

Black's Law

CHAMBRE — CHANCELLOR

CHAMBRE DEPEINTE. A name anciently given to St. Edward's chamber, called the "Painted Chamber," destroyed by fire with the houses of parliament.

CHAMFER. A small gutter, furrow, or groove; the slope or bevel produced by cutting off the edge of anything which was originally right angled. *Syracuse Chilled Plow Co. v. Robinson, C.C.N.Y., 35 F. 502, 503.*

CHAMOTTE. A clay which has been burned to an extent which deprives it of further shrinkage on being again subjected to heat. *Panzl v. Battle Island Paper & Pulp Co., D.C.N.Y., 132 F. 607, 609.* As used in the arts, see *Id., C.C.A.N.Y., 138 F. 48, 50.*

CHAMP DE MAI. (Lat. *Campus Maii.*) The field or assembly of May. The national assembly of the Franks, held in the month of May.

CHAMP DE MARS. (Lat. *Campus Martii.*) The field or assembly of March. The national assembly of the Franks, held in the month of March, in the open air.

CHAMPART. In French law. The grant of a piece of land by the owner to another, on condition that the latter would deliver to him a portion of the crops. *18 Toullier, n. 182.*

CHAMPERT. In old English law. A share or division of land; champerty.

In old Scotch law. A gift or bribe, taken by any great man or judge from any person, for delay of just actions, or furthering of wrongous actions, whether it be lands or any goods movable. *Skene.*

CHAMPERTOR. In criminal law. One who makes or brings pleas or suits, or causes them to be moved or brought, either directly or indirectly, and sues them at his proper costs, upon condition of having a part of the gains or of the land in dispute. One guilty of champerty. *St. 33 Edw. I, c. 2; In re Aldrich, 86 Vt. 531, 86 A. 801, 802.*

CHAMPERTOUS. Of the nature of champerty; affected with champerty.

The conveyance of land which is in the adverse possession of another is "champertous". *Reynolds v. Thomas Norman Co., 295 Ky. 41, 174 S.W.2d 132, 134.*

CHAMPERTY. A bargain by a stranger with a party to a suit, by which such third person undertakes to carry on the litigation at his own cost and risk, in consideration of receiving, if successful, a part of the proceeds or subject sought to be recovered. *Small v. Mott, 22 Wend., N.Y., 405; Gilman v. Jones, 87 Ala. 691, 5 So. 785, 7 So. 48, 4 L.R.A. 113; Jamison Coal & Coke Co. v. Goltra, C.C.A.Mo., 143 F.2d 889, 895, 154 A.L.R. 1191.* An agreement between owner of claim and volunteer that latter may collect claim at his own expense and divide proceeds. *Gibson v. Gillespie, 4 W.W. Harr. (Del.) 331, 152 A. 589, 593.*

The purchase of an interest in a thing in dispute, with the object of maintaining and taking part in the litigation. *7 Bing. 378.*

"Maintenance" consists in maintaining, supporting, or promoting the litigation of another. "Champerty" is a bargain to divide the proceeds of litigation between the owner of the liquidated claim and a party supporting or enforcing the litigation. *Draper v. Zebec, 219 Ind. 362, 37 N.E.2d 952, 956.*

CHAMPION. A person who fights a combat in his own cause, or in place of another. The person who, in the trial by battel, fought either for the tenant or demandant. *3 Bl.Comm. 339; Bracton, l. 4, t. 2, c. 12.*

A person who engages in any contest; a combatant; a fighter; one who acts or speaks in behalf of a person, or a cause; defender; an advocate. *Egan v. Signal Pub. Co., 140 La. 1069, 74 So. 556, 558.*

CHAMPION OF THE KING OR QUEEN. An ancient officer, whose duty it was at the coronation to challenge "that, if any man shall deny the king's title to the crown, he is there ready to defend it in single combat." *Wharton.*

CHANCE. Absence of explainable or controllable causation; accident; fortuity; hazard; result or issue of uncertain and unknown conditions or forces; risk; unexpected, unforeseen, or unintended consequence of an act. The opposite of intention, design, or contrivance.

But it has been held that there is a wide difference between *chance* and *accident*. *Harless v. U. S., Morris, Iowa, 169, 173.*

CHANCE BARGAIN. The entering into a contract for better or worse, accompanied by the taking of chances as to the true facts and situation of the thing or article bargained about. *Marr v. Lawson, 290 Ky. 342, 161 S.W.2d 42, 44.*

CHANCE-MEDLEY. In criminal law. A sudden affray. This word is sometimes applied to any kind of homicide by misadventure, but in strictness it is applicable to such killing only as happens in defending one's self. *4 Bl.Comm. 184.*

CHANCE VERDICT. See Verdict.

CHANCEL. In ecclesiastical law. The part of a church in which the communion table stands; it belongs to the rector or the impropiator. *2 Broom & H. Comm. 420.*

CHANCELLOR. In American law, this is the name given in some states to the judge (or the presiding judge) of a court of chancery.

In England, besides being the designation of the chief judge of the court of chancery, the term is used as the title of several judicial officers attached to bishops or other high dignitaries and to the universities. The title is also used in some of the dioceses of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States to designate a member of the legal profession who gives advice and counsel to the bishop and other ecclesiastical authorities.

In Scotland, this title is given to the foreman of a assize or jury. *Bisph.Eq. 7.*

An officer bearing this title is to be found in some countries of Europe, and is generally invested with extensive political authority.

Chancellor of a Cathedral

In English ecclesiastical law. One of the *quatuor personae*, or four chief dignitaries of the cathedrals of the old foundation.

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