

- Ventriloquist,² speaker from the belly. ven-tril-o-kwist
 Verdict,² determination by a jury. (ver-dik) vēr-dikt
 Verdure,² a green color. Improperly as written. vūr-jure
 Verse,² poetry: there are 23,206 in the Bible. vurse
 Verst,² a Russian measure. 10 make 6 miles. vurst
 Vertebre,² a joint of the back. From *vertebre*. vūr-te-bur
 Veterinary,² a horse-doctor. (vet-run-e) vēt-er-e-na-re
 Vice,² wickedness. Corrupted from *vitium*. vise
 Vicious,³ wicked, corrupt. Also *vitious*. vish-shus
 Vigil,² the eve before a holyday. (vi-jil) vidj-il
 Vignette,² a wreath of leaves or flowers, &c. vin-ēt
 Villain,² anciently a servant; also a tenant of manorial lands. (vil-yun) vil-en
 Virtuoso,² skilled in curiosities: plural *virtuosi*. vir-tew-ō-so
 Viscount,² title next an earl. Vulgo as spelt. vi-kount
 Vista,² a prospect through trees. Or *visto*. vis-tuh
 Vive,³ lively, strong, forcible. (viv) veve
 Volume,² a book. Commonly *vol-lum*. vōl-yume
 Voluptuous,³ luxurious. Corruptly *volupshus*. vo-lūp-tshus
 Vulgate,² the common version of the Bible, until
 St. Jerome made a new one from the Hebrew. vūl-gait
Vastly. Is a word often abused by the affected, and small talkers, as—'vastly good.'
Ventriloquism. By this art the ancients managed the responses of their oracles.
Verbs. We have nearly eight thousand verbs, and about forty thousand words.
Vergers. Officers in law-courts and cathedrals, attendants upon dignitaries.
Vermin. Its barbarism (*varmint*) is certainly one of the lowest in our language.
Verses. This term, when applied to the separate divisions of a poem, is wrong: the true signification of verse, in poetry, being simply but one line.
Verses 21st c. 7, of Ezra, has the whole alphabet in it: *least* is 1st c. 1st Chronicles.
Version [an old] of the Testament has *rascal* for servant, then *correc*, in Rom. 1. 1.
Vertebres. Vulg. as spelt: anglicised as *centre*: its plural is now *vertebres*.
Vesalius of Brussels, anciently gave names to the muscles of the human body.
Vestry clerk. Has a gratuity of 1l. 5s. on every thousand names in a census.
Veterinary. Imported from France 20 years back, on our establishment of the college.
Victim. Hence victimised, a sufferer by swindling. The ancients offered barren beasts as victims to the infernal deities, but fruitful ones in sacrifice to the celestial gods.
Victuals (*vit-elz*). Its orthoepy is corrupt; and was so offensive to dean Swift, that in writing he invariably spelt it *vittles*. *Victualer* [vit-ler], a publican.
Villain. Thus Henry VIII. addressing the tenant of a manor, says,—'As you are an accomplished villain, I order that you receive 700l. out of the public treasury.'
Vine [the] fig, pomegranate, and melon, were favorite fruits in Athenian gardens. The hanging gardens of Babylon, spoken of by Diodorus and Strabo, were the wonders of art.
Vol, or *vulcano*. There are 200 in the world; of which number 118 are in America.
Voltaire. His best portrait is traced on the village inn-wall of Colonges, on the continent.
Volumes. In Cambridge library are unknown, but the authors amount to 100,000.
Vote. If a place return two members to Parliament, an elector may vote for *both*; but if he give it to one only, and withhold it from the other, this is called a *plumper*.
Vowasom. Ancient name for a nobleman, next in dignity to a baron.
Powels. Our pronunciation of them differs from that of the rest of Europe. They are all found in the word *facetiously*; but extended by a late writer to eight.
Vulgate. Because intended by Council of Trent, for vulgar use. Only one admitted by Romanists. Orig. translated from the Greek of the seventy; by whom is not known.
VULGARISMS.—Visur vemon, veminus, verjis, for viz-yere, venom, venemous, verjuice.