*, etc.: see -ICE.] The action, or an act, of practising: and derived senses.

I. Simple senses.

1. The action of doing something; performance, execution; working, operation; method of action or working. (In quot. 1553, The bringing about, production.) *Obs.* or merged in 2. (See also 10 a.)

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 9 Many... have attained to the knowledge and practise of such wonderful effects. 1572 MACALL (title) A Booke of the Arte and manner howe to plant and graffe all sortes of trees... With diuers other newe practise, by one of the Abbey of Saint Vincent in Fraunce, practised with his owne handes. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado v.* i. 255 Prin. But did my Brother set thee on to this? Bor. Yea, and paid me richly for the practise of it. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* i. x. note, The practice of this and the precedent Proposition. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 121 All Vessels... may by the Practice of raising and lowering the Water in the Space between the two Pair of Gates, pass in or out of the Bason.

b. An action, a deed; pl. doings, proceedings. *Obs.* or merged in 2 c.

1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 237 No practise I cold vse that might vlnade my paine. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate Pref.*, Wks. (1653) 11 By death all mens thoughts perish, and so doth every mans private inventions and practises. 1734 Col. *Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 551 Such Practices used on the part of Maryland.

2. The habitual doing or carrying on of something; usual, customary, or constant action; action as distinguished from profession, theory, knowledge, etc.; conduct. (See also 9 a, b, 10 b, 11 a.)

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 43 Therto is equyppollt Evermore the perfyrt practyse. 1566 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 31 b, In y^e sayd practyse of good moralite. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiv. xci. (1612) 369 Times were when Practise also preacht, and well-said was well-done. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* iii. 170 He... will find the Invention only pleasing in the Theory, but not in the Practice. 1717 ATTURBURY *Serm.* i. Pet. ii. 21 (1734) i. 164 His Practice of Religious Severities. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess.*, Bacon (1887) 418 It was with difficulty that he was induced to stoop from speculation to practice. 1897 E. G. CONSTANTINE *Marine Engineers* xi. 135 The amount of success attending present-day naval practice in this direction may be ascertained from the current technical press.

b. Law. The method of procedure used in the law-courts. (See quot. 1809.)

1623 T. POWELL *Attourn. Acad.* i The practice heree before this time hath bin, That no Sub p^ana should be sued forth of the Court of Chancery, without a Bill of Complaint first exhibited. 1656 T. FORSTER *Lay-mans Lawyer* To Rdr. Aiv, This second part of the *Practice of the Law*, containing the formes of all manner of Warrants and Precepts sent out from Authority. 1780 G. CROMPTON (title) Practice common-placed; or, the Rules and Cases of Practice in the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas. 1809 TOMLINS *Law Dict.*, *Practice of the Courts*. By this is understood the form and manner of conducting and carrying on suits or prosecutions at Law or in Equity, civil or criminal... according to the principles of Law, and the rules laid down by the several Courts. 1810 BENTHAM *Packings* (1821) 27 The oldest book of practice (such is the denomination used, among lawyers, to denote the books, in which a statement is given, of the operations and instruments in use, in the different judicatories, in the course of judicial procedure)... is *Powell's Attorney's Academy*, London, 1623.

c. A habitual way or mode of acting; a habit, custom; (with pl.) something done constantly or usually; a habitual action.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 287 By this practice, the rule and regiment of the whole realme, consisted onely in the heades and orders of the Duke and the Chancelor. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 393 Honest women... spotted at na tyme with ony sic ungodlie practiceis. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* (1739) 5 Grafting upon them erroneous and superstitious Practices. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* i. vi. 26 A man of free principles, shewn by practices as free. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxvi, The privy council of Scotland in whom the practice since the union of the crowns vested great judicial powers.

3. The doing of something repeatedly or continuously by way of study; exercise in any art, handicraft, etc., for the purpose, or with the result, of attaining proficiency; hence, † the practical acquaintance with or experience in a subject or process, so gained. (See also 9 c.)

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxxix. [clxxxv.] 577 The lorde of Coucy shewed... the great wysdome and practyse of the sayd physicion. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 3 Through practise made perfect. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* ii. i. 105 Proceed in practise with my yonger daughter, She's apt to learne, and thankfull for good turnes. 1605 — *Macb.* v. i. 65 This disease is beyond my practise. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* i. xi. 53 It was my chance lately to be in company with three Gentlemen at a Musical Practice. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 34 After a little Practice, an Angle may be taken more readily this way than with [etc.]. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 22/1 In the forenoon we had some rifle practice at a large granite stone above the town. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xx. 141 The ascent is a pleasant bit of mountain practice. 1899 ALBUTT *Syst. Med.* VIII. 22, I absolutely forbid any public performances which entail many hours of daily severe practice.

† 4. An exercise; a practical treatise. *Obs.*

c 1541 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* title-p., This lyttell Practyce... in Medecyne is translated out of Latyn in to Englysshe. 1571 DIGGES (title) A Geometrical Practise, named Pantometria, diuided into three Bookes. 1593 J. UDALL (title) The Key of the Holy Tongue... first The Hebrue Grammar... Secondly, A practise upon the first, the twentie fift, and the syxtie eyght Psalmes, according to the rules of the same Grammar. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gard.* 87 The Manner of Tracing, reduced to Twenty Practices.

5. *spec.* The carrying on or exercise of a profession or occupation, esp. of law, surgery, or medicine; the professional work or business of a lawyer or medical man.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 281 The mysteries of mingled medicines, and the practise of Physicke. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Ab. Physic* 161 He liv'd by his Practice, as other Physicians did and do. 1706 PELLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Practice*, actual Exercise, especially that of the Profession of a Lawyer, Physician, or Surgeon; the having Clients or Patients. 1800 *Med. Jrm.* III. 456 So valuable a branch of knowledge as the practice of Physic. 1884 *Law Times* 24 May 61/2 There is no barrister in practice who is so thoroughly familiar with the ins and outs of bankruptcy practice. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Doctor Thorne* i. 5 He sold this practice and remoted into Dunchester.

6. The action of scheming or planning, esp. (now only) in an underhand way and for an evil purpose; machination, treachery; trickery, artifice. (The earliest recorded sense.)

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* vii. 608 The towne of Seynt Denys... was gotten by treason or practyse of one named Iohan Notice, a Knyght of Orleance. 1560 DAVIS tr. *Seidane's Comm.* 59 The Practise of the Deuill. 1598 GRENEWAY *Tacticus* Ann. i. iv. (1622) 7 All sauing Lepidus, through Tiberius practise, for sundry pretended crimes were made away. a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* i. (1704) 201/2 The Ship... should be suffer'd without Any Practice or Treason. 1888 SCOTT F. M. *Perth* xxiii, It looks as if there were practice in it to bring a stain on my name. 1834 W. GODWIN *Lives Necromancers* 445 Keeling... inclined to the belief that it might all be practice, and that there was nothing supernatural in the affair. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (ed. 3) i. v. 276 He... died a martyr's death, through the practice of the Lady Edithrith.

b. Dealings, negotiation, conference, intercourse; esp. in evil sense, Conspiracy, intrigue, collusion (with a person, between persons). *arch.*

1540 St. *Papers Hen. VIII.* VIII. 322 She ys very lothe to be knowne to have any practises with me in any the Kinges Highnes affaires. 1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 156 Be resoun of the daly traffique, practize and intelligence betuix the inhabitantis... and the declarit traitours. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* v. viii. (1886) 85 There was not any conference or practise betwixt them in this case. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* i. ii, He has been all this morning in practice with a peruked gentleman-usher. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxxvi. (1674) 188 He held secret practice with all the Poets. a 1680 EARL OF ROCHESTER *Valentinian* v. iii, Begone and leave me I have some little practice with my soul And then the sharpest sword is welcome. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. NE-cap.* iii. 945 Somehow, gloves were drawn o'er dirt and all, And practice with the Church procured thereby.

c. (with pl.) A scheme, plot, intrigue, conspiracy, stratagem, manœuvre, artifice, trick.

1539 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 199 A practise which I trust shal shortly come to light. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 415 This realme was... troubled with Cuille sedition, and the craftie practises of the Frenchmen. c 1605 ROWLEY *Birth Merl.* ii. ii, It may be a practice 'twixt themselves To expel the Britons. 1645 GATAKER *God's Eye on Israel* 93 How many plots and practises of the popish faction... have been discovered, defeated, and returned on the heads of those, that were either plotters of them, or employed in them? 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 243 Giving them to understand, that he was not unacquainted with their Practices. 1740 JOHNSON *Sir F. Drake* Wks. IV. 414 Unable to obviate the practices of those whom his merit had made his enemies. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xii. 2 Left-hand practices o'er the merry wine-cup.

7. The action, or an act, of practising on or upon a person, etc.: see PRACTISE II. *rare.*

1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* i. ii, This is a confederacy, a meere piece of practice vpon her, by these Impostors. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 140 Hee thought... that the onely practise vpon their affections, was to set vp a Standard in the field. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 423 This menace... was also another piece of practice on the fears of the assembly.

8. *Arith.* A compendious method of performing multiplication by means of aliquot parts, in cases where one or both quantities are expressed in several denominations; e. g. in finding the value of a given number of articles at so many pounds, shillings, and pence each, or that of so many hundredweight, pounds, and ounces of something at so much a hundredweight. See quot. 1727-41.

1574 H. BAKER *Well Spring Sciences* 87 b, The third parte treateth of certayne briefe rules, called rules of practise... Some there be, which call these rules of practise briefe rules;... There be others whiche call them the small multiplication. 1596 MELLIS *Recordes Arith.* iii. 406 Briefe Rules, called Rules of Practise... The working of Multiplication in Practise... which is accomplished by meanes of diuision in taking the half, the third, the fourth, the fifth, or such other parts of the summe which is to be multiplied. 1671 J. NEWTON *Compl. Arith.* xxiii. (1691) 119 When the Rule of Three direct hath i, or an Integer for the first term, it is commonly called a Rule of practice, not only for the speedy, but the practical resolution of such questions. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Practice*, in arithmetic, *Practica Italica*, or *Italian usages*; certain compendious ways of working the rule of proportion... They were thus called from their expediting of practice and business; and because first introduced by the merchants and negotiants of Italy. 1859 BARN. SMITH *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 156 Practice is a compendious mode of finding the value of any number of articles by means of Aliquot Parts, when the value of an unit of any denomination is given.

II. Phrases and Combinations.

9. *In practice.* a. In the realm of action; practically, actually, as a fact. b. † In customary use, in vogue (*obs.*); practised, habitually per-

formed. c. In the condition of being exercised so as to maintain skill or ability. *So out of practice.*

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 It is already accordit and enterit in practice... that upon the vacance of ony prelacie the kirkis thairfor salbe disponit to qualiff ministeris in titill. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 221 Since he went into France, I have bene in continuall practice. 1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* iv. i, Your viper wine, So much inpractise with grey bearded gallants. 1644 MILTON *Educ. Wks.* (1847) 98/2 Of attainment far more certain, than hath been yet in practice. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* iii. viii, Foreigners to the fashion or anything in practice. a 1700 DRYDEN (J.), *Obsolete words* may be laudably revived, when they are more sounding, or more significant than those in practice. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 322 Fyfe... believes that the heat actually made available from coal in practice, is nearly the same as ought to be produced, according to theory, by the quantity of coke which it yields. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VIII. vii. 53 He [Shaw] broke loose from time to time to keep his hand in practice. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. viii. 278 A saint in practice, if not in profession. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commu.* II. ix. 421 In practice it is but little changed. *Mod.* He played a very poor game, he was plainly out of practice.

10. *To put in (or into) practice.* a. To practise, exercise, carry out in action. † b. To begin to practise or do, to set about (*obs.*). † c. To scheme, plot, attempt (to do something) (*obs.*). † d. To bring into use (*obs.*); cf. 11 b.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 30 This rule will I put in practise when the tyme of the yeare doeth inseeve. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iii. ii. 89 Thy aduice, this night, ile put in practise. 1592 KYD *Murther I. Breuen* Wks. (1901) 289 She put in practise to poyson him. 1604 E. G. RICHSTONE *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. ii. 206 Instruments, which the industry of man hath found out and put in practise. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 6 To haue the Scriptures in the mother-tongue... hath bene thought vpon and put in practise of old. 1706 *Royal Proclam.* 11 Apr. in *London Gas.* No. 4218/1 It is High Treason for any... Persons to put in Practise to Absolve, Perswade or Withdraw any of Our Subjects... from their... Obedience to Us. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* i. vi, I could never observe this maxim to be put in practice by any nation, except that of Lilliput.

11. † *To make practice of.* a. To practise, carry out in action. b. To make use of, use of: cf. 10 d. c. *To make a practice of* (something), to do it habitually and of purpose.

1623 WEBSTER *Devil's Law Case* II. iii, What practice do they make of 't in their lives? 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 147 The Gun (an instrument they now make practice of). *Mod.* I make a practice of walking to the train every morning. You may do so on this occasion, but you must not make a practice of it.

12. *attrib. and Comb.*, chiefly in sense 3, as *practice-firing*, *-ground*, *-room*, *-school*, etc.; also (in sense 2 b) *practice court* (see quot. 1883).

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 447/1 Its Cricket Club and practice-ground. 1883 *Wharton's Law Lex.* s. v. *Queen's Bench*, Connected with the Court of Queen's Bench, and auxiliary thereto, was the Practice Court... The Practice Court (called also the Bail Court) heard and determined common matters of practice, and ordinary motions for writs of mandamus, prohibition, etc. 1897 FENN *Dick o' the Pens* (1889) 93 By one rapid practice-learned drag, the net was matched over. 1895 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 6/2 Herbert founded 'a practice school in which a few children should be instructed according to the most scientific methods'. 1898 KIPLING in *Morn. Post* 10 Nov. 5/3 Between the pauses of practice-firing.

Practician (præktī-fān), sb. (a.) Also 6-icien, -isian, Sc. -iciane, 7-itian, (6 praticiane). [a. obs. F. *praticien* (13th c. in *Hatz.-Darm.*), var. of *praticien*, f. L. *practica* practice + *-ien*, -IAN.] One who practises any art, profession, or occupation; a worker, practitioner; a practical man (as distinguished from a theorist, etc.).

a 1500 Colclibie *Sow Prohem.* 62 Knawing myne vnssufficience To be comprisat praticiane [pr. praticiane] by the prudence. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 41 In medecyne the most praticians, Lechis, surrigians, & phisicians. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) i. 196 Origenes... wald die faster than sevin praticians might suffice to write. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis's Secr.* i. 118 Wherefore many praticians, when they will gylte anye woode, laye the botome or grounde... of yellow. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microb.* 4 Twixt Musicians and Practicians, oddes is great. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. i. § 4 (1669) 5 Yet is generally concluded by the praticians of all Nations, that *simplex conatus*, or endeavour, is not now punishable by death. 1818 MOORE in *Mem.* (1853) II. 245 He... was a most learned and troublesome pratician, as well as theorist, in dialectics. 1899 S. COLVIN *Lett. Stevenson* i. 12 He looked... with the eye of the poet and artist, and not those of the pratician and calculator.

B. *adj.* or *attrib.* Given to practical work.

1863 N. Brit. *Daily Mail* 9 Sept., The eminently adaptive and practical character of the Americans goes far to supersede the necessity of tedious drill.

† *Practicious*, a. *Obs.* *rare*—1. [f. L. *practicus* PRACTIC + *-ous*.] Practical.

1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 18 Not to mention speculativ Infidelitie, practicious Atheism, horrid Blasphemies, and all manner of Diabolism.

† *Practisable*, a. *Obs.* Also 7-iseable, -iceable. [f. PRACTISE v. + *-ABLE*.] Capable of being practised; practicable.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* "j. How often, therefore, these fue .. Operations do... differ from the fue operations of like .. name, in our Whole numbers practisable. 1634 W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balsac's Lett.* I. 22 Certain Vertues not practise-

able by the poor. 1644 G. PLATTES in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 296 The thing itself plainly appears to be practicable.
 † **Practisant.** Obs. rare⁻¹. [a. obs. F. *practisant*, pr. pple. of *practiser* to PRACTISE.]
 † A plotter, conspirator (cf. PRACTISE v. 9); or performer of a stratagem (Schmidt).

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 20 *Charles*. Saint Dennis blesses this happy Stratageme. And once againe wee'll sleepe secure in Roan. *Bastard*. Here entred Pucell, and her Practisants.

Practise (præktis), v. Also 5 practis, 5-6 -ese, -yse, 5-7 -ize, 6 -ysse, Sc. -isse, -iz, pratize, 6-9 practice. [Known from 15th c. (or ? late 14th c.: cf. the deriv. *practisour* (PRACTISER) used by Langland and Chaucer). a. OF. *practise-r* (14th c. in Godef.), = 15th c. L. *practisare* (Du Cange) to practise; f. OF. *practitiger*, med.L. *practiciare*, by substitution of the suffix -iser, -izare (see -IZE) for the less common -iquer, -icare; thence also Du. *praktiseren*, G. *praktizieren*, etc. The stress, originally, as still dialectally, on -ize (praktiz, praktiz), was subseq. shifted to the first syllable, whence also the change of z to s, perh. after *practice* sb.]

1. **trans.** To perform, do, act, execute, carry on, exercise (any action or process). Now rare, or merged in sense 2.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abbs. & Lim. Mon.* ix. (1885) 129 This manner of doyng hath be so ofte practised nerehande in euery reume, bat thair cronicles be full off it. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* i. (Percy Soc.) 11 Thynges to practise whiche should profyite be. 1550 *Mirr. Mag.*, Dk. Clarence xiv. Pricke the minde to practise any yll. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* ii. 47 To thinke, that you haue ought but Talbots shadow, Whereon to practise your seueritie. 1600 (title) Certaine Experiments concerning Fish and Frvte: Practised by Iohn Taverner Gentleman. 1653 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 3 The only civility which it is proper for me to practise with so eminent a person. 1799 WASHINGTON *Lett. Writ.* 1893 XIV. 171 You shall not practise the same game with me. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xv. He practised every pass and ward. To thrust, to strike, to feint, to guard.

† b. In special uses: To work out (a problem or result); to perform, act (a play). Obs.
 1571 DICGES *Pantom.* i. xv. E. j. b. Pleasenter to practise is this than the former and most exact for Altitudes. *Ibid.* xvi. E. j. By a Glasse heightes may be pleasantly practiced and founde on this wise. 1574 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 i. 62 Frear Kyllour sett furth the Historie of Christis Passioun in forme of a play, quihill he boith preached and practised opinie in Striveling. 1685 DRYDEN *Abb. & Alban.* Pref. (Ess. (Ker) I. 280 He [Charles II] had been pleased... to command that it should be practised before him, especially the first and third acts of it.

c. **intr.** To act, work, proceed, operate. (In quot. 1677, ? to try experiments, to experiment.)
 1553 *Respublica* III. ii. 618 We reste nor daie nor night... [To] practise and traivale for your welth and honoure. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* vii. xiv. 23 So practice for your other Latitude. 1677 TEMPLE *Ess. on Govt Wks.* 1731 I. 135 Being little inclined to practise upon others, and as little that others should practise upon me. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 53 Cases that require rather to be carefully watched, than vigorously practised upon.

2. **trans.** To carry on, perform, or do, habitually or constantly; to make a practice of; to put into practice, carry out in action (as distinguished from believing, professing, etc.).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 b, And what ye rede, se you practise it in lyfe & dede. 1559 Br. Scot in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 17 Sute was made... to have three things granted... to be practysed... that is to saye, that prestes myght have wyves [etc.]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 9 Questioned... what that usage ment, Which in her cott she daily practiced. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iii. 23 He had no Legges, that practised not his Gate. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 3 Whatsoever is to be beleued or practised. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 76 Practice as much of Religion as you Talk, and then you have a full Licence to Talk as much of it as you Please. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 131 The method which Socrates had heard Zeno practise in the days of his youth.

b. **To practise religion** [after F. *pratiquer la religion*]: to perform the religious duties which the Church requires of its members; to be a practising and not merely a nominal member (esp. in R. C. Ch.). Also *absol.* or *intr.*

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) x By religious, I meane... practising prayers. 1808 PIER *Sources Mississ.* II. App. 15 The catholic religion is practised in this province, after the same manner as in the other provinces. 1904 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 7 The energetic priest of a very well-organised poor parish in Paris told me that, out of forty thousand inhabitants, four thousand 'practised' religion.

c. **With inf.** To be wont or accustomed. *arch.*
 1674-91 RAY *Collect. Words* 192 He hath practis'd to burn the ends of all the Posts which he sets into the ground to a Coal on the outside. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* IX. 488 [She] from the tower... Practised to commune with her royal knight By cressets and love-beacons.

d. **intr.** To act habitually.
 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 3 If we believe it, we cannot be good Christians unless we practise upon it. 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 180 If he practises according to this Opinion, he so far renounces his Christianity. *Mod.* If he practises as well as he preaches, he must be a paragon.

3. **trans.** To work at, exercise, pursue (an occupation, profession, or art).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 333 b, Whan they... prac-

tise coniueryng. a 1578 LINDESAV (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 159 [He] wyse weil leirned in devyne syences and pratizit the samin to the glorie of god. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. i. 71 *Sec. Fish.* Canst thou catch any Fishes then? *Per.* I neuer pratizide it. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 131 They admit of no Trade, but practise Piracy. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 118 No man can practise two trades, or practise one and superintend another. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 96/1 He endeavoured... to practise medicine, but could nowhere find patients.

† b. **intr.** To work (at some business or occupation). Obs.

1494 FAYAN *Chron.* VII. 505 Some... were holdyn in for a tyme, to practis & shewe vnto the newe how they should ordre & guyde the sayd offyces. 1660 BLOOME *Archit.* Title-p. Carvers, In-layers, Antick-Cutters, and all other that delight to practise with the Compasse and Square.

† c. **intr.** To perform (musically). Obs.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 11 For to practyse withe sugrid melody, He and his scolers thair wittis did apply. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* I. 131 The itinerant musicians that practice in the streets.

d. **spec. intr.** To exercise the profession of law or of medicine.

1598 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 192 Only such whose... lernyng in the law [was]... proud, schold be admittyd to practise in causys. 1645-52 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1866) 147 Not only dwelling and practising at Dublin, but being Physician generall of the English Forces. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. iv. 55 The seal was committed to the earl of Clarendon, who had withdrawn from practice as a lawyer near twenty years; and afterwards to the earl of Shaftesbury, who had never practised at all. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barsel* I. viii. 67 A medical man practising in a little village. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 597 A counsel practising at the bar.

† 4. **trans.** To put into practice, carry out in action, execute (a law, command, etc.). Obs.

1460 CAPRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 277 This statute [of 1401] was practised in a prest, that some after was brent at Smythfeld. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 49 b, Luther vnderstode that the Emperoure, and diuerse Princes woulde practise the decree of Wormes. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* Ded. 11 If the principles be true, why are they not practised? 1718 WATTS *Ps.* CXIX. I. ii. Blest are the men that keep thy word, And practise thy commands. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 81 Those [laws] which remain... under his name seem to be only the laws already practised in the country by his Saxon ancestors.

5. To perform repeatedly or continuously by way of study, in order to acquire skill; to exercise oneself in (any art, process, or act) for the purpose of attaining proficiency. Also with *obj. inf.*

c 1430 [see PRACTISING *vbl. sh.* 1]. 1590 SHAKS. *Comm. Err.* II. i. 29 Ere I learne loue, Ile practise to obey. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 253 Shall sweet Bianca practise how to bridle it? 1623-4 LAUD *Diary* 24 Mar., Wks. 1853 III. 130 The Earl of Oxford, practising a tilt, fell and brake his arm. 1778 SHERIDAN *Camp* II. iii. 10 To hear a march and chorus, which some recruits are practising. 1864 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* vii, She was very busy practising the piano. 1865 Mrs. OLIPHANT *Salem Ch.* I. 3 The young people had their singing-class, at which they practised hymns.

b. **absol.** or *intr.* To exercise oneself with the view of acquiring skill or proficiency; esp. in the performance of music.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 83 My bookes and instruments shall be my companie, On them to looke, and practise by my selfe. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 556 ¶ 11 While a Man is learning to fence, he practises both on Friend and Foe. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* I. xxx She will never play really well, unless she practises more. 1817 — *Lady Susan* xvii. in *Mem.* (1817) 238 Frederica spends great part of the day there, practising as it is called [at the piano]. 1888 Mrs. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* I. ix, Catherine and Agnes are at school; and Rose, I think, is practising.

6. **trans.** To exercise (any one) in some action in order to make him proficient in it; to train, drill.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. iv. 65 The children must be practis'd well to this, or they'll neau'r doo't. a 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 93, I will leave this to your private considerations, to practise your wits in the depths of Christianity. 1674 PROVIDENCE *Rec.* (1894) V. 292 Said William Austin Doth Couenant... and Engage... To practice and instruct the Said Moses Lippit in art and trade of a weauer. 1855 TRENCH in *Lect. to Ladies* ix. 225 We might do much... by practising the young to distinguish between words which have a near resemblance to one another. 1888 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 24 The captain practises his company in all the phases of war.

b. **pa. pple.** Experienced by practice; skilled, versed, proficient (*in*); † accustomed, used (*to*).

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 30 The same officer was well practised and could good skille in that science. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 7 The Athenians at that time were not greatly practised to the sea. 1693 HUMPHREY *Town* 35 If they... have been well practis'd in writing *Billet doux*. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) I. 439 Till men were well practised in him, he was apt to impose on them. *Ibid.* II. 43 A satirical temper... which was imputed to youth and wit not enough practised to the world. 1887 RUSKIN *Praterita* II. i. 17 He was... perfectly practised in all the college routine of business.

† 7. To put to practical use; to use, make use of, employ. Obs.

138. in *Wyclif's Wks.* (1880) 157 Þe olde testament for wyynnyn of tybes and offryngis is sumwhat practised. c 1440 Pol. Rel. & L. *Poems* (1903) 288 And þow þe grace of hevene kyng, Þei practiseden medicines to helpe manky[n]d. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* II. Ep. Ded. ¶ 11 b, The sacred Byble... set forth by your Maiesties appointment, to be dewly practised in all holy exercyses within your churches. 1659 LEAK *Waterworks*. 26 This Engin is much practised in Germany. 1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 36 Proud to catch cold at a Venetian door. Note, A door or window so called, from being much practised at Venice, by Palladio and

others. 1740 N. Jersey *Archives* XII. 29 The two most convenient Places for a speedy Transportation, of any yet practised from New-York to Philadelphia.

† b. To frequent, haunt [after F. *pratiquer*].

1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 73 He had always desired to have him live at Rome, because he had known him, and practised him, and knew very well how great service he was able to have done the Church. 1681 DRYDEN *Abb. & Achil.* I. 825 The court he practised, not the courtier's art. 1697 — *Virg. Eccl. Pref.* (1721) I. 76 Several, who saw, and practis'd the World for a longer space of time. 1718 *Freeholder* No. 60 They were not in a Capacity to make any Figure by Sea; an Element, little practised by them, and less understood.

† 8. To bring about, compass, effect, accomplish.

1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 68 E. ij, You practysed a maryage betwene the daughter and heyre of Nauerne, and Monster de la bright, countie de foyx. 1577 F. de Lisle's *Leg.* Lij, Seven moneths before, the said Guisians had practised an other league in Guyenne, through the meanes of the lorde of Candales. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 23 They thought to practise some way for theyr suretie. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 173 Suppose he intendeth... to practise the sickness, death, destruction, of man or beast. 1736 CHANDLER *Hist. Persec.* 318, I think he can't well be excused from practising the death of Servetus at Vienne.

† b. To devise means to bring about (a result); to plan, scheme, intend (something to be done). With *simple obj.* or *obj. clause.* Obs.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 132 He doth already practise a marriage betwene the King of Hungarie and me. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 6 Solon... began to practise that his Citizens should give themselves unto Crafts and Occupations. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xl. 802 [They] Thenceforth shall practice how to live secure. 1711 in T. W. Marsh *Early Friends in Surrey & Sussex* i. (1886) 9 A Preparative Meeting... for preserving the Reputation of our profession blameless is Practised at Reigate.

† c. To exert oneself in order to effect (something); to attempt, endeavour, try. (With *simple obj.* or *inf.*) Obs.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 48 This Proverbe experience long ago gaue, that nothing who practiseth nothing shall haue. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 83 b, [He] practised first to kill him selfe with his owne Daggar. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII. Arg. 834 Annibal having practised in Affrick to raise war. 1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* I. iii. 202 The Ministers continued practising, to get further evidence for the Tryal.

9. **intr.** To lay schemes or plans, esp. for an evil purpose; to use stratagem or artifice; to scheme, plot, conspire, intrigue (*with* or *against* a person, to do something). Now rare.

1537 LATIMER *Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 379 That you may see how closely in time past the foreign prelates did practise about their prey. 1572 in *Buckleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 23 Melville... was executed... for practising with England. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 156 Hee will practise against thee by poyson. 1630 R. JOHNSON's *Kingd. & Commw.* 220 It suffereth not the one to practise against the other, upon the perill that may ensue to the offender. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Elia.* i. (1688) 136 He fell to plotting and practising with the Rebels, and attempted... to deliver the Queen of Scots out of Custody. 1861 [PRACTISING *vbl. sh.* 2].

† b. **trans.** To plot, conspire (some evil to be done). Obs.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 247 b, They haue practised thinges against him in Germani, and in forein nations. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 216 b, He practized the vtter ouerthrowe not onely of all Christian societie, but of the state of the whole world also. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. i. 20, I doubt My Vnckle practises more harme to me. 1607 *God's Warning in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 64 The late papistical conspiracie of traytors, that, with powder, practised the subuersion of this beautiful kingdom. 1634 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* 234 Normall... practises her owne brothers destruction.

† a. To endeavour to gain (favour, etc.) by arts; to aim at in an underhand way. Obs.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus's Hist.* I. xxiii. (1591) 14 He had by all possible meanes practised the fauour and goodwill of the souldier. 1640 HABBINGTON *Q. of Arragon* I. i. in *Hazl. Dodsley* XIII. 342 What can you answer for the practising The queen's affection, when Embassador, You lay here from Castile?

10. **intr.** To have dealings or intercourse, to negotiate or treat with a person; esp. to treat or deal with so as to influence or gain over to some course of action. Now rare.

1538 St. *Peters Hen.* VIII II. 559, I practysyd soo with the sayd Bryan, and with my seruant Stephin Apparye, that they hunted the sayd Kayr. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 313 He sent to his brother Bartholomewe Colon to practise with the Kyng of Englande. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. vi. 117, I haue seene and practised with diuers Persian gentlemen. 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 79 Practising wth all your R. Highnesses Tenants there, by fair or foul means, to turne tenants to him. 1721 SWIFT *Lett. to Pope* Jan., The grand juries of the county and city were practised effectually with to represent the said pamphlet with all aggravating epithets. 1802 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* II. iii. 60 He and his party had long been practising with Cecil.

† b. **trans.** To work upon (a person, etc.), so as to persuade to some (esp. evil) course of action; 'to draw by artifice' (J.); to influence by underhand dealings, win over, 'get at', corrupt.

1570 BUCHANAN *Ans. Admonitionum* Wks. (1892) 27 Bot Sr James... hinderit yis purpose be sum of ye Kingis familiar seruandis yat he had practisid be giftis. 1608 WARNER *Abb. Eng. Epit.* (1612) 396 He allured out of Sanctuarie his fue Neeces... whence also, to murder them,...

hee had formerly practised the two yong Princes his Nephewes. 1640 in *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) App. 257 The Earle of Traquayre, did practice the jury with a good intent to finde the said Lo: guilty as aforesaid. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxvi. § 18 (1699) 271 A mean of corrupting Witnesses, and Assizers, who, if known, might be practised. 17.. SWIFT (J.), To practise the city into an address to the queen.

II. *intr. Practise on or upon*: To practise tricks or artifices upon; to act upon by artifice, so as to induce to do or believe something; to play a trick upon, impose upon, delude; to work upon (a person, or his feelings, etc.).

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 36 Sirs, I will practise on this drunken man. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 398, I.. will so practise on Benedicke, that..hee shall fall in loue with Beatrice. 1613 WEBSTER *Devil's Law-Case* IV. ii. Y' are practised upon most devilishly. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 148 The Court practised on her..so far that she delivered up her husband's letters. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* III. ii. 268 Out of this belief papacy shaped its purgatory and practised on human credulity and fear. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 302 You have practised on her, Perplex her, made her..Swerve from her duty to herself and us.

b. To tamper with, to corrupt. *rare*. 1872 J. H. NEWMAN *Tracts* (1874) 167 note, Photius considers his [St. Methodius'] works have been practised upon by heretics.

c. See also I c, § b.

† 12. *trans.* To make trial of, try practically. *Obs.* 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 278, I have seene the nature of this dust practised. 1796 J. SMYTH in J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* (1799) 519 The crops I practised were 1st, oats; 2d, turnips, yams, and other potatoes; 3d, barley with grass-seeds. 1802 H. GREATHEAD in *Naval Chron.* IX. 293, I would..recommend practising the boat.

† 13. To construct. *Obs. rare*.

1739 H. WALPOLE *Let. to R. West* 11 Nov., At the end of a great road, which was practised through an immense solid rock by bursting it asunder with gun-powder. 1820 SHELLEY *Philos. View Reform* in *Dowden Transcr. & Stud.* (1888) 69 Most fatal of them all is that mine of unexploded mischief it has practised beneath the foundations of society.

Practised (præktist), *ppl. a.* [f. PRACTISE v. + -ED¹.]

1. That has had practice; experienced, expert, skilled, proficient. (See also PRACTISE v. 6 b.)

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 507 A companie of warlike and practised soldiours. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 332 Your Art, of which you seem to be so practised a master. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XXII. IV. 714 To the practised eyes of the Kentish fishermen she looked much like a French privateer. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. vi. 209 My practised men fastened the sail at the top.

2. Executed or gone through beforehand in order to acquire proficiency in performance.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* i. 97, I have seene them shiuer and looke pale,..Throtle their practiz'd accent in their feares. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 116 Making practis'd Smiles As in a Looking-Glasse.

† 3. Habitually used or frequented; accustomed. 1654-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 658 He led us into a less practis'd walk. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 945 To serve thir Lord..with songs to hymne his Throne, And practis'd distances to cringe, not fight.

† 4. (app.) Plotted against, made the object of conspiracy. *Obs. rare*¹.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. iv. (1612) 245 Throckmorton yeat, more priuie and more practising than those,..Did mischiefs that imported more our practiz'd State disclose.

Hence **Practisedness**, the quality or fact of being practised or experienced.

1883 J. PURVES in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 352 Honesty he ascribes to practisedness in the world's ways.

† **Practisement**. *Obs. rare*¹. [f. PRACTISE v. + -MENT.] The fact of practising, or that which is practised; a deed or practice.

1581 BURLEIGH *Let. to Walsingham* in *Digges Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 379 She speaketh of a practisement by him in the Thames mouth..that you should call it to memory.

Practiser (præktisə). Forms: see PRACTISE; 4-5 -our (5 -ere, -ir, 6 -ure, Sc. -ar), 6 -er. [ME. *practisour* prob. a. AF. **practisour*, agent-noun f. OF. *pra(c)tiser*: see PRACTISE v. and -OUR b; the suffix being between 1450 and 1550 weakened to -ER² 3.] One who practises.

1. One who exercises a profession or occupation; a practitioner: a. of medicine or surgery (often opposed to one trained in the science or art).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 107 And did him assaye his surgerye on hem bat syke were, Till he was parfit practisour. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 422 With vs ther was a Doctour of Physik. He was a verray parfit prakitour [Lansd. MS. practisere]. c 1440 Gesta Rom. xx. 67 (Harl. MS.), Oon [leche], sotill in crafte, and a good practiser. 1530 PALSON. 257/2 Practisoure, practicien. 1579 LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 133 They are like those sicke men which reject the expert and cunning Physition,..and admitte the heedlesse practiser. 1666 W. BOGHURST *Loimographia* (1894) 30 Many ignorant practizers took upon them the name of Doctors. 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* (1768) II. 274 Another practiser,..who had been a surgeon in the French army.

b. of law.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 1582 Practisirs & prematis [v. r. practy men in prevezet] & prestis of be lawe. 1552 HULOET, Practiser of lawe. 1573-80 BARET *Ab.* P. 641 A Chauncerie man, or practiser in the lawe, to drawe out writtes. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 182 Such barbarous cruelty who ever saw Done on a duller practicer at law?

1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 33 The worthie Societie of the Professors, Practisers, and Students of the Common Law of this Land in Lincolns Inn. 1712 *London Gas.* No. 4954/1 Practisers of the Law in North Britain. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S. I.* x. 332 He had been formerly a student and practiser in the courts of common law in England.

a. *gen.* One who practises any art, science, manner of life, course of action, etc.; one who carries out a theory, principle, etc., in action.

1540-1 ELVOR *Image Gov.* (1556) 135 Philosophers were neuer good practisers in weale publike. 1806 *Praise of Mus.* 20 Her professors and practisers were not rewarded. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 136 Practizers and teachers of these Geometrical conclusions. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 218 Too illustrious a lover and even practicer of the art to be omitted. 1826 C. BUTLER *Grotius* vii. 113 Councillors and practisers of schemes hostile to its welfare. 1842 MISS MITFORD in *L'Estrange Life* (1870) III. ix. 156 A believer in, if not a practicer of, animal magnetism. 1854 COL. WISEMAN *Fabiola* II. xxxi. 340 She was..a serious, real practicer of all that she taught.

† 2. A schemer, plotter, conspirator; a man of wicked or fraudulent devices. *Obs.*

1545 ST. *Peters Hen. VIII.* X. 466 He is a gret practiser, with which honest terme we cover untrew tales tellyng, lying, dissimulyng, and flateryn. c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1682) 158 A perfect practiser against the quiet of this state. 1643 5 *Yrs. K. James in Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 313 That my lord of Somerset was principal practiser..in a most perfidious manner, to set a train and trap for Overbury to get into the Tower.

† **Practisise**. *Obs. rare*¹. [irreg. f. *practise*, *practice*, after words etymologically in -sy, -cy.] Practice, action.

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 17 To get by honest practise, and keepe thy gettings courtlie.

Practising (præktisɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRACTISE + -ING¹.] The action of the verb PRACTISE.

1. Action, performance (esp. habitual); carrying out, execution; exercise of a profession; repeated performance for the sake of becoming proficient, esp. in music.

c 1430 *Freemasonry* 229 That no mason schulde worche be nyth, But 3ef hyt be yn practesynge of wytte. 1581 PETTIE *Guzaso's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 21 That little leasure which shalbe left you from practising on your patients. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 104 By much practising in hot Countries [he] gets a Skin not much unlike a Red Herring. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Let.* (1883) I. 264 The young lady..took a fit of practising on her..piano-forte. *Mod.* She must not neglect her practising.

Comb. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Sept. 10/1 The fields..were the chief practising-grounds for the City archers.

2. Scheming, plotting; device, conspiracy, intrigue. *Now rare*.

1590 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. 60 b, Abominable in the practysynge of their wicked hart. 1558 in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1700) I. App. iv. 5 Rome..from whom nothing is to be feared, but evil will, cursing and practising. 1861 G. G. PERRY *Hist. Ch. Eng.* I. iv. 162 The continued plotings and practisings of the Jesuits were ever a source of political danger.

† **Practising**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That practises: in senses of the verb.

1. Exercising a profession, esp. medicine or law; engaged in practice.

1605 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 16 Most of our practising Parsons and Vicars become suddenly Physicians. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (Ridg.) 45 Running after..every practising old Woman, for Medicines. 1778 JUNIUS *Let.* LXVIII. (1820) 334 The quirk and evasion of a practising lawyer. 1900 *Expositor* Sept. 236 The practising physicians seem regularly to have been Jews. 1902 *Act 2 Educ.* VII. c. 17 § 10 Every woman..shall before holding herself out as a practising midwife..give notice in writing.

b. Making a practice of religious duties or observances (esp. in R. C. Ch.). [After F. *prati-quant*: see PRACTISE v. 2 b.]

1906 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 6 A 'practising' Catholic bitterly disappointed with the attitude of the Pope.

2. Plotting, scheming, intriguing. *Now rare*.

1602 [see PRACTISED 4]. 1617 MORVSON *Itin.* II. 206 A notorious Rebell..(an inward man, and a great practising instrument with Tyrone).

Practical (præktɪfənl), *a. rare*. [f. as next + -AL.] † a. Given to 'practice' or plotting; scheming, crafty. *Obs.* b. Relating to practice, practical.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 201 Chiefe ambitious practicalionall state Iesuits. 1807 SOUTHEY *Let.* (1856) II. 1 It is the best practical book and the truest philosophy in existence.

Practitioner (præktɪʃənər). Also 6 practitioner, -itionere, -izioner, -ycioner, 6-7 -ioioner. [Erroneously extended from † *practitioner*, PRACTICIAN, as if from a n. of action in -ition. But cf. the obs. and dial. *logicianer*, (-tioner), *musicianer*, *physicianer* (-tioner); also *astrologer*, *astronomer*, *philosopher*, etc.: see -ER¹.]

1. One engaged in the practice of any art, profession, or occupation; a practical or professional worker in anything. *a. gen.*

1553 LATIMER *Serm.*, *Lord's Pr.* vii. (1562) 56 b, Consider how long he hath bene a practitioner: you muste consider what Satan is, what experience he hath, so yt we are not able to match with him. 1566 *Pasquine in Travaunce* 106 The Schol doctors, that take no payne with their doctrine,..ought to be called rather Speculators, than Practitioners. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xvii. E iv, The ingenious Practi-

sitioner. *Ibid.* xxxv. L iij b, The diligent practizioner. 1704 (*title*) *English Dictionary*. By Edward Cocker, the late famous practitioner in fair Writing and Arithmetick. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXV. 568 In Cimabue, Florence boasts the first native practitioner. 1827 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVI. 340 The most experienced practitioners in conscience were puzzled. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Power* Wks. (Bohn) II. 341 Hence..the worthlessness of amateurs to cope with practitioners.

b. in medicine or surgery.

General practitioner, one who practises both medicine and surgery; also opposed to *specialist* in either branch.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) CVij, An other singular medicine..a thing experte of al the good practitioners. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* b iv b/2 M. Rabet, Chyrurgian at Paris..the most experteste practitioner of his time. 1665 J. TILLISON in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 36 As is acknowledged by our practitioners in physic. 1792 *Genl. Mag.* 22/2 The use of the syringe is generally recommended by medical practitioners in deafness. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey*, The family practitioner opening the door for that distinguished professional. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Break-ft.* i, The 'general practitioners'..had to recognize that people could get well, unpoisoned. 1898 *Alburt's Syst. Med.* V. 503 Younger practitioners who have been alarmed at what they regarded as a sign of aneurism.

c. in law.

1598 BARKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 398 Solicitors..with all that rabblement of practitioners who devour the substance of poore men. 1631 HEYLIN *St. George* 80 A practitioner in the Parliamentarie Court in that City. 1725 *London Gaz.* No. 6384/8 John Saunders..Practitioner of the Law. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveldt* I. x. 379 A regular practitioner at the Supreme Court of the Hague.

† 2. One engaged in practising an art or occupation for the sake of acquiring or retaining skill in it; a learner, novice, beginner; a probationer. *Obs.*

1577 HAMMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 221 Certain others were late practitioners and novices in the Ministry. a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, I'll fit you with my scholars, new practitioners. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 6 The Practitioner in Navigation, is next to learn to know..the certain time of the Flowing and Ebbing of the Sea. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 341, 11 sub-engineers, and 16 practitioners. 1776 *Court & City Reg.* 166/1 Practitioner Engineers and Ensigns at 3s. 8d. a day. 1789 TRIFLER No. 33. 420 The discordant sounds of un instructed practitioners on the harpsichord. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. i. 105 The practitioner was then to assail the pel, armed with sword and shield..as he would an adversary.

3. One who practises anything; one who carries on a practice or action; a habitual doer.

1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. 1. 125 Ye private masse suppers is..blasphemous to God and annoyous to the practicioners therof. 1617 J. MOORE *Mappe Mans Mort.* III. viii. 240 Christians must be daily practitioners of Faith and Repentance. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 176 A self evident virtue, of which the practitioners only know the luxury. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Nov. 4/2 The most conspicuous professor, or at any rate the most conspicuous practitioner, of the doctrine that statesmanship is superior to the trammels of moral obligation.

† 4. One who acts on behalf of another; an agent. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 227 b, Naming also certen practitioners and messagers, by whose meanes chiefly the thing was wrought. 1561 in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxiv. 243 Swadell, late Dr. Boner's servant: and yet thought to be a practitioner for him.

† 5. One who uses artifice or trickery; a schemer, plotter, conspirator. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 44 He [Luther] is wel known to be such a practitioner, that there is no doubt, but suche things as are well written he..wil corrupt and deprave. 1601 W. WATSON *Import. Consid.* (1675) 77 Parsons and Heywood are found to be Practitioners.

Hence **Practitioner** (*rare*), the practice of a (mere) practitioner; empiricism.

1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXIX. 267 A character compounded of confident pretence on the one hand, and the merest practicionary on the other. 1844 F. BLACK *Homoep.* i. 5 For such practicionery we know no better advice than that of the judicious Huxham..to perseue the Sixth Commandment.

† **Practive**, *a. (sb.) Obs.* [f. stem *pract-* in PRACTIO + -IVE. (After *active*, etc.)]

1. Of persons: a. Devoted to practice or action; active; practical.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXIII. v, But right practyfe they were in couetyse. 1610 BOYS *Exp. Dom. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1622) 299 John doth resemble the contemplative, Peter the practice.

b. Apt to practice; adept, skilful, dexterous.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 1582 Practyf men in prevezet, & pretez of be lawe. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* II. 378 Gentilmen..very experte and practice in the cuntry there. 1593-4 SYLVESTER *Profit Imprisonment* 94 You take your Prisner for a practice man of Art.

2. Belonging or relating to practice or action; practical.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 31 b, As well in maters speculatyue as practyue. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii. Wks. 1874. III. 185, I am Queene of loue, There is no practice art of dalliance Of which I am not Mistress. 1658 SINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 203 Not only..how to believe but for the practice part too, what to do.

B. *sb.* Practice; actual doing or working.

1396-7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 298 [These] be þe uerry practyf of nigromantie rathere þanne of þe holi theologie. c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 591 Cunnyng yea yea & w' pratiff [printed practise] I have said many a manys lyfe. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 It is harde to make a man to vnderstande it by wrytynge, without he were at the operation therof, to teache the practyue. § 141 It is better the practyue or knowledge of an husbnde man well proved.

Hence † **Practively** *adv.* *Obs.*, practically, in practice, actively.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* viii. xxxix. (1612) 191 The Preachers and the people both then practically did thrive.

1602 *Ibid.* ix. lii. Almes deedes, and workes of Charitie we practively professe.

Prad (præd). *slang.* [By metathesis from Du. *paard* a horse:—late L. *paraveredus* (see PALFREY).] A horse.

1798 TUFTS *Gloss. Thieves' Jargon*, *Prad-holder*, a bridle.

1799 in *Spirit Pub. Firms* III. 352 Met Bob Blunderbuss and Ben Bonco, going out on their prads.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi. He's in the gig, a-minding the prad.

1895 MARRIOTT WATSON in *New Rev.* July 9 Crech. swerved. and ran his mare full face upon the struggling prads.

|| **Prado** (prādo). [Sp.—L. *pratum* meadow.] The proper name of the public park of Madrid, a fashionable promenade; hence sometimes in transferred applications.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. iii. xv. 60 [He] went to the Prado, a place hard by, of purpose to take the air.

1657 J. DAVIES tr. *Voiture's Lett.* I. xxx. 58, I have not passed a fair evening in the Prado [Fr. fr. Sp.], but I have wished him there.

1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* I. 163 If a Lady be new-married, and longs to shew her Equipage, no Place so proper as the Prado.

1807 SOUTHEY *Esperanza's Lett.* (1808) I. 80 St. James's Park, the Prado of London.

1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 218 Taking their Sunday promenade upon the fashionable park of White Conduit House.

Præ, in med.L. also **pre**-, a L. prep. and *adv.*, meaning 'before'; a very frequent prefix and combining element. In Eng. the L. spelling was formerly not uncommon, but is now usual only in words that are still regarded as Latin, as *præcipe*, *præcognitum*, *præcordia*, *præmunire*, or that are terms of classical antiquity, as *prætor*. In other words **PRE**- is now the usual form.

There are some 17th century words that became obsolete before the *pre*- form became predominant, which are found only with the spelling *præ*-. This spelling has also been deliberately used by some writers in words commonly spelt with *pre*- and so entered in this dictionary.

Præcuate to -chordal: see *PRÆCULATE*, etc.

|| **Præcipe** (præ'sipi). *Law.* Also 5 *pricipio*, *presepe*, 6-8 *precipio*. [L. *præcipe*, imper. of *præcipere* to admonish, enjoin (see *PRÆCEPT*).] Used as a sb. from the opening word or words of the writ, *præcipe quod reddat*, enjoin (him) that he render.]

1. (More fully *præcipe quod reddat*.) A writ requiring something to be done, or demanding a reason for its non-performance. *Præcipe in capite*: see *quots.* 1535, 1607.

1215 *Magna Carta* c. 34 Breue quod vocatur precipie de cetero non fiat alicui de aliquo tenemento unde liber homo possit amittere curiam suam.] a 1500 transl. in Arnold *Chron.* (1811) 219 A wrythe which is called precipie from hensforth shall not be made too any man of any freehold wherthru a free man lese his curte.

14. *MS. Lincoln A. 1.* 17 lf 48 (Halliwell) Standis on bakke, For here es comene a presepe, swyche menne to take.

1535 tr. *Natura Brevium* (1544) 15 This wrythe of ryghte, Precipe in capite, lyeth for the tennant which holdeth of the kyng in cheffe, as of his crowne, which tennante is deformed.

1598 KITCHIN *Courts Lett* (1675) 139 Plaint of a Croft is good, but Precipie of a Croft is not good.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Præcipe quod reddat*, is a writ of great diversitie. . . it is called sometime a writ of Right close, as a *præcipe in capite*, when it issueth out of the court of common pleas for a tenent holding of the King in cheffe, as of his Crowne, and not of the King, as of any honour, castell or maner.

1623 T. POWELL *Attorn. Acad.* 125 First draw the *Præcipe* in sheetes of Paper, and Engrosse the Concord in Parchment.

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* v. § 381 (1657) 142 If in a *præcipe* brought against the Husband, he plead misnomer.

1658 tr. *Coke's Rep.* iii. 6 a. Those, against whom the *precipe* is brought, are lawful tenants to the *precipie*.

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xviii. 274 The *præcipe* is in the alternative, commanding the defendant to do the thing required, or shew the reason wherefore he hath not done it.

1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Eng. Law* II. ii. iv. § 2. 63 The simple writ of *Præcipe quod reddat*, which is the commencement of a proprietary action that is to take place from the first in the king's court.

2. A note containing particulars of a writ which must be filed with the officer of the Court from which the writ issues, by the party asking for the writ, or by his solicitor.

1848 in WHARTON *Law Dict.* attrib. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx. Mr. Fogg, where is the *præcipe* book?

Præcocial (præ'kō-shāl), *a.* *Ornith.* [f. L. *præcocēs* (pl. of *præcocus* early mature: see *PRÆCOX*), applied in Ornithology to a division of birds: see below.] Of or pertaining to the *Præcoces*, applied to those birds whose young are able to leave the nest and to feed themselves as soon as they are hatched. *Opp.* to *Altricial*.

The classification of Birds into *Præcoces* and *Altricials*, as two primary divisions, introduced by Sundevall, was afterwards abandoned by him; but the adjectives founded upon these terms have been retained as useful in the classification of genera and families. See Newton *Dict. Birds*, s. vv.

1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* Index, *Præcoces*, birds that run about at birth. *Præcocial*, able to run about at birth.

1883 *Courant Mag.* XXVI. 922 The young [of Wilson's Snipe] leave the nest as soon as they are hatched and follow the mother, or, as the naturalists would say, they are *præcocial*.

1885 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 146/2 There is, no objection to the next in sequence being the *præcocial* Anseres.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 1/1 *Præcocial* birds appear to have much less receptivity than altricial birds.

|| **Præcognitum** (præ'kōgnitŭm). *Pl.* -a. Also 8-9 *pre*-. [L., f. *præ* before + *cognitum*, neut. pp. of *cognoscere* to know: see *COGNOSCE*, *PRÆCOGNITION*.] Something known beforehand; *esp.* something necessary or assumed to be known as a basis of reasoning, investigation, or study; a principle. Chiefly in *pl.*

1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nat.* 53 To set down some few *Præcognita* or Principles (as I may so call them).

1667 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. John* vii. 17 Wks. 1831 IV. 24 In this inquiry, I must take one thing for a *præcognitum*, that every good man . . . is 'taught of God'.

1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* Pref. 16 It would be but lost Labour for any Person unacquainted with these *Præcognita*, to spend any Time in reading this Book.

1846 T. CALLAWAY *Dislocations & Fract. Clavicle & Shoulder-joint* (1849) 5 To start with certain *præcognita*.

Præconize to **Præcoracid**: see *PRÆCO*-.
|| **Præcordia** (præ'kōrdiā), *anat.* [L. pl. the midriff, diaphragm, the entrails, f. *præ* before + *cor*, cord- the heart.] The forepart of the thoracic region; the parts or region of the body about the heart.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxx. v. II. 380 Now that I am come to speake of the præcordiall region of the bodie, know this, That by this one word *præcordia*, I meane the inwards or entrails in man or woman.]

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Præcordia*, the parts about the heart, as the diaphragm, or midriff.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 234/2 Fainting Fits, Swooning, Sickness at Heart, and other Diseases of the Præcordia.

1803 *Med. Fnl.* X. 106 An uncommon degree of oppression at the præcordia.

1863 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* (1866) II. 64 A sense of fluttering in the præcordia, with irregular action of the heart.

Hence || **Præcordialgia** [Gr. *ἀλγος* pain], pain referred to the præcordia. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Præcordiac, **Præcordial**: see *PRÆCORD*-.
|| **Præcornu**, *anat.* [mod.L. f. *PRÆ* + *cornu* horn.] Wilder's name for the anterior horn of the lateral ventricle of the cerebellum.

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 456 Cephalad of the fornix is a marked elevation, the striatum; that part of the procellia into which it projects is the præcornu.

Præcuneus, etc.: see *PRÆCUNEUS*, etc.
Prædal to **Præfect**: see *PREDAL*, etc.

Præfatio: see *PRÆFATIO* sb. 1.
Præfervid (præ'fervid), *a.* [ad.L. *præfervid-us*: see *PRÆ*- A. 5 and *FERVID*.] Very fervid; an intentional alteration, after the L. original, of the usual *PERFERVID*, q. v.

1714 COL. BLACKADER *Diary* Feb. in *Life* xviii. (1834) 444 Our national temper, the præfervidum ingenium imposes upon us for zeal.]

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 3/2 The præfervid Scot can tread his native heath without having to blush at the thought that [etc.].

1890 *British Weekly* 13 June 102 The Scot . . . flung into the liberal principles of the great university on the Seine his own tenacious and (as Buchanan spells it) præfervid nature.

Præ-fine: see *PRÆ-FINE*.
† **Præfiscinal**, *Obs.* rare-1. [f. L. *præfiscinā*, also *præfascinā* in security against magic (f. *præ* before, in front of + *fascin-um* bewitching, witchcraft, fascination) + *-AL*.] A charm worn as a protection against magic or witchcraft; an amulet.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 192 Whether periapts [mispr. pericaps], amulets, præfiscinals, phylacteries, . . . and spels had even been used, . . . but for magick and astrology?

Prænotary, var. *PRÆNOTARY* *Obs.*
Præhallux: see *PRÆHALLUX*.

† **Prælabour**, rare-1. [f. *PRÆ*-, *PRÆ*- A. 6 + *LABOUR*.] Intense, difficult, or immense labour.

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 201 For these prælabours, and Toyles, do not destroy the courage, but encrease, and enlarge it by provocation.

|| **Prælabrum**, *pre*-. *Entom.* [mod.L. f. *PRÆ*-, *PRÆ*- + L. *labrum* lip.] = *CLYPEUS*.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*
Prælect to **Præ-**: see *PRÆLECT*, etc.

† **Præmetial**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. L. *præmetium* offering of first-fruits (to Ceres), f. *præ* before + *mētivē* to measure.] Measured out from the first-fruits.

1621 BR. HALL *Var. Treat.* Ded. to K. James, [To] offer to your Maestie some præmetiall handfulls of that crop whereof you may challenge the whole harvest.

|| **Præmunientes** (præ'mūniēntiz), *Law.* [L. *præmunientes* (med.L. for *præmonentes*, pr. pple. pl.) 'admonishing or warning' (see *PRÆMUNIRE*), occurring in a clause of the writ of Edw. I. 1295, summoning the spiritual estate to Parliament; hence applied attrib. to this clause and to the writ.]

Præmunientes clause: the clause of the writ of 1295, in which the bishops and abbots summoned to parliament are ordered to summon representatives of the minor clergy to attend with them. So *præmunientes* writ.

The words of the clause are 'præmunientes decanum (vel priorem) et capitulum ecclesie vestre, archidiaconos, totumque clerum vestre diocesis, facientes quod . . . dictum capitulum per unum, idemque clerum per duos procuratores idoneos, . . . una vobiscum intersint' [etc.]: see Stubbs *Const. Hist.* xv. II. 195 note.

1700 ATTERBURY *Rights Convoc.* (1701) 226 The *Præmunientes* in the Bishops Writ is not an Idle Useless Clause. . . but a Real, and . . . Effectual Summons of the Clergy to Parliament.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Præmunientes*, are writs sent to every Particular Bishop to come to Parliament, *Præmunientes*, or warning him to bring with him the Deans and Arch-Deacons within his Diocese, one Proctor for each Chapter, and two for the Clergy of his Diocese.

1888 *Q. Rev.* July 140 The part of the writ described as the *Præmunientes* Writ was not dissolved, and the Clergy are still summoned to attend Convocation, by what may be termed the Parliamentary form.

1899 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LVIII. 181/2 The movement led by Atterbury . . . for the revival of Convocation and the execution of the *Præmunientes* clause.

|| **Præmunire** (præ'mūniēntiz), *sb.* *Law.* *Forms:* 5-8 *præmunire*, 6 -*munyre*, -*menyre*, -*minire*, 7 -*muniri*, -*ie*, (*præ*-, *premonire*, *primary*), 6- *præmunire*. [L. *præmunire* vb., pres. inf. (in cl. L., to fortify or protect in front), in med.L. confused with and used for *præmonere* to forewarn, admonish, warn, f. *præ*-, *PRÆ*- A. 1 + *monere* to warn: cf. *PRÆMUNITION*. Occurring in the text of the writ, and thence taken as a name of the writ itself, and in various extended and transferred uses.]

1. (More fully *præmunire facias*.) A writ by which the sheriff is charged to summon a person accused, originally, of prosecuting in a foreign court a suit cognizable by the law of England, and later, of asserting or maintaining papal jurisdiction in England, thus denying the ecclesiastical supremacy of the sovereign; also, the statute of 16th Richard II, on which this writ is based.

The words in the writ (1392-3) were (*Natura Brevium*, 1528, 150b) 'precipimus quod per bonos et legales homines de balliva tua præmunire facias præfatum propositum [A. B.] quod tunc sit coram nobis' (we command that through good and loyal men of thy jurisdiction thou do [for cause to] warn the aforesaid A. B. that he appear before us).

1383 *Kolls of Parlt.* III. 159/2 Ceux q' sont garniz par Brief de Præmunire facias . . . puissent apparer par leur Atornes.]

1449 *Ibid.* V. 149/2 To have suche Processe therein, as provided in a præmunire facias. a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 108 That the premenyre is lyke to be set a fyre In theyr jurisdictions.

1529 MORE *Suppl. Sonys Wks.* 291/1 He layeth that doctour Alein after that he was punished by premonyre for dys contempte committed against y^e kinges premonyre law, was therefore by y^e bishops highly recompensed in benefices.

1548 HALL *Chron.* Hen. VIII. 5 Hun. . . takyng to hym good counsaill, sued the Curate in a præmunire.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 21 A præmunire will take you by the backe one day, for oppressing and tyrannizing our her Maiesties subiects as you doe.

1598 *Explos. Termes Law*, *Præmunire* is a writ, and it lyeth where any man sueth any other in the spiritual court, for any thing that is determinable in the kings court.

1608 *Day Law Triches* v. (1881) 75 If I have wronged the Prince I stand in compas of a præmunire.

1706 TINDAL *Rights Chr. Ch.* 388 Bishops . . . being under . . . a Præmunire oblig'd to confirm and consecrate the Person nam'd in the *Conge d'Elire*.

1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. viii. 115 This then is the original meaning of the offence, which we call *præmunire*; viz. introducing a foreign power into this land, and creating *imperium in imperio*, by paying that obedience to papal process, which constitutionally belonged to the king alone.

1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 319 In the 16th year of this Prince [Richard II] was passed the important statute of 'præmunire' . . . This act received a very large interpretation from the judges and proved of great service in checking the papal usurpations.

1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xvi. II. 410 The first statute of *Præmunire*, declaring the forfeiture and outlawry of those who sued in foreign courts for matters cognisable in the king's courts, was an ordinance of 1353.

Ibid. 415 In 1365 was passed a new statute of præmunire, definitely aimed against the jurisdiction of the papal court.

† 2. *transf.* a. An offence against the statute of præmunire; also, any offence incurring the same penalties. *Obs.*

1553 *Act 1 Mary c. 1* (heading), An Act repealing certayne Treasons, Felonies, and Præmunire.

1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* App. (Camden) 134 That if the office were erected without warrant whether it were not a præmunire, treason [etc.].

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N. v.* vi. Lest what I ha' done to them (and against Law) Be a Præmuniri.

1678 COLEMAN in *Trial of C.* 63 That Bill which would have it a Præmunire in a Sheriff not to raise the *Posse Comitatus*.

† b. The penalties incurred by an offender against the statute of præmunire, which was subsequently applied to various offences not connected with its original purpose. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Præmunire*, forfeiture of goods.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Præmunire*, a punishment wherein the offender loseth all his goods for ever, and libertie during life.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., When any man for an offence committed, shall incur a Præmunire, it is meant, he shall incur the same punishment, which is inflicted on those that transgress the Statute made Anno 16 Ric. 2 ca. 5 (commonly called the Statute of Præmunire).

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 256 He that did not enter into one side or other, should incur somewhat like a præmunire; for 'twas the forfeiture of his goods and estate, as well as the banishment of his person.

1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 367 Those Merchants whose Occasions require Sums of Money to be exported, . . . will, to keep themselves safe, rather give these Men 3d. 4d. 5d. nay, 6d. per Ounce more for foreign Silver, than for our own coined Silver of the same Fineness, which they dare not export for fear of the Præmunire.

1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* v. Wks. 1755 V. II. 94 A judge, who upon the criminal's appeal to the dreadful day of judgment, told him, he had incurred a præmunire for appealing to a foreign jurisdiction.

† 3. A situation or condition likened (gravely or humorously) to that of one who has incurred a præmunire; a difficulty, scrape, fix, predicament.

1595 *Maroccos Ext.* 17 But how does this landlord fall into this Præmunire?

1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* v. I.

489 If the law finds you with two wives at once, There's a shrewd præmunire. 1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* IV. viii. I'm in such a fright! the strangest quandary and præmunire! 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. xlv. 81 He would not bring himself into such a præmunire again for the whole kingdom. 1814 *Stock Exchange Laid Open* 22 It made them all, like every other set... of men in similar præmunires, squeak out so loudly.

Hence **Præmunire** (-oi-i) *v. trans.*, to issue a writ of præmunire against; to convict of breach of the statute of præmunire. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1681 W. ROGERS *6th Pt. Chr. Quaker* 23 Will's Isaac Pennington was in Prison, and in expectation of being præmunired. 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1716) 166 Horn desir'd To have good Bonner præmunir'd. 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1885) 252 Swear, or lie In prison, præmunired, until you die. 1884 A. C. BICKLEY *Fox* xix. 291 He cast the Friend into prison and præmunired him.

† **Præmunireal**, -ial, *pre-*, *a. Obs. rare.* [*f. præc. + -AL.*] Involving a breach of the statute of præmunire; liable to a præmunire. So † **Præmunirized** *ppl. a.*, having incurred a præmunire.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 171 The seculars... made it a matter of conscience, thereby to reffell, infringe, and abrogate all such præmunireal treachery. *Ibid.*, The seculars... clearly exempt, redeem and keepe out themselves, from acknowledging any obedience to that already præmunirized Archbishop. 1601 — *Import. Consid.* (1831) 19 To draw you all into the same Precipitament Præmunirial and of Treason with him.

Præmunite, -nition, etc.: see **PRÆMUNITE**, etc. **Prænares**: see **PRÆNARES**.

|| **Prænomen** (prânô-men). Also *pre-*. [*L.*, a forename, *f. præ before + nomen name.*]

1. In *Rom. Antiq.*, The first name, preceding the nomen and cognomen; the personal name; thus the prænomen of Marcus Tullius Cicero was Marcus. Hence, the first name of persons of other nations or times; the Christian name of later times.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Prænomen*, among the Romans, that which was put before the *Nomen*, or General Name, and signify'd as much as our Proper Name. 1745 J. WARD in *Left. Lit. Men* (Camden) 370 Whether the C after Imp. in the others was designed for Cæsar or a prænomen, I cannot venture to assert. 1808 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 421 note, It need not be said, that in old times men were designated by their prænomen, rather than by their nomen, or cognomen. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* VII. 81/2 With reference to the dates, pre-nomens, and royal standards of the monarchs by whom the pyramids were erected. 1886 *Athenæum* 4 Sept. 313/1 The names of servants are generally prænomen only, e.g. 'Alicia seruiente predicti Hugonis'.

† 2. The first of two words constituting the name of a place, as *Chipping Barnet*. *Obs. rare.*

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cambr.* (1662) I. 153 It being usual to leave out the Prænomen of a Town for brevity sake, by those of the Vicinage, commonly calling Westchester, Chester, South-hampton, Hampton.

3. In the binominal nomenclature of Natural History, the first or generic name of a plant or animal, which precedes the specific name. *rare.*

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Intro. Lect. 28 Uva ursi is now preceded by the prænomen *Arctostaphylos*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prænomen*, *.. Biol.*, the first or generic portion of a compound name.

Præ-notion to Præpositor: see **PRÆN-**, etc.

† **Præpositorship**. *Obs.* An incorrect rendering (cf. **PRÆPOSITOR**) of *med. L. præpositiatus*, *Ger. propst*, *F. prévôt*, the district of an ecclesiastical præpositus or propst, the group of parishes under one ecclesiastical superintendent; = rural deanery. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* VI. 221 In the præpositorship of Bremervorde are thirteen parochial-churches. *Ibid.* 230 Its parish-churches form a distinct præpositorship.

|| **Præpositus**. Also *pre-*. [*L. præpositus* prefect, president, head, chief, in *med. L.* provost, sb. use of *pa. ppl.* of *præponere* to place or set over, *f. præ PRE- + ponere* to place.] The head, chief, president, or provost, in various institutions clerical and civil. Frequent in Anglo-Latin: see **PROVOST**, the *mod. Eng. repr.*; also **PREPOST**.

1607-71 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Præpositus Villa*, is sometimes used for the Constable of a Town, or Petit Constable. It is used sometime for a Reve, or for a chief Officer of the King in a Town, Mannor or Village. 1627 M. WREN *Serm. bef. King* 6 Feare... 'tis Gods Præpositus in the School of Graces, it sees that none of them be out of Order, or in any kinde Faulty. 1894 R. S. FERGUSON *Hist. Westmorland* 145 By the year 1217 the Præpositus or Reeve at York had been superseded by a mayor. 1906 *Athenæum* 19 May 609/3 It seems almost certain that William the 'præpositus' owed his Norman name to a godfather belonging to the Amundeville family.

Præpostor, *pre-* (prîpp-stô). [*Syncoated form of præpositus, PRÆPOSITOR, q. v.*] The name given at various English Public Schools to those senior pupils to whom authority is delegated for the management and control of the community; elsewhere called *Præfects*, or *Monitors*. Cf. **PRÆPOSITOR**.

[At Eton, in the 16th c.] 'Eighteen of the senior boys were styled *Præpositi*; but inasmuch as the same term was used to designate the head of the College, the monitors soon came to be called *Præpostores*. Under the contracted form of *Præpostor*, the name has survived to our own time, though the duties... have entirely changed' (Sir H. C. Maxwell-Lyte *Hist. Eton Coll.* (1870) viii. 142).

[a 1518-1681: see **PRÆPOSITOR**.] 1768 in Maxwell-Lyte

Hist. Eton xvi. 320 Prepostors or monitors are chosen... to gather exercises, to mark the boys' names every School time and Church time, to write down the names of those who are not present at the time of absence... The sixth Form hath two Prepostors. 1813 (June) *Rugby School, Printed List* [Sixth Form called] Præpostors. 1854 T. H. GREEN *Let. fr. Rugby Wks.* 1900 III. p. xiv. It is impossible for bullying to be stopped except by præpostors. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v. One of the præpostors of the week stood by him on the steps. 1881 HARE in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 359 His rapid removal... into the fifth form at Midsummer... freeing him from the terrors of præpostors and fagging. 1887 *Athenæum* 29 Oct. 567/3 He [Rev. E. Thring] strongly encouraged self-government among the boys, and threw great responsibilities upon the præpostors.

Hence **Præpostorial a.**, of or pertaining to præpostors; **Præpostorship**, the office of præpostor. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Dec. 12/1, I should say that Percival's new model of the prepostorial system, carried out on Dr. Arnold's lines, was his greatest achievement as a head master. 1884 (Oct. 2) *Eton School Rules*, The Præpostorship must be taken in School order, unless specially excused.

Præputial, **Præscapula**, etc.: see **PRÆP-**, etc.

|| **Præputium** (prîpî-ûm). *Anat.* [*L. præputium foreskin.*] The foreskin, the prepuce.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 174 In he heed þerof is... a skyn, þat goib ouer & is clepid præputium. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Præputium*, the fore-skin, also the Prominency of the Clytoris. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 92 The Clitoris with its præputium is found between the Labia. 1803 *Med. Jnrl.* X. 174 To the end of each plaster, near the præputium, a tape is to be fixed.

|| **Præsepe** (prîsêp). *Astron.* [*L. præsepe enclosure, stall, manger, hive, f. præ, PRE- + sepe to fence.*] The name of a loose cluster of stars, appearing to the naked eye as a nebula, in the constellation Cancer.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Præsepe*, a constellation in 2 degrees 13 minutes of Leo. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* I. § 71. 29 The Hyades, in the constellation Taurus, and the Præsepe or 'Beehive', in Cancer.

Præsternum to Præstomium: see **PRÆST-**.

Præter a., *sb.*, past (tense): see **PRÆTER**.

|| **Præter-** (prî-tor), a *L. adv.* and *prep.* meaning 'beyond, past, besides, except', frequent in composition; in *Eng.* entering into many compounds, in which it is now generally written **PRETER-**, *q. v.*

A few obsolete words occur only with the spelling *præter-* which is also preferred in some words by individual modern writers; for all these see **PRÆTER-**.

|| **Prætexta** (prî-tkstâ). *Rom. Antiq.* Also *præ-*. [*L.*, short for *toga prætexta* gown bordered or fringed in front; *pa. ppl.* fem. of *prætex-ere* to weave before, fringe, border.] A long white robe with a purple border, worn originally by the Roman magistrates and some of the priests, but afterwards by the children of the higher classes, viz. by boys till they were entitled to assume the *toga virilis*, and by girls till marriage.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxiii. i. II. 455 Whiles he was under sixteen yeares of age, and as yet in his Prætexta. 1670 LASSALLS *Voy. Italy* II. 153 Little boys in the habit of a Prætexta. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s. v.*, The pretexta, at first, was a robe of state, or ceremony... In continuance of time it was permitted to noblemens children; and, at length, even to all Roman children in general. a 1763 SHENSTONE *Progr. Taste* iv. 85 'Tis the pretexta's utmost bound, With radiant purple edg'd around. 1868 SMITH'S *Smaller Dict. Antiq.* 380/2 Girls wore the prætexta till their marriage.

Prætor, *pretor* (prî-tôr). Forms: 5-7 præ-tour, (6 *Sc. -oir*), 5-pretor, 6-pretor. [Early *mod. E. pretour* = *F. prêtre*, *ad. L. prætor, -or-em* (contracted from **præ-itor*, lit. one who goes before, *f. præ before + ire* to go).]

Originally the title designating a Roman Consul as leader of the army; after B. C. 366, that of an annually elected Curule magistrate who performed some of the duties of the Consuls, to whom he was subordinate. Of these magistrates there were at first one, later two (*prætor urbanus, prætor peregrinus*), and eventually eighteen.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iv. 1527 And of þe pretor[s] twenty men, And grettest of þe conseil þen. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Liv. Lyke as the pretours of Rome dyd set those mens names in a table hyghest, whose causes shulde first be pleaded or dispatched. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 147 He desir't the office of pretor at the senat. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. iv. 35 The throng that follows Cæsar at the heeles, Of Senators, of Prætors, common Sutors. 1693 DRYDEN *Jocundia* iii. 219 The Prætor bids his Lictors mend their pace. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pretor*. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 35 The prætors, annually created as the judges of law and equity. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1862) II. xxvi. 439 The Emperor was prætor or commander-in-chief of the troops.

b. *transf.* One holding high civic office, as a mayor or chief magistrate. In 17-18th c., the title (= *It. pretore*) of the chief magistrate, or mayor, and of the podestà, in various parts of Italy.

1494 FABIAN *Chron.* vii. 375 No man beyng in auctorytie of any hygh office, as prouost, pretour, or any lyke office. 1597 LAMBARDE *Archæon* (1635) 72 At the pleasure of the Chancellour or Prætor only. 1623 COCKERAM, *Pretor*, a Maior, or chief Officer. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1106/2 The 30 past, the Pretor of Palermo sent to acquaint the Sieur de Haen, that the French Fleet had been seen. 1714 *Ibid.* No. 5192/a The Prince of Scordia, Pretor of Palermo, pre-

sented him with the Book of the Constitutions and Rights of the City. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 100 And now we're in London let's pass this Affair, And praise the good Prætor now sits in the Chair. 1756-7 Prætor of Verona [see **PRÆFECT** I c]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 705 No two of these rural prætors had exactly the same notion of what was equitable.

† **Prætoral**, *pretoral*, *a. Obs. rare-1.* [*f. PRÆTOR + -AL.*] = **PRÆTORIAN**.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 Kyngis... tuke mair delyit... to manure corne landis, nor that did to remane in pretoral paleis or in tryumphand cities.

Prætorial, *pretorial* (prî-tôr-riâl), *a. (sb.)* [*f. L. prætorius* belonging to a prætor + *-AL.*] Of or pertaining to a Roman prætor; prætorian.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* 917 [Vatinius] came verie arrogantly one day vnto Cicero being in his Prætorial seate, and asked him a thing which Cicero would not graunt him there. 1757 BURKE *Abridg.* *Eng. Hist.* I. iii. 37 Those occasional declarations of law called the prætorial edicts. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. iv. 141 Cæsar... continued to administer his prætorial functions.

† b. *transf.* Judicial; = **PRÆTORIAN** *a. i. b. Obs.* a 1688 W. CLAGETT 17 *Serm.* (1699) 10 Confession to a priest, with attrition, being reckoned sufficient to receive a prætorial absolution, which shall be valid in heaven.

† c. *Pretorial court*, in the colony of Maryland, a court for the trial of capital crimes, consisting of the lord proprietor or his lieutenant-general, and the council. Also called *Pretorial Obs.*

1638-9 *Laws Maryland* in *Arch. Md.* (1883) I. 50 An Act For the erecting of a Pretorial. *Ibid.* 51 This Court... Shall be a Court of Record and Shall be called the pretorial or the pretorial Court, and the said Pretorial shall or may... exercise... Jurisdictions within this Province.

Prætorian, *pretorian* (prî-tôr-riân), *a. and sb.* [*ad. L. prætorianus*: see **PRÆTOR** and *-IAN*.]

A. *adj.* I. Of, belonging, or pertaining to a Roman prætor, or to the office or rank of prætor.

1598 GRENEWY *Tacitus* Ann. xii. v. (1622) 161 The Consular ornaments were given to Colo, and the Pretorian to Aquila. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 124 Treves, the seat of Prætorian government, gave the signal of revolt, by shutting her gates against Decentius. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* i. 23 Two prætorian fleets... patrolled the Mediterranean. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. § 184 Another guardian... called a prætorian guardian, because he was appointed by the prætor of the city. 1894 GREENIDGE *Infamia* iv. 114 The only object of the prætorian infamia was to preserve the dignity of the prætor's court, and to prevent the frequent appearance in it of unworthy members of the community.

b. *transf.* Applied to a judge, court, or power analogous to that of the ancient Roman prætor, esp. to a Court of Equity. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 64 In the distribution of Courts of Ordinarie Justice... the Chancery [had] the Pretorian power for mitigating the Rigour of Law. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) I. 17 An Historian being no Pretorian Judge, his Reports cannot prejudice any peoples Jurisdiction, or persons Propriety. 1886 W. SHERLOCK *Papist not Misrepresented* 14 Attributing a Judicial and Prætorian Authority... to the Priest to forgive Sins. a 1709 ATKYNS *Parl. & Pol. Tracts* (1734) 237 Let not (says he) Prætorian Courts (speaking of Courts of Equity) have Power to decree against express Statutes, under Pretence of Equity.

2. Of or belonging to the body-guard of a Roman military commander or of the emperor.

Originally applied to the *prætoria cohors* or select troops which attended the person of the prætor or general of the army, subsequently to the imperial body-guard instituted by Augustus.

1436-50 tr. *Hyden* (Rolls) V. 115 The knyghtes pretorian of Rome named Maxentius the son of Maximian emperour. 1585 T. WASHINGTON *tr. Nicholas's Voy.* II. iii. 74 The Pretorian legions... began to become rulers ouer their maisters. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 105 Hee ordained a standing Campe at Rome, wherein the Prætorian Cohorts... might be received. 1651 R. SAUNDERS *Plenary Possess.* 18 Augustus set up the Prætorian Guard of 10000 men. 1868 LIGHTFOOT *Philippians* (1873) 99 The great camp of the prætorian soldiers. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque, As Triplex* (1893) 159 Caligula... turned loose the Prætorian guards among the Company.

b. Of or pertaining to the prætorian soldiers.

1741-2 GRAY *Agrippina* 117 The eye of Rome, And the Prætorian camp. 1812 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 60/1 To raise a military depot in such a city as London, a sort of pretorian camp that could not but be grating to the feelings of the people.

c. *fig.* Like the prætorian cohort in venality. 1907 *Spectator* 5 Jan. 5/2 The calling into existence of a Pretorian band of pauper labour through doles for the encouragement of the unemployed.

B. *sb.* 1. A man of prætorian rank; as an ex-prætor, or a legate sent as governor of a province.

1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. ii. (1826) II. 99 The prætorian Sempronius. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxiii. 13 The provinces which remained under the control of the senate continued to be assigned by lot to consulars and prætorians.

fig. 1850 DOBELL *Roman* v. Poet. Wks. (1875) 71 Those proud prætorians who subverted the commonwealth of God.

2. A soldier of the prætorian guard. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. iv. 163 Whom you have appointed in time of peace for Garrison souldiers or Pretorians. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. v. 108 These assertions... became unanswerable, when the fierce Prætorians increased their weight, by throwing... their swords into the scale. 1898 H. C. MOULE *Stud. Ep. Coloss.* vi. 120 It must have made the Prætorian wonder to see this extraordinary prisoner (St. Paul) at his prayers.

b. *fig.* One of a company whose function and interest is to defend an established power or system.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 50 The rule and reason will be found all one, say Schoolemen and Pretorians what they will. 1839 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* II. vii. 338 Neither would christianity have done it... without her purple and pretorians. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* II. 1. 162 It is in the plunder of the Church... That unhalloved booty created a factitious aristocracy, ever fearful that they might be called upon to regorge the sacrilegious spoil... These became the unconscious Pretorians of their ill-gotten domains.

Hence **Prætorianism**, a system like that of the Roman prætorian organization; military despotism, esp. when venal.

1870 *Pail Mail* G. 5 Nov. 5 M. Ernest Legouvé... had to thank Count Bismarck for several benefits—for the death of Cæsarism and prætorianism, Ultramontanism and dandyism, the fusion of classes on the ramparts, the separation of Church and State. 1901 *Speaker* 9 Feb. 514/2 Nations which believed themselves far beyond the stage of Prætorianism.

† **Prætorical**, *pre-*, a. *Obs. rare*—1. [irreg. f. **PRÆTOR**: cf. *oratorical*.] = **PRÆTORIAN**.

1639 GENTILIUS *Servitii Inquis.* (1676) 857 That the Pretorial Deputy, nor any other Person assisting in the Governors place shall not be a Consulor.

|| **Prætorium**, **pretorium** (prætōr'ium). [*L. prætorium* a general's tent; a provincial governor's residence, a palace; the prætorian guard; sb. use of neut. of *prætorius* adj., belonging to a prætor.]

1. The tent of the commanding general in a Roman camp; the space where this was placed.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. xxxvi. 274 When he was come to the Pretorium, the Consul by sound of trumpet, called all the army to an audience. 1796 LEONI *Alberti's Archæol.* I. 89/2 The Pretorium, or General's Tent. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv. From this very prætorium—A voice from behind interrupted his ecstatic description—'Pretorian here, prætorian there. I mind the bigging of it.' 1843 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. 131 When one of their tribes first saw the habits of a Roman camp and observed the centurions walking up and down before the prætorium for exercise.

transf. 1536 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* iv. iii. As I rode forth with some choice troops, to make discovery Where the enemy lay... The duke's prætorium opened.

2. The official residence of the governor of a Roman province; a governor's palace or court.

1611 BIBLE *Mark* xv. 16 The soldiers led him away into the hal, called Pretorium [*mod. edd. Prætorium*], and they call together the whole band. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. G.) *Prætorium*, the place where the Prætor administered Justice... also taken for his Palace; and sometimes for his Pleasure-House. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* ix. (1879) 735 The Romans had made Herod's palace the Prætorium, or head-quarters.

b. By extension: The court or palace of an ancient king; also applied to a town-hall, etc.

1611 CORVAT *Crudities* 635 The Pretorium or rather the Stadthouse [at Nimmigen]... is a very ancient and stately place. a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 205 [Hannibal] became a client to Prusias the Bithynian king; at whose prætorium, or court, he was glad to wait for a hearing. 1820 T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* I. ii. 61 This palace, or prætorium, falling into decay, was replaced by a strong Saracenic fortress.

3. The quarters of the Prætorian Guard in Rome.

1670 LASSUS *Voy. Italy* II. 96 The ruins of the Pretorium, the Quarters of the Pretorian Bands, which the Emperours lodged here. 1904 G. SMITH *Hist. Chr. Missions* II. v. 48 Paul lived in Rome and near the Prætorium.

† **Prætorship**, *pre-* (præt'orship). [f. **PRÆTOR** + *-SHIP*.] The office of a Roman prætor; the term of this office.

1541 T. PAYNEL *Catiline* lii. 75 Changing his apparel, and laying away the ornaments of pretorship. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agric.* (1622) 186 His [Agricola's] Pretorship also he passed over in the same sort, with the like silence. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. i. 29 Trajan... delivered a sword to the Prefect of the Pretorship, bidding him, if he were good, to use it for him; if evil, against him. 1788 GIBSON *Decl.* f. X. xlv. (1846) IV. 176 The pretorship of Salvius Julian, an eminent lawyer, was immortalized by the composition of the Perpetual Edict. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 6 note. The peregrin pretorship was created in or about the year 50/47; the duty of the new magistrate being to administer justice between foreigners resident in Rome, or between foreigners and citizens.

b. *transf.* Chief magistracy; mayoralty.

1622 MIDDLETON *Hon. & Virtue* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 364 You [Lord Mayor] go From court to court before you be confirm'd In this high place, which pretorship is termed.

c. with *poss. pron.*, as title of a prætor.

1678 T. JORDAN *Triumphs of London* 12 The Governour Of this Plantation, doth present his Power, And Profits to Your Pretorship.

† **Prætorry**, **pre-tory**, *sb.* (a.) *Obs.* [ME. *pretori*, a. OF. *pretorie*, *pretoire* (mod. F. *prétoire*), ad. L. *prætorium* **PRÆTORIUM**; in II, ad. L. *prætorius* one of prætorian rank.]

1. L. A. prætorium, hall, or palace.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16302 Pilate him ras, and forth yode Vte o be pretory. *Ibid.* 16093. 138a WYCLIF *Acts* xxiii. 35 He comaunde him for to be kept in the pretorie [Gloss or moote halle], of Heroude. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 387 b/2 He sente secretly... for al the grete gramaryens and rethorycens that they shold come hastily to hys pretorie to alysaunders. 1577 HAMMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 235 The which Law is engraven in a stony pillar... in the publick pretory, nigh the Emperours martial picture.

2. The prætorian guard, or their quarters.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* l. pr. iv. 9 (Camb. MS.), I took stryff ayens the prouost of the pretorie. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 Gordianus... was y-slave of oon Phelip, prefecte of he pretorie, nougt fer from Rome. 1494 FAYAN *Chron.* IV. lxxv. 44 He was Presydenste of the Pretory of

Rome. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors in Hist.* *Iustine* H hij, For that merit hee was called to be a soul-dior, where... he arose to be the Maister of the Praetory.

3. The prætor's court. *rare*.

1594 R. ASHLEY *tr. Loys le Roy* 82 He ordained that there should be foure prefectures of the pretorie, or Courts of soueraine authority.

II. 4. A man of prætorian rank.

1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 165 Destroyede... senatours, consuls, pretories, and edelynes, men of dignity.

B. *attrib. or adj.* = **PRÆTORIAN** a. In quot. *transf.* Of or pertaining to a judge. *rare*.

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Eduw. VI* (Arb) 110 Essay... speaking of the iudgements done... in the commune place as it myghte be Westminster hall, the gyldle hall, the ludges hall, the pretory house.

† **Prætorate**, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *prætor* a. *prætor* + *-ATE* 1.1.] Prætorship.

1724 WARBURTON *Tracts* 7 In the Interim comes P. Accius Varus... with the Character of the Prætorate of Afric.

† **Prag**, *sb.* 1. *Obs.* [Origin obscure: perh. earlier form of *PROG.*] ? A pin, nail, or spike.

1354 *Mem. Ribon* (Surtees) III. 92 In mercede fabri facientis pragges et lokats de ferro suo proprio pro fenestris figendis. *Ibid.* 92, 93 Prages, Prages.

† **Prag**, *pragge*, *sb.* 2. *Obs. slang.* [Origin uncertain: cf. *PRIG.*] ? One who 'prigs'; a thief.

1594 GREENE *Disput. Wks.* (Grosart) X. 206 More full of wyles to get crownes, than the cunningest Foyst, Nip, Lift, Pragges, or whatsoever that lues at this day.

† **Prag**, *v.* *Obs.* or ? *dial. rare*. In 6 *pragge*. [Origin uncertain.] *trans.* To stuff, cram, fill.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* i. Cj, O, neyghbours, neyghbours, first get coyne, firste hardlye pragge the purse. *Ibid.* vii. Div. Againe With pragged paunche assayde to goe.

1866 J. E. BROGDEN *Provinc. Words* Lincs. *Pragged* with things, having a great abundance.

† **Prage**, *Obs. rare*. [Origin unascertained: cf. *PRAG sb.* 1, *PROG.*]

1. Perh. = *PRAG sb.* 1

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 237 Small pragys, at iiij. s. 1545 *Rates of Customs* Cij, Prages the groce xs. 1583 *Ibid.* D viij, Prages the croce xvij. viiid.

2. A spear or similar weapon.

1584 STANHYURST *Aeneis* i. (Arb) 23 Theyre blades they brandisht, and keene prages goared in entrayls Of stags. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Loue* C. iii. 133 The Zealanders... with their long rusty prages, slew euery mothers some of them.

† **Praggish**, *a.* *Obs. rare*—1. [? f. *PRAG* (MATIO) + *-ISH* 1.] ? = *PRAGMATIC*, meddlesome.

1721 AMHERST *Terra Fil.* No. 46 (1726) 254 Sir, you ought to be hors'd up out of all good company for an impudent praggish jackanapes.

Pragmatic (prægmæt'ik), *a.* and *sb.* [= F. *pragmaticque*, Ger. *pragmatisch*, etc., ad. L. *pragmaticus* skilled in business, esp. law (Cic.), in late L., relating to civil affairs (also sb.), a. Gr. *πραγματικός* active, business-like, versed in affairs, relating to matter of fact, also sb. a man of business or action; f. *πράγμα*, *πραγματ-* a deed, act, affair, state-affair, business, etc., f. *πράττειν* to do.]

A. *adj.* 1. Relating to the affairs of a state or community. *Pragmatic Sanction*, rendering late juridical L. (Cod. Justin.) *pragmatica sanctio* (*justo*, *annotatio*), also *pragmaticum rescriptum*: 'an imperial decree referring to the affairs of a community', the technical name given to some imperial and royal ordinances issued as fundamental laws.

Applied first to edicts of the Eastern Emperors; subsequently to certain decrees of Western sovereigns, as the *Pragmatic Sanction* attributed to St. Louis of France, 1268, containing articles directed against the assumptions of the Papacy; those of Charles VII of France in 1438, and of the Diet of Mainz in 1439, embodying the most important decisions of the Council of Basle, the former being the basis of the liberties of the Gallican church. In more recent European history, applied particularly to the ordinance of the emperor Charles VI, in 1724, settling the succession to the Austrian throne; also, to that of Charles III of Spain in 1759, granting the crown of the Two Sicilies to his third son and his descendants.

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power* Parl. App. 32 In this Parliament the pragmatick sanction was restored. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 17 To abrogate and to annul at the same time, the pragmatick Sanction, and the Concordat too. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* xxxvii. (1700) 385 Pragmatick Sanctions were made in several Nations to assert their Liberty. 1720 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. *Pragmatick Sanction*, is a Term in the Civil Law for a Letter written in answer to their Request to enquire or know the Law of him. 1767 *Hist. Europe in Ann. Reg.* 301 The King then published his pragmatick sanction, or royal ordinance, for the expulsion of the Jesuits. 1848 W. H. KELLY *tr. L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 220 The revocation of the pragmatic crown. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gl.* v. ii. I. 522 'Pragmatick Sanction' being, in the Imperial Chancery and some others, the received title for Ordinances of a very irrevocable nature, which a sovereign makes in affairs that belong wholly to himself, or what he reckons his own rights. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 657/1 After his [Charles VI's] death, the pragmatic sanction led to the War of the Austrian Succession.

2. Busy, active; esp. officiously busy in other people's affairs; interfering, meddling, intrusive; = *PRAGMATIC* a. 3. 4.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vi, I loue to hit These pragmaticke young men, at their owne weapons. 1674 *Govt.*

Tongue vi. § 33 Common estimation puts an ill character upon pragmatick meddling people. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* II. vi. 298 Cepeda... a pragmatic and aspiring lawyer, seems to have held a secret correspondence with Pizarro. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 282 note, If St. Paul said *Kypriov*, the marginal *Θεοι* of some pragmatic scribe might easily have obtruded itself into the text.

3. Conceited in one's own opinion, opinionated; dictatorial, dogmatic; = *PRAGMATIC* a. 4. b.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 202 It was in vaine to chalenge the pragmaticke Pagan in point of honour. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* *Moles* 17 It signifies her to be pragmatic, proud, and one that will domineer over her husband. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B. I.* Wks. 1799 II. 214 She is as pragmatic and proud as the Pope. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* 599 A strong contrast to the pragmatic Cobbett was the amiable, indolent, speculative Sir James Mackintosh. 1872 *Spectator* 7 Sept. 1131 To spoil by... irrelevant and pragmatic dogmatism a very able and useful paper.

4. Treating the facts of history systematically, in their connexion with each other as cause and effect, and with reference to their practical lessons rather than to their circumstantial details. [= Ger. *pragmatisch*, after *πραγματικός*, *πραγματεία*, in Polybius.] Cf. *PRAGMATISM* 3.

1853 M. ARNOLD *Irish Ess.*, etc. (1882) 291 For the more serious kinds, for pragmatic poetry, to use an excellent expression of Polybius. 1864 WEBSTER, *Pragmatic history*, a history which exhibits clearly the causes and the consequences of events.

5. Practical; dealing with practice; matter-of-fact; = *PRAGMATIC* a. 2.

1853 C. L. BRACE *Home Life Germany* 124 A strict and pragmatic people, like the mass of the Scotch. 1882-3 Schaff's *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1613 The pragmatic school only looked at Christianity as a system of doctrine. It failed to look upon it as an historical development.

6. Belonging or relating to philosophical pragmatism; concerned with practical consequences or values. See *PRAGMATISM* 4.

1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exp.* 518 This thoroughly 'pragmatic' view of religion has usually been taken as a matter of course by common men. 1906 HIBBERT *Jrnl.* Jan. 337 Whether it is applied to knowledge or to faith, the pragmatic test is a severe one. 1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* 45 The pragmatic method in such cases is to try to interpret each notion by tracing its respective practical consequences.

B. *sb.* 1. A decree or ordinance issued by the head of a state; = *pragmatic sanction*: see A. 1.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1364/2 His excessive authoritie hath bene, and still is restrained, checked and limited by lawes and pragmatikes, both ancient and new, both in France and Spaine and other dominions. 1566 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Pragmatic*,... a Proclamation or Edict. 1766 *Char. in Ann. Reg.* 11/2 There were even two pragmatiks: one that ceded the possessions of the house of Austria to the Archduchess of Poland, the other that contended they were the property of Mary Theresa. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* vi. 286 It was a solemn occasion, and the emperor deemed it worthy of a solemn document, or 'Pragmatic', as it was called.

† 2. One versed in business; a person deputed to represent another in business or negotiation, an agent; cf. 'man of business', *BUSINESS* 22 d. *Obs.*

[Cf. also *obs.* It. 'pragmatico', an attorné or practitioner in the law, a proctor... Also one wont to stand by a pleader or orator instructing him in law points. Also one expert in doing of things' (Florio 1598).]

1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 150 Since those busie limmes began to rowse, and besturme them, more then all the Pragmatiques in Europe. 1611 SPED *Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. viii. § 48. 559 Pandulphus (the Pops Pragmaticke) having first desired safe conduct of King John, arrives at Douer. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N. i. v.* My man o' Law! Hee's my Attorney and Solicitor too! A fine pragmaticke!

3. An officious or meddlesome person; a busy-body; a conceited person.

1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 369 These matters are not for pragmatiks, and folkmothers to babble in. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* iv. xvi. 502 Such pragmatiks... labour impertinently. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 269 The flippants and pragmatiks who infest all the highways of society.

|| **Pragmatica** (prægmæt'ikā). [*Sp. pragmática*, a. late L. *pragmatica* (sc. *sanctio*, *justio*, *annotatio*, *constitutio*) a pragmatic sanction. Cf. It. *prammatica*, F. *pragmatique*.] A royal ordinance having the force of a law; = *PRAGMATIO* B. 1. (Used esp. in reference to Spain.)

1652 HOWELL *Giraff's Rev. Naples* II. 6 The Viceroy... caus'd a Pragmatica or Proclamation to be printed and publish'd. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xxvi. 418 The promulgation of *pragmaticas*, or royal ordinances. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 369/2 Charles V., by a *Pragmatica* in 1525, forbade this usage. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 811 As the power of the Spanish crown was gradually concentrated and consolidated, royal *pragmaticas* began to take the place of constitutional laws.

Pragmatical (prægmæt'ikāl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as *PRAGMATIC* + *-AL*: see *-ICAL*.]

1. = *PRAGMATIC* a. 1. b. Now *rare*.

1543 *Formul. Faith* N iij, Sith that time, the canons pragmatical of these two counsailes, be no where used, nor yet alleged, as to be of effecte. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 274 Had he euer studied any Pragmaticall Discourse; or perused any Treaties of Confederacy, of peace, of truce, of intercourse. 1598 FLORIO, *Pragmatica*, a pragmatical law. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Greatness of Kingd.* (Arb) 481 They are sensible of this want of Natues; as by the Pragmaticall Sanction, now published, appeareth. 1656 EARL MONM. *tr. Boccacini's Adots. fr.*

Parnass. i. lxi. (1674) 80 Peremptory or pragmatical Laws ought. .to be published to the people when they themselves desire them. 1682 *BURNET Rights Princes* vi. 222 When St. Lewis by his pretended Pragmatical Sanction, restored the Liberties of Election. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 219/2 The so-called pragmatical sanction.

2. Of, pertaining to, or dealing with practice (as opposed to theory, etc.); practical; = PRAGMATIC a. 5. *Obs.* exc. as used after Ger. *pragmatisch*.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 157 But this knowledge of theirs was not a curious & idle knowledge, .but a pragmatical knowledge, full of labour and business. 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. (1622) 17 No better, then a kinde of pragmatical Atheists. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Pragmatical.* in Physics, or Natural Philosophy, .is sometimes used in a good Signification, and signifies the same as Practical, Mechanical, or Problematical. Thus Stevinus. . calls some Mechanical and Practical Experiments. .by the Name of Pragmatical Examples. 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* I. i. 1. 4 The dogmatic treatment of the Life of Jesus inevitably passed into the pragmatical. *Ibid.* The significance of Christ in relation to modern times could only be substantiated .by treating his life as a pragmatical sequence of events on the same footing as that of other illustrious men. 1906 *Hibbert Jnl.* Apr. 647 There is the practical or pragmatical form of Christianity usually associated with the name of James.

b. Matter-of-fact.

18. HARE (Webster 1864), Low, pragmatical, earthly views of the gospel. 1886 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 203/3 'In One Town', though a little pragmatical and matter of fact, is not uninteresting. It .confines itself entirely to the commonplace joys and mishaps of every-day men and women.

†3. Engaged in action; actively engaged; prone to action or work; active, busy; business-like, methodical; brisk, energetic. *Obs.*

1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 427 A man of a very pragmatical and stirring humour. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 16 (1619) 320 He will cling to good mens company; be pragmatical and busie in performing many slightly duties. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 236 Can a man thus employd, find himselfe .dishonour'd for want of admittance to have a pragmatical voyce at Sessions and Jayle deliveries? 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 212 None of these pragmatical persons .will suffer himself to be so enslaved to his business, but he will allow himself set times .for eating.

b. Experienced in business or affairs; expert, practised; skilled; shrewd. Now rare.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Pragmatical*, that is expert in doing things, practised in the Law, and in many matters. 1665 LLOYD *State Worthies* II. (1677) 85 So pragmatical a person as this gentleman was necessary among the Custom-house men. 1822 HEBER in *Fer. Taylor's Wks.* (1839) I. p. ccciii, Political and pragmatical wisdom.

4. Unduly or improperly busy or forward; 'assuming business without leave or invitation' (J.); officious, meddlesome, interfering, intrusive. = PRAGMATIC a. 2. Now rare.

1611-12 BR. HALL *Impresse of God* II. Wks. (1624) 453 The absurd pragmatical impudency of the present [Poppe], in that grosse prohibition of a fauourable and naturall oath, for his Maesties security. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* viii. (1701) 323/2 A wise man is not pragmatical; for he declines the doing of any thing that is beyond his office. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* iv. 29 Coming to-day in this pragmatical way, when nobody sent for you. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G. xiii.* How he dealt with the villains of Liege, when they would needs be pragmatical.

b. Conceited, self-important; opinionated, dogmatic; doctrinaire, crotchety.

1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 22 Those .whose Merit wholly consists in a pragmatical peremptory way of delivering their Opinions. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 481 ¶ 4 Lacqueys were never so saucy and pragmatical as they are now-a-days. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* v. Wks. 1761 III. 92 Which . . . may perhaps give me the title of pragmatical and overweening. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* i. ii. The Romans lose both by this pragmatical affectation of refinement. 1852 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 235 The pragmatical priggism which is the pedagogue's characteristic defect.

5. Of, pertaining, or according to pragmatism: = PRAGMATIC a. 6.

1903 *Hibbert Jnl.* Mar. 577 The essentially pragmatical character of the scientific modes of ascertaining 'truth' is precisely one of the chief props of pragmatism.

†B. sb. *Obs.* rare. 1. A busybody; = PRAGMATIC sb. 3.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 100 It is .not the busie Pragmatical, but the close Politician, that supplanteth the puissant state. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Pragmaticall*, a busie body.

2. One versed in business, etc.; = PRAGMATIC sb. 2. 1623 COCKERAM, *Pragmaticall*, one that understands the Law.

3. A pragmatical statement.

1617 BACON *Let. Jns.* I 25 July, That . . . your Majesty would bestow the thanks not . . . upon the eloquent persuasions or pragmaticals of Mr. Secretary Winwood.

Hence *Pragmaticality*, the quality of being pragmatical (in various senses).

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 3 The moment an Englishman feels the pragmaticality of his native land too much for his spirits, off he goes, to relieve himself abroad. 1887 *Ch. Times* 28 Oct. 869/2 The miserable 'unsaved' pragmaticality which sends to the Independent sects a class of persons in whom there is no great relief of salvation.

Pragmatically, adv. [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pragmatical manner: see the adj.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 38 For such patrociny that Kirk-buriall proctors doe use pragmatically to plead. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 7 Nor . . . am I pragmatically sug-

gesting, what I might foolishly imagine fittest to be done in State affairs. 1726 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 53 Not pragmatically prying into their Secrets or meddling with their concerns. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 94, I have tried to decipher them pragmatically, practically. 1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exp.* 448 note, Pragmatically, the most important attribute of God is his punitive justice.

Pragmaticalness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being pragmatical; †activity, assiduity (*obs.*); officiousness, meddlesomeness; opinionativeness, dogmatism; practical or utilitarian quality; etc.: see the adj.

1643 *Let. fr. Grove Gentleman* 1 Pragmaticalnesse and want of Charity. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. i. § 35 Monks also hated Fryers at their hearts, because their activity and pragmaticalnesse made Monks be held as idle and useless. 1664 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* v. 73 The Pragmaticalnesse of whose Agents will be . . . ready to discover every one that dissembles his Religion. 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xxii. Wks. 1741 I. 219 But pragmaticalness disturbeth the world. . . One busybody often (as we find by experience) is able to disturb and pester a whole society. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 526/2 The usefulness of these two noble drugs, introduc'd by Priests, atone for the pragmaticalness of those who oppos'd 'em. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Nov. 60/2 The pragmaticalness of the 'fussy Bishop'.

Pragmaticism, rare. [f. PRAGMATIC + -ISM.]

1. = PRAGMATICALNESS.

1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. lxxxi. Its decay as being observed by the disciples on the next [day] and not before, is pedantry and pragmatism.

2. *Philos.* (Used to designate a specific variety of pragmatism.)

1905 C. S. PEIRCE in *Monist* April 166.

Pragmatism (præ'gmätiz'm). [f. Gr. *πράγμα*, *pragmat-* a deed, act (see PRAGMATIC) + -ISM. Cf. Ger. *pragmatismus*.]

1. Officiousness; pedantry; an instance of this.

1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 211 Our laughing at his pragmatisms and solemn comcomby. 1895 E. J. HARDING in *Critic* (N. Y.) 9 Feb. 95 How refreshing it is, this absence of pragmatism, this genial resolve to take life as it is, for better for worse.

2. Matter-of-fact treatment of things; attention to facts.

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lxxi, Mrs. Dollop. . . had often to resist the shallow pragmatism of customers disposed to think that their reports from the outer world were of equal force with what had 'come up' in her mind.

†3. A method of treating history in which the phenomena are considered with special reference to their causes, antecedent conditions, and results, and to their practical lessons. *Obs.*

[1832 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1853) III note, No word occurs more frequently in the historical and philosophical literature of Germany and Holland, than *pragmatisch*, or *pragmaticus*, and *Pragmatismus*. . . the word is peculiarly employed to denote that form of history, which, neglecting circumstantial details, is occupied in the scientific evolution of causes and effects.] 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* I. II. xvi, I have drawn attention. . . to the prophetic pragmatism of Matthew. 1884 D. HUNTER tr. *Reuss's Hist. Canon* xv. 274 According to the pragmatism of history, we should now turn our attention to the influence which the reforming movement of the sixteenth century exercised on the notion of the biblical canon.

4. *Philos.* The doctrine that the whole 'meaning' of a conception expresses itself in practical consequences, either in the shape of conduct to be recommended, or of experiences to be expected, if the conception be true (W. James); or, the method of testing the value of any assertion that claims to be true, by its consequences, i. e. by its practical bearing upon human interests and purposes (F. C. S. Schiller).

1898 W. JAMES *Philos. Concept. & Pract. Results* 5 The principle of practicalism or pragmatism, as he [C. S. Peirce] called it, when I first heard him enunciate it at Cambridge [Mass.] in the early '70s, is the clue . . . by following which . . . we may keep our feet upon the proper trail. *Ibid.* 6 To attain perfect clearness in our thoughts of an object, then, we need only consider what effects of a conceivable practical kind the object may involve. . . Our conception of these effects, then, is for us the whole of our conception of the object, so far as that conception has positive significance at all. This is the principle of Peirce, the principle of pragmatism. 1900 W. CALDWELL in *Mind* Oct. 436 In this so-called Pragmatism or Practicalism of Prof. James. 1902 F. C. S. SCHILLER *ibid.* Apr. 203 To set forth fully the doctrine which he has named *Pragmatism*, and which I would fain advance against that of Aristotle. 1902 — *Personal Idealism* 63. 1903 *Hibbert Jnl.* Mar. 577 Pragmatism is a new analysis of 'truth' inspired by the recent progress of psychology. 1906 SCHILLER *Humanism* 8 Pragmatism is the doctrine that 'truths' are 'values', and that 'realities' are arrived at by processes of valuation. 1906 *Academy* 4 Aug. 106/1 The most recent and (philosophically speaking) fashionable 'ism' that the new century has produced—known, by some as Humanism, and by others as Pragmatism.

Pragmatist (præ'gmätist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

1. A pragmatical person, a busybody.

1640 BR. REYNOLDS *Passions* xvi. 176 We may [say] of Pragmatists, that their eyes looke alwaies save onely inward. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 209 He is a moral teetotaler, a formalist, a pragmatist.

2. An adherent of the doctrine called pragmatism.

1903 *Hibbert Jnl.* Mar. 578 A contemporaneous review of an American pragmatist. 1906 H. JONES *ibid.* Apr. 567 It is quite true, as the Pragmatists or Personal Idealists aver, that our purposes define the meaning of things. 1907 *Ch. Times* 8 Feb. 178 The pragmatist takes religion as he finds

it, a working life; . . . he studies the Christian life, and considers that the best way to study it is to live it; . . . he is content to leave many things unexplained.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or according to pragmatism. 1903 *Hibbert Jnl.* Mar. 578 The evidence for a pragmatist interpretation of the reason.

Hence *Pragmatistic* a.

1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* 40 The pragmatistic philosophy . . . preserves as cordial a relation with facts. *Ibid.* 307 What I take the liberty of calling the pragmatistic or melioristic type of theism.

† *Pragmatitioner*. *Obs.* rare—1. [f. *obs.* F. *pragmaticien* (Estienne) a man skilled in law + -ER 1. Cf. *practitioner*, etc.] A man skilled in affairs; a practising lawyer; = PRAGMATIC B. 2.

1607 R. [AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 129 When they [lawyers] were called *Pragmaticiens*, that is, Pragmatitioners.

Pragmatize (præ'gmätiz), v. [f. Gr. *πράγμα*, *πράγματ-* a deed, act + -IZE. So *obs.* F. *pragmatizer* (1660 Oudin).] *trans.* To represent (what is imaginary or subjective) as real or actual; to materialize or rationalize (a myth). Hence *Pragmatized*, *Pragmatizing* ppl. *adjs.*

1834 KEIGHTLEY *Tales & Pop. Fict.* v. 203 Pragmatizing, or endeavouring to extract historic truth out of mythic legends. 1856 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. i. (1871) 3 The old pragmatizing or Euhemeristic school of mythological interpretation. 1869 SEELEY *Lect. & Ess.* v. 136 The distinctness with which theological doctrines are pragmatized. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. x. 368 One of the miraculous passages . . . is traced . . . to such a pragmatized metaphor.

Pragmatizer (præ'gmätizəz). [f. prec. + -ER 1.] One who pragmatizes.

1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 16 Pragmatizers, astronomers, and allegorists have worn his labours threadbare. 1866 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. i. (1871) 3 The pragmatizers take a mythical story; they strip it by an arbitrary process of whatever seems impossible, they explain or allegorize miraculous details [etc.]. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. x. 368 The pragmatizer is a stupid creature, nothing is too beautiful or too sacred to be made dull and vulgar by his touch.

Prahm, variant of PRAM 1. *Prahu*, Malay boat: see PRUA. *Prai*(e, *obs.* ff. PRAY, PREY.

† *Praiere*. *Obs.* rare. In 4 *praer*, *prayer*.

[a. OF. *praîere* (12th c. in Godef.) meadow land;—late L. *prātaria* (832 in Du Cange) prop. fem. sing. (sc. *terra*) of *prātarius* adj., of the nature of a meadow (f. *prātum* meadow); so Prov. *pradaria*, Sp. *pradera*. Cf. PRAIRIE.] A meadow. c 1305 *Land Kokayne* 71 In þe praer is a tre swiþe likful for to se. 13. *Gauw. & Gr. Knt.* 768 Pyched on a prayere, a park all aboute.

Praiere, *praire*, *obs.* ff. PRAYER.

Prairial (præ'riäl, || pryal). [F. (1793) f. *prairie* meadow.] The name for the ninth month of the French revolutionary calendar, extending from May 20 to June 18.

1805 *Naval Chron.* XV. 129 On the 7th Prairial [they] went to the Diamond Quarter. 1894 *Daily News* 7 June 5/4 The unfortunate Dauphin, who, according to authentic records, died in the prison of the Temple on the 20th Prairial, Year III. of the Republic (June 8th, 1795).

Prairie (præ'ri). [a. F. *prairie* = OF. *prairie* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) a tract of meadow land = It. *prateri*a, Sp., Pg. *praderi*a:—Romanic type **prātari*a, f. L. *prātum* meadow (F. *pré*): see -RY.] A tract of level or undulating grass-land, without trees, and usually of great extent; applied chiefly to the grassy plains of North America; a savannah, a steppe.

In salt or soda *prairie*, extended to a level barren tract covered with an efflorescence of natron or soda, as in New Mexico, etc.; in *trembling* or *shaking prairie*, to quaking bog-land covered with thin herbage, in Louisiana.

[a 1668 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1684) 201 *The Prerie* or large Sea-meadow upon the Coast of Provence.] 1773 P. KENNEDY *Jnl.* in T. HUTCHINS *Descr. Virginia*, etc. (1778) 54 The *Prairie*, or meadow ground on the eastern side, is at least twenty miles wide. *Ibid.* 55 The lands are much the same as before described, only the *Prairies* (Meadows) extend further from the river. 1787 J. HARMAR in E. DENNY *Milit. Jnl.* (1860) 423 The *prairies* are very extensive, natural meadows, covered with long grass. . . like the ocean, as far as the eye can see, the view is terminated by the horizon. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 7 Four hundred yards in the rear, there is a small prairie of 8 or 10 acres, which would be a convenient spot for gardens. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 264 The Plains, or, as the French denominate them, the *Prairies*, or *Meadows*, compose an extensive tract of country. 1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XII. 326 A large Oak tree stands alone in a *prairie*. . . (Note. If this word be merely a French synonyme for savannah, which has long been naturalized, the Americans display little taste in preferring it.) 1861 DU CHAILLU *Equat. Afr.* xvi. 275 We were troubled . . . on the prairie by two very savage flies, called by the negroes the *boco* and the *nchouna*. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 307 One of the few species not confined to woods, but occurring in open prairie. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 473 It was . . . almost exclusively an animal of the prairies and the woodless plains.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prairie country*, *craft*, *fever*, *fire*, *flower*, *fly*, *hill*, *knoll*, *land*, *plateau*, *ranger*, *steppe*, *stream*, etc.; *prairie-like* adj.; *prairie-alligator*, a walking-stick insect, esp. *Diapheromera femorata*; *prairie-apple* = *prairie-turnip* (Cent. Dict. 1890); *prairie-bean*, *Phaeolus retusus*, of Texas; *prairie bitters*, a drink

made of buffalo-gall and water; **prairie-brant** = **HARLEQUIN brant**; **prairie-breaker**, a plough for cutting a wide shallow furrow, and completely inverting the furrow-slice; **prairie-burdock**, the Rosin-weed, *Silphium terebinthaceum* (N. O. *Compositae*); **prairie clipper**, a coach traversing the prairies: cf. **PRAIRIE SCHOONER**; **prairie-clover**, a leguminous plant of the genus *Petalostemon*; **prairie cocktail**, a raw egg, seasoned, and swallowed in vinegar or spirits (*Cent. Dict.*); **prairie-cup**, ? a wild flower growing on the prairie; **prairie-dock**, (a) = **prairie-burdock**; (b) *Parthenium integrifolium* (N. O. *Compositae*) (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895); **prairie-falcon**: see *quot.*; **prairie-formation** *Geol.*: see *quot.*; **prairie-fowl** = **PRAIRIE-CHICKEN**; **prairie-fox** = **KIT-FOX** (*Cent. Dict.*); **prairie-goose**, *Bernicla canadensis hutchinsii*, of North America; **prairie-grass**, (a) any grass growing on the prairies; (b) *spec.* in Australia, the grass *Bromus (Ceratochloa) unioloides*; **prairie-grouse** = **PRAIRIE-CHICKEN**; **prairie-hawk**, the American Sparrow-hawk, *Tinnunculus or Falco sparverius*; **prairie itch**, one of various skin affections, characterized by itching and eruption, caused by the fine dust of the prairies (*Farmer Amer.* 1889); **prairie loo**: see *quot.*; **prairie-marmot** = **PRAIRIE-DOG**; **prairie-mole**, a silvery mole, *Scalops argentatus*, found on the western prairies; **prairie oyster** = **prairie cocktail**; **prairie-pigeon**, a name given locally in U. S. to (a) the American Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus*); (b) Bartram's Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*); **prairie plough** = **prairie-breaker**; **prairie-plover** = **prairie-pigeon**; **prairie rattler** or **rattlesnake**, one of various rattlesnakes of the prairies, as *Sistrurus catenatus* or *Crotalus confluentus*; **prairie-renovator**: see *quot.*; **prairie rent**: see *prairie value*; **prairie-rose**, *Rosa setigera*, the American climbing rose; **prairie ship** = **PRAIRIE SCHOONER**; **prairie-snake**, a large harmless N. American snake, *Masticophis flavigularis* (Webster 1890); **prairie-snipe** = **prairie-pigeon**; **prairie-squirrel**, a N. American ground-squirrel of the genus *Spermophilus*, inhabiting the prairies (in *quot.* 1808 applied to the **PRAIRIE-DOG**); **Prairie State**, the State of Illinois, U. S.; in pl. in more general sense, including Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and States to the south of these; **prairie-turnip**, a hairy herbaceous plant (*Psoralea esculenta*) of N. W. America, or its edible farinaceous tuber; **prairie value** *Pol. Econ.*, the rental value of prairie land, or of any waste land; also *fig.*; **prairie wagon** = **PRAIRIE SCHOONER**; **prairie-warbler**, a small warbler, *Dendroica discolor*, of eastern N. America; **prairie-wolf** = **COYOTE**. See also **PRAIRIE-CHICKEN**, etc.

1894 SCUDDER in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 456 The form... dubbed 'stick-birds,' and 'prairie alligators,' our *Diapromera femorata*. a 1860 *Scenes Rocky Mts.* 133 (Bartlett) **Prairie Butters*, a beverage common among the hunters and mountaineers. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 12 *Anser albifrons gambeli*... Known in... the West as **Prairie Brant*, Speckled Brant, and Speckled Brant... or Brant simply. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* s.v. *Breaker*. The timber land breaker and **prairie breaker* are essentially different. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1059 *Silphium terebinthaceum* is sometimes called the **Prairie Burdock*, from its rough heart-shaped root-leaves. 1870 D. B. R. KEIM *Sheridan's Troopers* 49 The coaches or 'prairie clippers,' as they are called by the denizens of the country, pitched and jolted. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* *Petalostemon*... **Prairie Clover*... A genus comprising about fourteen species of pretty, hardy or half-hardy herbs. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii. An insight into many an item of **prairie-craft*. 1880 J. HAY *Pike County Ballads* 96 **Prairie-Cups* are swinging free To spill their airy wine. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 339 *Falco mexicanus*, American Lanier, or **Prairie Falcon*. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 238 The *Prairie-Falcon* of the western plains of North America. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii. I had caught the 'prairie-fever'! 1892 Boston (*Mass.*) *Jrnl.* 10 Oct. 9/3 By back-firing, the people... saved their town from being destroyed by the great 'prairie-fire.' 1899 *Daily News* 20 Mar. 8/3 Since 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' there has been no such prairie fire in fiction as Mr. Charles M. Sheldon's 'In His Steps'. The book... has 'caught on'... like a blaze in dry grass. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xlv. III. 30 Their horses were... rendered almost frantic by the stings of the 'prairie flies.' 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 280 The 'prairie-formation' is a stratified formation of fine clay, sand, and alluvial matter. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 126 Our hunters killed 5 **prairie fowls*. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 4 Sometimes they [air-sacs] form large inflatable sacs on the throat, as, for instance, in the *Prairie-fowls*. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 4 *Branta canadensis hutchinsii*... In... North Carolina, Marsh Goose, and on the coast of Texas, **Prairie Goose*. 1812 *Connecticut Courant* 24 Nov. 2/3 In consequence of the Indians setting the **prairie grass* on fire. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 267 The *prairie-grass* of America. 1861 G. F. BERKELEY *Sportsm. W. Prairies* xi. 185 Of these beautiful birds of the **prairie* grouse is the largest. 1856 BRYANT *Prairies* 17 The 'prairie-hawk' that, poised on high, Flaps his broad wings, yet moves not. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* ii. (1810) App. 4 The... river is bounded here in a narrow bed of **prairie hills*. 1844 G. A. McCALL *Lett. fr. Frontiers* (1868)

418 The abrupt **prairie knolls*... seen in the distance to elevate their rocky summits. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 34 There is handsome **prairie land* on the south. 1837 Ht. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 21 The green, **prairie-like*, Canada shore. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West I.* 264, I was contented to wrap myself as closely as possible in my buffalo robe, and join him in a game of **prairie loo*... The game consists merely in betting upon the number of wild animals seen by either party, towards the side of the vehicle on which he is. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 737/1 *Prairie dog*, about the size of a squirrel or large rat... A more correct name would be Barking Marmot, or **Prairie Marmot*. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* 31 Caught a curious little animal on the prairie, which my Frenchman termed a **prairie mole*. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Prairie-oyster*. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 4 Feb. 4/7 A wistful pet name for an egg, duly seasoned and to be swallowed whole—the 'prairie oyster'. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 503 In most parts of the West, between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, this Tattler, commonly known as the 'prairie Pigeon', is exceedingly abundant. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1782/1 **Prairie-plow*, a large plow supported in front on wheels, and adapted to pare and overturn a very broad but shallow furrow-slice. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 173 *Bartramia longicauda*... In Southern Wisconsin, in 1851 this bird... was known as the 'Prairie Plover, and also as the Prairie Snipe. 1853 BAIRD & GIRARD *Catal. N. Amer. Reptiles* i. 14 *Crotalophorus tereticaudus*... **Prairie Rattlesnake*, Massachusetts. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, **Prairie Renovator*, an implement with tearing harrow teeth, drawn over the surface of grass land to loosen the roots and the soil... and break up the matted vegetation. 1895 M. DAVITT in *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Mar. 3/3 The annual value of such land, in its original or pre-reclaimed condition, would be its 'prairie rent'. 1862 RIPLEY & DANA *Amer. Cycl.* XIV. 180/1 The climbing rose (*R. setigera*)... sending up shoots 10 to 20 feet high in a season; from it have originated numerous beautiful double-flowered varieties known in gardens as 'prairie roses'. 1888 *Century Mag.* Mar. 662/2 The carpet of prairie roses, whose short stalks lift the beautiful blossoms but a few inches from the ground. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii. To see the long caravan of waggons, the 'prairie ships,' deployed over the plain. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* ii. (1810) 155 We... killed some **prairie squirrels*, or wishtonwishes [cf. *quot.* 1808 in **PRAIRIE-DOG**]. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer. s.v.* *Spermophilus*... with great propriety called 'Prairie-Squirrels,' for their true home is on the prairie. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* 127 Permitting the unparalleled soil of our 'prairie States to grow less and less productive. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl. in Views Louisiana* 249 The 'prairie turnip' is a root very common in the prairies, with something of the taste of turnip, but more dry. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxxv. A life spent beneath the blue heaven of the 'prairie-uplands and the mountain 'parks'. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 185 The... doctrine of 'prairie value', which has been held up to the Irish peasantry as the standard by which rent ought to be measured. 1893 Ld. ROSEBERY in *Daily News* 2 Mar. 6/2 We took our Colonies at prairie value, and have made them what they are. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* v. 825 Refusing to go beyond the bare etymology—'the prairie value'—of the name. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. 248 Another pensile species is the **Prairie Warbler (Sylvia minuta)*. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 63 *Dendroica discolor*... **Prairie Warbler*. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 40 One of our men caught a beaver, and killed a 'prairie wolf'. 1858 E. J. LEWIS in *Youatt Dog* i. 18 The *Canis Latrans*, or prairie wolf, who whines and barks in a manner so similar to the smaller varieties of dogs.

Hence **Prairied a.**, containing or characterized by prairies; **Prairiedom**, the prairie region.

1845 (title) **Prairiedom**: Rambles and Scrambles in Texas or New Estrémadura. 1849 WHITTIER *Our State* i. The South land boasts its teeming cane, The prairied West its heavy grain. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* vi. (Santa Fé) The metropolis of all prairiedom.

Prairie-chicken. The Pinnated Grouse, *Cupidonia* or *Tympanuchus cupido*, a gallinaceous bird of N. America. Also applied (in regions where the foregoing does not occur) to the Sharp-tailed Grouse, *Pedicularis phasianellus* or *P. columbianus*.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* ii. A dinner at the Planters', with its venison steaks, its buffalo tongues, its 'prairie chicken'. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 144 Dun-coloured prairie chickens whirring through the heather as we drove along. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Apr. 6/1 The prairie chickens (sharp-tailed grouse) meet every morning at grey dawn in companies of from six to twenty.

Prairie-dog. A N. American rodent animal, genus *Cynomys*, of the squirrel family; *spec.* *C. ludovicianus*, the Louisiana Marmot, a thickest short-tailed animal about a foot in length, and having a cry like the bark of a dog; large numbers of these animals live together in burrows, forming a 'village' or 'town'.

1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 37 On their return [they] killed a prairie dog, in size about that of the smallest of domestic dogs. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* ii. (1810) 156 note, The Wishtonwish of the Indians, prairie dogs of some travellers; or squirrels as I should be inclined to denominate them; reside on the prairies of Louisiana in towns or villages. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iv. We struck through a village of 'prairie dogs'. 1870 KEIM *Sheridan's Troopers* 301 Early in the afternoon we entered a prairie-dog town.

Prairie-hen. = **PRAIRIE-CHICKEN**.

1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 44 Killed nothing but five prairie hens, which afforded us this day's subsistence. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xxxiii. 16 The Prairie Hen is... very much like the English grouse, or heath hen, both in size, colour, and in habits. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 135 note, There is still another pinnated-grouse variety, found in the Southwest, and known in the books as *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, also as Texas Prairie Hen, Lesser Prairie Hen, and Pale Pinnated Grouse.

Prairie schooner. U. S. A fanciful name for the large covered wagons used by emigrants in

crossing the N. American plains, before the construction of railways. Cf. *prairie ship* (**PRAIRIE b**). 1858 *New York Tribune* 7 June 5/6 In our streets [Lawrence, Kansas] may be seen large covered wagons, alias 'prairie schooners'... These wagons are generally drawn by oxen, otherwise by mules. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 5/1 The prairie schooner, or large lumbering freight wagon,... looms up in the distance.

Prairillon (prei'lyon). Now rare. [dim. of *prairie*, prob. of American French origin: cf. F. *goupillon*, *vermillon*, etc.] A small prairie.

a 1860 *Scenes Rocky Mts.* 172 (Bartlett) Interspersed among the hills are frequent openings and prairillons of rich soil and luxuriant vegetation. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* ii. 100 The *prairillon*, or little prairie, is fast disappearing from our idiom.

Prais, obs. Sc. form of **PRESS sb**.

Praisable (prā'zā'bl), a. Now rare. Also 7-9 **praisable**. [f. **PRAISE v.** + **-ABLE**.] Deserving of praise; praiseworthy, laudable, commendable.

13... *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 314 In good tyme he was boren, I-wis, Pat preisable is and not preised is. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xix. 24 The ferthe forsothe 3eer al the fruyt of hem shal be halowid and preysable [1388 preiseful; *Vulg.* laudabilis] to the Lord. 1388 — 2 *Tim.* ii. 15 Bisili kepe to 3yue thi silf a preued preisable werkman to God. a 1400 *Te Deum* in *Prymer* (1891) 22 The preysable numbre of prophetis [L. prophetarum laudabilis numerus]. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Sermon on C'tess of Richmond Wks.* (1876) 291 She had in manner all that was praiseworthy in a woman, eyther in soule or in body. 1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* ii. xviii. 97 To encourage these Gentlemen in so praisable an enterprise. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 424 Laudable or Praisable Subsistancy or Co-ordinating Laudability. 1891 *Review of Rev.* 14 Nov. 517/2 This simple and praisable quality of work.

Hence **Praisableness**; **Praisably adv**.

1557 CHEKE in T. Hoby *tr. Castiglione's Courtier* ad fin., Then doth our tung naturallie and praisable vitter her meaning. 1648-60 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Lefswaerdigheyd*, praisableness, or Laudableness. 1733 Oxf. *Lat. Gram.* To Rdr. A v b, No word... to be so hard... as the Scholar shall not be able praisably to enter into the forming thereof.

Praisant, obs. Sc. f. **PRESENT sb.**

Praise (prā'z), sb. Forms: 5 **preyse**, 6-7 **prays**, 6- **praise**, (6 **praise**, **praises**, **Sc. prais**, **prays** (s, 6-7 **prase**)). [f. **PRAISE v.** Not known till after 1400, and not common till after 1500. Absent from Wright-Wülcker's *Vocabs.*, *Prompt. Parv.*, and *Catholicon*. See also **PRES sb.**]

1. The action or fact of praising; the expression in speech of estimation or honour; commendation of the worth or excellence of a person or thing; eulogy; laud, laudation.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy) 3 This citee with lawde, preyse, and glorie, For joy mousterd lyke the sone beme. 1526 TINDALE *John xii.* 43 For they loved the prayse that is geven off men, more then the prayse, that cometh of god. 1554-9 *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 5, I wyl not paynt to purchase prayes. 1562 WINSET *Cerit. Tractat.* i. (S. T. S.) I. 4 Albeit the time be short, sumthing of your prais man we speik. a 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* l. 35 Or had this mynne bene in these dayis... Venus had not obtēit sic prayis. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* iii. i. 25 These praises... makes me wish that I had bene at Rhodes. a 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 95 He gave no prase, To any but my Lord of Essex dayes. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* i. vi. 30 The forme of Speech whereby men signifie their opinion of the Goodnesse of any thing, is Praise. 1742 YOUNG *Night Th.* vii. 420 Praise is the salt that seasons right to man, And whets his appetite for moral good. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 64 At the end of the conversation the king dismissed him with emphatic praise. *Mod.* Those who have seen the work are loud in their praises of it.

b. Viewed as a condition or quality of the receiver: The fact or condition of being praised.

1533 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* VII. 463 Some good meane founden... to the noo little prease and profet of bothe [King and Pope]. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccles.* xlv. 13 For their sakes shal their children & sede contynue for euer, & their prayse [L. gloria eorum] shal neuer be put downe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 632 For he the praises farre surmounts of his Progenitours. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 564 Reflecting still the same Honour, and Praise, and Glory upon it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. 180 The praise of politeness and vivacity could now scarcely be obtained except by some violation of decorum.

2. The expression of admiration and ascribing of glory, as an act of worship; hence, as this is chiefly done in song, the musical part of worship.

14... in *Tundale's Vision* (1843) 127 Glorie and preyse laude and hye honour O blisful quene be gevon unto the. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iv. vi. 44, I my self will lead a priuate Life, And in deuotion spend my latter dayes, To sinnes rebuke, and my Creators prayse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 543 To Bacchus therefore let us tune our Lays, And in our Mother Tongue resound his Praise. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* x, The pealing anthem swells the note of praise. 1776 BR. HORNE *Comm. on Ps.* xxxiii. 2 Music... is of eminent use in setting forth the praises of God. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 114 The King rejoiced at his words, and said, Praise be to God. 1866 NEWMAN *Hymn*, Praise to the Holiest in the height, And in the depth be praise. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 258 Praise of the Office. That portion of Matins and Even Song from the *Gloria* inclusive to the *Credo* exclusive. 1892 BR. TALBOT *Serm.* (1896) 76 Praise, like every real part of true religion, fits on to human nature... by fulfilling, I think, two great human instincts. They are the instinct of admiration and the instinct of love.

3. *transf.* That for which a person or thing is, or deserves to be, praised; praiseworthiness; merit, value, virtue. *arch.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 All this processe we have made to shewe the prayse & dignite of grace. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poessie* iii. i. (Arb.) 150 The chief prayse and cunning of our Poet is in the discreet vsing of his figures. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 108 How many things by season, season'd are To their right praise, and true perfection. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 23 A restless crowd, Whose highest praise is that they live in vain. 1885-94 R. BUDGES *Eros & Psyche* June xix, When she should bear a boy To be her growing stay and godlike praise.

† b. An object or subject of praise. (Sometimes, esp. *Sc. colloq.*, put instead of the divine name.) *Obs.* 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* x. 21 He is thy prayse, & thy God. a 1724 GABERLUNZIMAN v. She dancid her lane, cry'd, Praise be blest! I have ludg'd a leil poor man. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* iii. 104 Of all our youth the Ambition and the Praise! 1784 CALLANDER *Anc. Scot. Poems* 45 note, *Praise be blest*, God be praised. This is a common form still in Scotland with such as, from reverence, decline to use the sacred name. 1787 SKINNER *Poet. Epist. To Burns* xii, But thanks to praise, ye're i' your prime.

4. attrib. and Comb., as *praise-folk*, *-giver*, *-prater*, *-song*, *-trap*; (in sense 2) *praise-book*, *-house*, *-meeting*, *-offering*, *-portion*, *-time*; *praise-begging*, *-deserving*, *-giving*, *-winning*, etc., adjs.; *praise-way adv.*, in the way or direction of praise.

1809 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 May 3/1 Giving to people who may use the Church Hymnary a guide.. to use that *Praise Book with great interest and appreciation. a 150 *Tourn. Tottenham* 215 (Ritson) The 'praise-folk, that hur led, Wer of the torment. 1565 HARDING in *Jewel Def. Apol.* (1611) 242 It is 'praisgiung to God, and praying for the people, for Kings, for the rest. 1869 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* 20 The little old church or 'praise-house'. a 1711 KEN *Edmund Poet.* Wks. 1721 I. 255 Soon as *Praise-offerings at the Throne I pay. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* ii. 143 If they bestow not upon one of these *Praise-Praters the best garments they have. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 184 He made a little 'praise-song about him. 1537 *Infunct.* by Bp. of Worcester in Abington *Antiq. Worcester* (1717) 162 That in 'prase tyme no.. body be brought into the Church, but be brought into the Churchyard. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxxi. 219 Such praise-begging hypocrisy!.. Such contemptible *praise-traps! 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 16. xviii. (1669) 229/2 It was faith that tuned his spirit, and set his affections 'praise-way.

Praise (prēiz). *v.* Forms: 3-6 *preise*, 3-7 *preyse*, 4-7 *prays*, 4- *praise*, (4) *preyze*, *praisse*, 4-6 *prais*, 5 *preysse*, 5-6 *prese*, *prays*, *prase*, 6 *prayes*, *preasse*, *preesse*, *Sc. preiss*, 8 (in sense 1) *praze*. [a. OFr. *preisier* (*preisant*) to price, value, prize, praise;—late L. *precī-āre*, earlier *preti-āre* (Cassiodorus c 550) to price, value, prize, f. *preti-um* price. At an early date in Parisian F., and afterwards also in Norman, *preisier* was levelled (under the vowel of the pres., *prise* from *preisie*) to *prisier*, mod. F. *priser*, which was also taken into Eng. in the 14th c. as *prise(n)*, mod. *prize*, and here took the place of the earlier form in the more literal senses associated with the sb. *pris*, *price*; leaving to *praise* the most tropical sense = Lat. *laudare*, OE. *herian*. A little later the sb. *praise* began to be formed from the vb. in this restricted sense = Lat. *laus*; so that from the 15th c. we have *prize*, *prize* vb. beside *pris*, *price* sb., and *praise* sb. beside *praise* vb.]

I. 1. *trans.* To set a price or value upon; to value, appraise. *Obs.* or *dial.* (The late retention of this sense was probably owing to its being treated as an aphetic form of *appraise*.)

[1292 BRITTON I. vi. § 2 Ses chateaus preyseze & deliverez a les villes.] 13.. E. E. *Allit. P.* B. 146 Pou praysed me & my place ful pover & ful gned. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 174 Per weore chapmen I chose þe chaffare to preise. 1382a WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvii. 9 Thirty platys of syluer, the pris [1388 prijs] of a man preyshid, whom thei preyshiden [1388 preiseden] of the sonys of Yrael. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 167 The whyche chalis.. was prayseyd at xxx. Ml marke. 1521 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 122 Praisid at vli. x mylch kene. 1530 PALSGR. 664/1. I prayse a thyngne, I esteeme of what value it is. *Je aprise.* 1550-51 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 561 Mr Meres and James Goldsmith for yer paymes in prayseyng y^e churches stuffe iiij^s. 1554 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 475 The said silver platte.. to be preasid as above writtyn. 1556 *Inv.* in French *Shaks. Genial.* (1869) 472, 52 shepe presid att vijli. 1653 H. COGAN *tr. Pinto's Trav.* xxi. 74 An inventory was taken.. and all was praisid at an hundred and thirty thousand Taels. 1713 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) IV. 252 His own Picture.. brought to London to be prazed. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Praise*, to appraise; to value.

† 2. To attach value to; to value, esteem; to PRIZE. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 246 (Cott.) Selden was for ani chance Praisid Inglis tong in france. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5348 Wawain was the better ay, Therefore y-praisid, parfamaiz. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 46 Jakke, thi lewid prophete I preise not at a peese. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxxiii. (1869) 128 Ne hire wittes j preyse not at a budde. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* i. xiii. 40 They preyshed nothing the thinges that were ethely. c 1500 *Melusine* 285 Nother thou nor thy god I preyse not a rotynd dogge. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 19 Sum tyme in mynde sho praisit me sa hycht, Leifand all vther.

II. 3. To tell, proclaim, or commend the worth, excellence, or merits of; to express warm approbation of, speak highly of; to laud, extol. (The leading current sense.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Ne he ne cunne ou nouder blamen ne

preisen. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg. I.* 43/331 Among alle men.. mest ich preise þe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3577 He praisais al thing þat es gon O present thing he praisais non. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 219 He is i-preysed [L. *laudatur*] for a parfite techere of filosofie. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Esop* iii. vii, Men preyen somtyme that that should be blamed. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1641) 219 They extolled and prayshid him farre above the Starres. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* ix. 32 The Subjects.. praised him to the skies. 1784 COWPER *Task* iii. 702 What we admire we praise, and when we praise, Advance it into notice. 1875 JOWETT *Plato V.* 151 The rewards of wicked men are often praised by poets and approved by the world.

b. In proverbial phrases. 1508 MARSTON *Pygmal.* i. Who now so long hath prays'd the Choughs white bill that he hath left her ne'er a flying quill. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* I iv b, She doth but praise your lucke at parting. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iii. iii. 38 Al. A kind Of excellent dumbe discourse. *Pro.* Praise in departing. a 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* Wks. (1857) 304 Praise day at night, and life at the end. *Ibid.* 317 Praise a hill, but keep below. Praise the sea, but keep on land.

† c. To bring praise or commendation to. *rare.* 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* xiv. (1660) 87 As Shadows judiciously plac'd, do no less praise the Painter, than do the livelier and brighter Colours. 1649 Bp. REYNOLDS *Serm. Hosea* i. 24 Men shoot bullets against armour of proof, not to hurt it, but to praise it.

d. The dat. infin. to praise (also † to praising for *praisen*) used predicatively: To be praised, deserving praise. Cf. BLAME v. 6. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1320 Pe prinse he sede oþer king nis to preisi noht. 13.. E. E. *Allit. P.* A. 301, I halde þat Iueler lyttel to prayse. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.* R. v. ii. (Tollem. MS.). Also yf þe heed is to gret it is not to preysynge (*led.* 1535 it is not to praise; L. *est illaudabile*). c 1460 Ros *La Belle Dame* 631 Suche as wil say.. That stedfast trouthe is nothing for to prays. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* June 783 Yet we should have been to blame, if Shakspeare be to praise.

4. To extol the glorious attributes of (God, or a deity), especially, to sing the praises of; to glorify, magnify, laud.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18309 'Lauerd' he said, 'i sal þe prais, For þou [has] tan me to þi pais. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.* R. ii. xviii. (1495) ciiij/1 An angell.. cessith neuer to worship and prayse god. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 18 Mi peyl praysy me with here lypperdale Ps. lxxvii. 5 Let the people prayse the (o God) let all people prayse the. 1693 KEN *Doxology*, Praise God from whom all blessings flow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* l. 481 On Ceres let him call, and Ceres praise. *Ibid.* ii. 535 In jolly Hymns they praise the God of Wine. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. i. 8 'The saints be praised', thought I.

Hence *Praised ppl.* a. 14.. *Siege Jerns.* 99 Preued for a prophete þrow praysed dedes. 1552 HULOET, Prayed or valued, *estimatus*. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Deut.* x. 21 He is thy praise! Thy praised one, *Psalm* 18. 3. or, thy praise-worthy one.

Praiseful (prēizfūl), a. [f. PRAISE v. or sb. + -FUL. (With sense 1, cf. the earlier *worshipful*.)]

† 1. Deserving of praise or honour; praiseworthy, laudable. *Obs.*

1382a WYCLIF *Dan.* iii. 54 Blesid art thou in the trone of thi rewme, and above preyseful (*Vulg.* superlaudabilis, 1388 preisable). c 1450 *Mirour Salvacioun* 4037 Where fore a praisefulle womman oure lady prefigurit. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 25 Moomed certainly, by the praisefull deedes of their kinsmen. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* iv. 123 Which, if so praysefull in the meaneest Men, In pow'r full Kings how glorious is it then? 1766 G. CANNING *Anti-Lucretius* iii. 161 No narrow preference for their native soil Restrains these heroes in their praisefull toil. 1818 LAMB *Poems, Salome*, The ruthless deed That did thy praisefull dance succeed.

2. Full of or abounding in praise; giving praise; eulogistic, laudatory.

1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii, All praisefull tongues doe waite upon that name. 1641 WITHER (*title*) Halelviah or, Britans Second Remembrance. in praisefull and Penitential Hymns. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. ix. 56 He speaks kind and praisefull things of me. 1776 MICKLE *tr. Lusad* 86 Had other wars my praisefull lips employ'd. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 694 Strains of praisefull lore.

Hence *Praisefully adv.*, *Praisefulness*. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. iv. 37 She must have.. heard your uncle speak praisefully of a man he is said to be so intimate with. 1867 BAILEY *Univ. Hymn* 5 Holy, and with true praisefulness inspired. 1890 CHEYNE *Chr. Use of Psalms* i. 29 Except in a general spirit of praisefulness, we cannot accompany the mass of our congregation in its jubilant singing.

Praiseless (prēizlēs), a. [f. PRAISE sb. + -LESS.] Without praise or honour; unpraised; undeserving of praise.

1558 PHAER *Æneid.* v. Miv b, His praiselsses shyp (*sine honore ralem*) Sergustus brought. 1597 BACON *Ess.*, *Coulers G. & Evil* ix. (Arb.) 151 Actions of great felicitie may draw wonder, but prayselesse. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 73 Death.. matching the Scepter, with the Spade, and the crowned Prince with the praiselsses Peasant. 1852 FRASER *Ser. Mag.* XLV. 570 Their life is arbitrary, blameless, and praiselsses.

† **Praisement.** *Obs.* [f. PRAISE v. + -MENT. Cf. *appraisement*.] Estimation of value, valuation, appraisement.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 141 Amountyng in value Aftry the prayment of the same to cxxxvijli. 1511 Fabyan *Will in Chron.* (1811) Pref. 7 Before the prayment.. of my foresaid moveables. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1657) II. vii. 143 It is beyond his.. skill, to give an exact praisement of it. 1656 J. CHALONER in D. King *Vale-Royall* iv. 26 If no man will buy it, the four men are to take it by Praisement.

Praiser (prēizə). Also 5-6 *praysour*. [a. AF. *prei-*, *praisour* = OF. **preisor*, F. *priseur*; f. *preisier*, *priser*, PRAISE v.: see -ER-1.]

† 1. One who appraises; a valuer, appraiser. *Obs.* 1491 *Will of Stokes* (Somerset Ho.), The Bishopes praysours. 1529 *Act 21 Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 2 Their regesters, scribes, praisers, summoners, apparators. 1544 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. lii. 160 Rycharde Ferrer, for to be one of the Comen preysers in this Cytye. 1624 in *Picton L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 219 Oxe money.. to be assessed by the four Marchant prayseers. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 22) 205 The Chancellor of the Exchequer.. hath the Gift of the two Praisers of the Court.

2. One who praises, commends, or extols; a eulogist.

1382a WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvii. 21 So is preued a man in the mouth of preiseris [1388 preysers]. c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P. 211 The sweete wordes of flaterynge preiseres. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Lady* 18 Here cometh the prayser that endyted the songe. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 30, I have bene a praiser of none save physicians. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 472 Let your owne conscience be your owne prayser. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 245 Lady Davers was one of the kind Praisers. 1863 W. W. STORRY *Roba di R. II.* vii. 175 The Past never wants for praisers and apologists.

b. One who offers praise to God or a deity; a worshipper.

1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 170 They are praisers of images. 1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Trul.* (1814) 163 The loudest praiser of God.

Hence *Praisersess*, a female praiser. *rare*—1. 1611 COTGR., *Loueresse*, a praiseresse, commenderesse.

† **Praiseworthy**, a. *Obs.* *rare*. [f. PRAISE sb. + WORTH a.] = PRAISEWORTHY.

1591 R. W. TANCRED & Gismunda v. iv. Fijj, This is praiseworthy, not to do what you may. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 290 Elizabeth.. whose praise-worthy virtues if in verse I now should take in hand.

Praiseworthy, *adv.* [f. PRAISEWORTHY + -LY 2.] In a praiseworthy manner; laudably, commendably.

1570 T. WILSON *Demosthenes* Pref. *j, To make an English man telle his tale praiseworthyly. 1596 SPENSER *F. O. v.* xii. 31 All that ever shee sees doen prays-worthyly. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings*, D. Bartoli xv, Many a legend.. Do you praiseworthyly authenticcate.

Praiseworthiness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being praiseworthy; laudableness.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 405 Quite contrary to the others praiseworthinesse. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 276 The Praiseworthinesse of God. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xi. 66 Where, asks she, is the praiseworthiness of obedience, if it be only paid in instances where we give up nothing? 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xvi, His logical coolness of expostulation.. unheroic in proportion to its praiseworthiness.

† **Praiseworthy**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. PRAISEWORTH + -LY 2.] The examples may belong to *praiseworthy*: but cf. *dearworthy*.] = PRAISEWORTHILY.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* 310 The menne whiche praiseworthy canne obeie shal also have knowledge how praiseworthy to rule. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* 129 Some men.. have put to their helping handes, to this worke.. and P. Victorius most praiseworthy of all.

Praiseworthy (prēizwəði), a. [f. PRAISE sb. + WORTHY a. Formerly hyphenated or treated as two words: cf. b.] Worthy or deserving of praise; laudable, commendable.

1538 STARKEY *England* i. ii. 43 [He is] much more prayse-worthy, then he wych for fere and dred kepeth hymselfe in the hauen styl. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. ii. 1034 110 Shall we thinke anything praiseworthy or excellent, which we do not acknowledge to come of God? 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 489 That right good and praiseworthy man. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* xvii. (1700) 167 All Men are so far free as to be praiseworthy or blame-worthy for the Good or Evil that they do. 1738 LAW *Serious C.* ii. (ed. 2) 21 He does not ask what is allowable.. but what is commendable and praiseworthy. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 915 Gods, found because of thee adorable And for thy sake praiseworthyest from all men.

† b. Analytically, as great praise worthy, worthy of great praise. *Obs.*

[1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Cijj, The whiche.. maketh you of so great prayse worthy.] 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 178/2 Smal prayse worthy was it in them to kepe it. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshead* II. 52/1 Great praiseworthy was he that gaue the first adventure.

Praising (prēizɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRAISE v. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PRAISE. † a. Valuing, valuation, appraising. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* i. 17 Be tallage of 30ure townes without any werre.. By preyseynge of polaxis þat no pete hadde. 1524 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* 22 Paid for prayseynge of certayn stuff at the court.. viij^s. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 227 The registering, sealing, writing, praising, making of inuentaries.

b. Commending, commendation; the offering of praise to God. Also in *pl.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13401 Grete preyseynge he [Arthur] made, His men to bolde, þeir hertes to glade. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 379 A lital storie is told in presing of our Lady. 1382a *Prov.* x. 7 The mynde of the rihtwise [shall be] with preysingis. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) i. xi. 43/1 Theyr Fater noster, & theyr Ave maria, and other prayres and prayseynge, & theyr Aue maria, and other prayres and prayseynge, 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iv. xviii. (1634) 711 Under the other kinde of sacrifice.. are contained all.. our prayers, praisings, giving of thanks. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744)

VIII. i. 13 Hence the very word, by which we express the praising of one, is to extol him; that is, to lift him up.

+c. The fact of being held worthy of praise; *transf.* that which is so held. *Obs.*

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 311 At conseil & at nede be [Arthur] was a skilfulle kyng, So curteis of non men rede, ne prince of more praysing Was non in Cristendame. c1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* p. 875 The thriddle manere of chastitee is virginitee... she is the preysynge of this world. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Esop* iv. iv. Thy. beaute is fayrer... and of gretter preysynge than the songe of the nyghtyngale.

Praising, *pph. a.* [f. PRAISE v. + -ING 2.] That praises or expresses praise; laudatory.

1782 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxv. 2 Buriwynnye it shal burioune, and ful out iozen, iozeful and preising. a1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* v. v. They ever shal send Thee their praysing voyce. 1745 SCOT. *Paraphr.* xxiv. i. Ye Heavens, send forth your praising Song.

Hence **Praisingly** *adv.*, in a praising or laudatory manner; with praise.

1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 117 As that Father praisingly reminds them. 1889 G. GISSING *Nether World* III. xiii. 289 Miss Lanty... did not speak of her too praisingly.

+ **Praiseure**. *Obs. rare* -1. [f. PRAISE v. + -URE.] Valuation, appraisement, appraisal.

1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* II. iv. 55 The Clerk of the Band shall administer vpon his goods... making a true Inventorie or praysure thereof.

Prakrit (prā'krit). Also 8-9 Prācrit, 9 Prā-, Pra-crita, Prā-, Prā-, Prākrit. [ad. Skt. *prākṛita* natural, unrefined, vulgar: opposed to *sanskṛita* prepared, refined, polished (Sanskrit).] A general name for those popular languages or dialects of Northern and Central India which existed alongside of or grew out of Sanskrit.

Applied primarily to the ancient vernacular dialects, the earliest traces of which go back to c. 500 B.C.; then to the medieval Prakrits which succeeded these; and sometimes to the modern languages Hindi, Bengali, Marāṭhi, etc. Pālī is a form of primary Prakrit.

1786 ASIATIC *Miscellany* II. 502 Four unconnected Stanzas, in the Prācrit Language, which was anciently vernacular in India. 1789 SIR W. JONES *tr. Sacrosancti Pref.*, Wks. 1799 VI. 206 The men of rank and learning are represented speaking pure Sanscrit, and the women Prācrit, which is little more than the language of the Brāhmens melted down by a delicate articulation to the softness of Italian. 1801 COLERBROOKE *Sanskrit & Prācrit in Asiatic Res.* VII. 199 The Gods, &c. speak *Sanskṛita*; benevolent genii, *Prākrita*; wicked demons, *Pātschit*; and men of low tribes and the rest, *Māgad* etc. 1801 *Prākrit*, consisting of provincial dialects, which are less refined, and have a more imperfect grammar. 1837 C. P. BROWN *Sanskrit Pros.* 19 The Prācrita metres do not fall within the scope of the present essay. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. iv. iv. 138 We meet the same local dialects again in what are called the Prākrit idioms, used in the later plays, in the sacred literature of the Jāinas, and in a few poetical compositions. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* x. 187 One Prākrit dialect, the Pālī, became in its turn the sacred language of southeastern Buddhism. 1893 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* x. II. 296 The inscriptions of Asoka are written in three local Pālī or Prākrit dialects, evidently derived by long continued detritum from the Sanskrit of the Vedas. 1904 *Athenaeum* 18 Oct. 481/3 The literatures which were produced... by the earliest language of the Vedas, by the later classical Sanskrit, by the Pālī of the Buddhist books... and by such of the other Prakrits, or popular dialects, as attained to literary form.

Hence **Prakritie** *a.*, pertaining to Prakrit; **Prakritize** *v.*, *trans.* to turn into Prakrit.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* x. 187 The next stage of Indian language... is called the Prakritie. 1881 R. MORRIS in *Academy* 27 Aug. 161/2 In Marāṭhi *muramura* = muttering, grumbling... seems to be a prakritised form of the Sanskrit *murmura*, which in Pālī would become *muramura* or *mumura*.

Praline (prā'lin), **prawlin** (prō'lin). Chiefly U.S. Also 9 *prawlēen*, *prawling*, *praslin*, *praleen*. [a. F. *praline*, f. the name of Marshal Duplessis-Praslin (1598-1675), by whose cook the confection was invented.] A confection made by browning almonds or nuts in boiling sugar; also transferred to various other preparations: see *quots.* 1809, 1883, 1893.

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Almond*, Almonds fry'd, or Prawlins, a Dish prepar'd by taking a Pound of the best Jordan Almonds... boil them to a Candy (in a syrup of loaf-sugar), constantly stirring till they are dry;... Put the Almonds again into the preserving Pan, and set them on a slow Fire, till some of their Oil comes from 'em into the Bottom of the Pan. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 265, I left our fort on Beaver Lake... provided with dried meat, frozen fish, and a small quantity of praline, made of roasted maize, rendered palatable with sugar. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 159/1 Orange Prawlings.—Take 4 or 5 China oranges, and cut off the peel in quarters... Have about a pint of clarified sugar boiling on the fire;... put in the pieces of peel [etc.]. 1893 MARY A. OWEN *Old Rabbit*, etc. III. 39 It was the fragrance of prawleens, that compound of New Orleans molasses, brown sugar, chocolate, and butter. 1901 WINSTON CHURCHILL *Crisis* I. xii. He did Miss Eugénie the honour to eat one of her praleens.

Pralle, *app. var. prolle*, **Prowl** *v.*

|| **Prām** ¹, **praam** (prām). Also 8-9 *prahm*, *prame*, 9 *prahme*, *praum*. [Du. *praam*, MDu. *praem*, *prame*, OFris. *prām*, Fris. *prame*, MLG., LG. *prām*, *prame*; so MHG. *prām*, G. *prahm-e*, ON. *prām*, Da. *pram*, Norw. *pram*, Sw. *prām*, also F. *prame*, all from Slav.; cf. OSlav. *pram*^u, Pol. *pram*, cognate with OHG. *farm*, freight-boat,

ferry: f. root *par-*, *per-*, *por-*: see FARE *v.*] A flat-bottomed boat or lighter, used especially in the Baltic and the Netherlands for shipping cargo, etc.

[1390-1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 42 Et port portagio dictorum piscium ad les prames, v. scot [at Danzig].] 1548 [see d]. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 105 Some long, deepe prams, sowed together with hempe and cord (but vnputtich or calkt). In these the Muscovian Merchants saile downe Volga, ouer the Caspian Sea. 1643 *Declar. Commons Rebell. Irel.* 49 [They] tooke a Scottish Barke and a Dover barke, and a Pram or Hute, and a Catch. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5050/2 Danish Prams, or Flat-bottom'd Boats. 1762 *Genl. Mag.* 251 The bason where the prames and flat-bottom boats lie. 1807 SIR R. WILSON in *Life* (1862) II. vii. 218 Three English prams had also arrived. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 899 The cargo... was unloaded into prams or lighters belonging to the [Russian] government. 1844 *Hull Dock Act* 114 The word 'vessel' shall include ship, lighter, keel, barge, pram, boat, raft.

b. A large flat-bottomed boat mounted with guns and used as a floating battery.

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5349, 4 Prames or large Flat-bottomed Boats, one of which is to carry 20 Guns. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 126/2 There is a kind of warlike vessel called a prame... equipping in different French ports. Each... has two decks... they are long and broad, but draw very little water, and are rigged after the manner of a ketch. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lviii. One of the prams mounted ten guns, and the other eight. 1845 GRESLEY *Frank's First Trip* 166 A large sort of gun-boats, called Prams, which were flat and wide, with three keels and three masts.

c. As name of a ship's boat.

1860 *READER 8th Commandm.* 338 His work runs into the port of annihilation quicker than pirate can launch pram to attack it. 1894 *Times* 15 Nov. 715 A small boat, known as a 'pram', was seen to be launched. The mate... states that... the captain ordered the boat out to row to the shore.

d. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *pram bow*, *brig. ship*.

1548 *Aberdeen Regr.* XX. (Jam.), For the prame (in Jam. prane) hyr havand their gudis to the schip. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 278 (Ordinance of Stockholm) Disbursements and Charges... Pilotage, Anchorage, Beaconage, Prām or Lighter-piles [etc.]. 1804 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 558/1 That part of the enemy's flotilla, consisting of two prams ships bearing the flag of chief of division and both under French colours. 1849 W. R. O'BRYEN *Naval Biog. Dict.* 123/2 An armed cutter, a pram-brig, and a gun vessel.

Pram ² (præm), *vulgar or colloq.* [See sense 1.]

1. A shortened form of PERAMBULATOR 3.

1884 *Graphic* 25 Oct. 423/2 Another favourite custom of nurses is to walk two or three abreast, chattering and laughing as they push their 'prams'. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Sept. 2/1 The Pram and the Baby. *Mod. Advt.* Some Second-hand Prams to be cleared cheap.

2. A milkman's hand-cart for delivering milk.

1807 *Daily News* 20 Jan. 12/6 Milkman seeks Work Milking Cows, or with a pram. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 8/2 Dairy Shop... Accessories from churns and separators to milk 'prams'.

Pramnian (præ'mniān), *a. Gr. and Rom. Antiq.*

[f. L. *Pramnium* (vinum), Gr. *Ἰππώνυ-ος* (olivos) + -AN.] In *Pramnian wine*, a wine from the neighbourhood of Smyrna. Also allusively.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 412 The Pramnian wine (which the same Homer hath so highly commended) continues yet in credit and holds the name still: it comes from a vineyard in the country about Smyrna neere to the temple of Cybele. 1830 *tr. Aristoph. Knights* 57 Off. off with the cup, in the name of the Pramnian God! 1863 RUSKIN *Wks.* (1872) II. 90 Pramnian wine, cheese, and flour.

Pran, *obs. form* of PRAVN.

Prance (prans), *sō.* [f. PRANCE *v.*] The act of prancing; a prancing movement or walk.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 182 ¶ 11 A lady... whom by the jolting prance of her gait... he guessed to have lately buried some prosperous citizen. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 307 Ethelberta... swept along the pavement and down the street in a turbulent prance. 1904 J. G. LORIMER *Selfmade Merch.* Lett. to Son 243 I'm... as full of prance as a spotted circus horse.

+b. A trip, a jaunt. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1803 DIBDIN *Nongtongbaw* I. xi, John Bull for pastime took a prance. Some time ago, to peep at France.

Prance (prans), *v.* Also 4-3 *prauince*, 5 *prawne*, *prauince*, 5-9 *prauince*. [Appears c1375: origin obscure: see *Note* below.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: 'To spring and bound in high mettles' (J.); to rise by springing from the hind legs, either spontaneously in gaiety, excitement, or impatience, or at the rider's will; to move by a succession of such springs. Rarely, and more vaguely, of other animals.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 221 Than þenketh he þough I prauince al by-forn First yn þe trays ful fat and newe shorne, Yet am I but an hors. 1398 TREvisa *Barth.* *De P. R.* xviii. iv. (1495) 752 A lombe... lad to pasture other to deth; he grutchyth not nor prauincyth not but is obedyent and meke. c1440 LYDG. *Hors. Shepe*, & G. 344 The Goos may gagle, the hors may prike & prauince. c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 21 Hartes in heirdis. Pransand and prunzeand, be pair and be pair. c1614 SIR W. MUR *Dido & Aeneas* I. 783 With Phoebus' steeds about the Poles do prauince. a1639 WOTTON *Poems in Relig.* (1651) 532 Here's no fantastick Mask nor dance, But of our Kids, that frisk and prance. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 1 Apr. I have a little white favourite [horse]... he prances under me with so much fire. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. VI. 208 As when some courser... Prances o'er the plain in joy of heart.

b. *trans.* (with reference to sense 3b).

1828 MORRIS *Eve of Creecy* Poems 168 Look you, my horse is good to prance A right fair measure in this war-dance.

c. *trans.* To cause (a horse) to prance.

1530 PALSGR. 664/1, I prauince an horse, I make hym fetcher gamboldes and to flynge, je *pourbondys*. 1609 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1812) V. 509 He and those that went with him coursed their horses, prancing them to and fro. 1611 COTGR., *Pourbondir*... to manage, or prauince a horse; to make him leape, or bound. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 119 He was provoked to see Briancon vault and prauince his Horse about the Field, as if he were certain of his Conquest. 1806 *Surr Winter in Lond.* III. 209 The marquis of Hartley and lord Barton... pranced their nags, each with two groom behind them, close up to the landau.

2. *intr.* Of a person: 'To ride (or drive) with the horse prancing; 'to ride gallantly and ostentatiously' (J.); to ride gaily, proudly, or insolently. Also + to prance it (obs.).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 41 Wherof this man was wonder glad, And goth to prike and prance aboute. a1548 HALL *Chron.* Hen. VIII 33 b, Then vp pranced the Burgoyons and folowed the chace. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 259 The Gentry delight much in great horses, whereupon they prauince continually through the streetes. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. i. 351 So make him my white jennet when I prance it After the Black Knight's litter. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 367 Like Troops of Amazons, the Female Band Prance round their Cars. 1802 CAMPBELL *Lochiel's Warning* 7 Proud Cumberland prances, insulting the slain, And their hoof-beaten bosoms are trod to the plain. 1854 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* xvii, His Majesty prancing in person at the head of them all.

3. *intr.* 'To move in a warlike or showy manner' (J.); to move or walk in a manner suggestive of a prancing horse, or (more generally) in an elated or arrogant manner; to swagger. Also *fig.*

c1400 *Beryn* 3400 They stond in altiracione & stryff in poynt to prauince To depart your goodis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* v. v. 8 Ilk ane of thaim, furth pransand lyke a lard. 1570 LEVINS *Manib.* 21/18 To prauince, exultare. 1593 SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI. II. i. 24 How well resembles it the prime of Youth, Trimm'd like a Yonker, prauincing to his Love! c1641 *Downfall of Pretended Div.* *Authority of Hierarchy* 11 How they pierck and prance it, above all Nobilitie and Gentry. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) V. x. 60 She bid the servant tell Lord G. that she desired his company. Lord G. was (= had) pranced out. a1784 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1816) II. 68 note, Sir, if a man has a mind to prance, he must study at Christ-Church and All-Souls. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvi, Rawdon... pranced off to engage lodgings with all the impetuosity of love.

b. *intr.* To dance, gambol, caper. Now *colloq.*

c1450 *Mankind* 91 in *Macro Plays* 4 Yf 3e wyll, ser, my brother wyll make yow to prauince. 1790 D. MORISON *Poems* 47 He tunes his win'some reed, The wee things loup and prance. 1817 *Lintoun Green* ix. 93 Whilst they toulze, ramp, and prance, The carles took their gill. 1893 GILMORE *Mongols* xxvi. 375 Two or more figures in uncouth masks... prance about in the circle to the sound of music.

4. *trans.* To drive or frighten by prancing.

1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 4 May 281/1 Who thinks he has nothing to do but to put on a laced jacket and go prancing his enemies into a fit.

Hence **Prancing** *vbl. sb.* and *pph. a.*

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. xxii. (M. Digby 230) If. 106 b/1 Furious neizyng of many stede, Pransynge of hors vp on ouer side. 1552 HULOET, *Pransynge* horses, *excursus equi*. c1560 *Heart's ease* 40 in T. Kychardes *Misogonus* II, Our minds to please and live at ease, And sometimes to use pransynge. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* v. 22. — *Nahum* III. 2 The noise of a whip... and of the pransynge horses (1885 *R. V.*) and pransynge horses. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. ii. 22 If the fool unstride His pransynge stallion, thou may'st up and ride. a1732 GAY (J.), Now rule thy prancing steeds, lac'd chariotier. 1740 C. PITT *Aeneid* XII. 465 Shook by the prancings of the thund'ring horse. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll.* *Man.* xxii. (1876) 278 The type of the reverse is the Dioscuri on prancing horses.

[*Note.* The phonology and spelling of *prauince*, *prance*, *prauince*, *prance*, suggest French origin, but no corresponding or allied word is recorded in French. Danish dialects have *pransende*, *pranse* (N. Jutland), 'to go in a stately, proud fashion', with an adj. *prans*, *pransh* 'spirited, proud, said of a horse' (Fejlberg), whence a vb. *pranske*; other dialects have *prance*, etc. in similar senses. These resemble the Eng. word; but their age and history are unknown. Less likely to be connected are Bavar. dial. *prangezen*, *prangsen* to make compliments, assume airs, *prangs* assumption of airs, affected behaviour, and Swiss dial. *spranzun* to strut. Cf. also the later PRANK *v.*, the identity of sense of which is remarkable, since it is difficult to equate the forms: see the *Note* there.]

Prancer (pransəj), [f. PRANCE *v.* + -ER 1.]

One who or that which prances.

1. a. *Thieves' cant and slang.* A horse.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 42 A Prigger of Prancers be horse stealers; for to pridge signifieth in their language to steale, and a Prancer is a horse. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggars Bush* v. ii, Higgen hath prigg'd the prancers in his days. a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Prancer*, a Horse. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, I would have thought little to have prigg'd a prancer from the next common.

b. in general use: A mettled or prancing horse; a steed. Also *fig.*

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* *Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 19 Where stands this prawncer, in what inn or stable? 1609 W. M. *Man in Moore* (Percy Soc.) 15 'This prancer', said Opinion, 'hath bene a wilde colt, and leaped thorough many honest men's gates in his days'. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Nov., Then the Captaine... of the Castle of St. Angelo upon a brave prancer. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribblemania* 151 Thus corporal's guard I've review'd on their prancers. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Launcelot & Q. Guinevere* 33 She whose elfin prancer springs By night to eery warblings.

+2. *Old slang.* A mounted robber; a highwayman.

(According to Farmer, A horse-thief.) *Obs.* c1600 *Dag Begg.* *Bednall Gr.* I. iii. (1882) 21 He w'd be your prigger, your prancer, your high-lawyer. 1673 R.