

others, making a prehensile hand or foot (the digits are generally provided with flat nails); the orbit is completely bony; the clavicles are well developed; the femur never has a third trochanter; the stomach is simple; the testes descend into the scrotum; there are two thoracic mammae. Cf. ANTHROPOID.

*Literature:* CLAUS, Zoologie; BREHM, Thierleben; HARTMANN, The Anthropoid Apes; HUXLEY, Man's Place in Nature; FLOWER and LYDDEKER, Mammals Living and Extinct; HAECKEL, Generelle Morphologie. (C.S.M.)

**Prime** [Lat. *primus*, first]: Ger. *erst*, *ur-* (in compounds, as *Ursache*); Fr. *prime*, *premier*; Ital. *primo* (general). First: e. g. (1) First in order of causation, as 'prime motor.'

(2) First in order of development and complexity; elementary; as 'prime number.'

(3) In exact logic, a 'prime aggregant' is an aggregant not separable (without further information) into aggregants; so also 'prime component' (called also, but inappropriately, a 'prime factor'). (C.S.P.)

**Prime** (in acoustics): Ger. *Grundton*; Fr. *son fondamental*; Ital. *suono fondamentale*. See FUNDAMENTAL TONE.

**Primitive:** see PRIMARY.

**Primitive Credulity:** see BELIEF.

**Primordial:** see PRIMARY.

**Primum cognitum** [Lat.]. A topic of the most obsolete psychology. The question was what was the earliest form of intellectual conception in the development of a child, not of a clear and distinct kind, but yet not mere perception or imagination, nor yet the earliest concrete judgment, but, as they said, 'simple apprehension of things.'

*Literature:* AQUINAS, Summa Theol., pars I. qu. 85, art. 3; AEGIDIUS ROMANUS, in I. Phys., cap. ii. qu. 4; SCOTUS, Quodlibet, 2, and Opus Oxon., I. iii. 2; Conimbricenses, in I. Phys., cap. v. qu. 4; ZABARELLA, De Ord. Intell., passim. (C.S.P.)

**Primum mobile** [Lat.]. In the Aristotelian system, the physical system which is next to God, the unmoved mover. Cf. MOTION.

Motion is a sign of change and so of imperfection; but the first mover as next in rank to God has a movement which continually returns into itself, and thus affords a symbol of permanence. Its movement is circular and recurrent. Thus the diurnal revolution of the heavens was accounted for. The idea was taken up and developed in the Ptolemaic system, the primum mobile being the tenth and uttermost concentric sphere,

which in its daily revolution takes all the fixed stars with it. (J.D.)

**Principal** [Lat. *principalis*, from *princeps*, chief]: Ger. *Haupt-* (in compounds, as *Hauptergebniss*), *Principal-* (in compounds, as *Principalcoordination*, Avenarius); Fr. *principal*; Ital. *principale*. Chief. *Principal cause* is that which by its own virtue produces the effect. *Less principal cause* is one which aids the principal cause but is always unequal to producing the effect. The less principal cause is procatartetic or instrumental.

*Principal end:* the end which an agent first and primarily intends. It must not be mistaken for the ultimate or remote end.

*Principal form* is the form which *per se* constitutes a species. It is always a substantial form.

*Principal part:* any part the removal of which involves the destruction of the whole organism of which it is a part. (C.S.P.)

**Principal** (in law): Ger. (1) *Vollmachtgeber*, (2) *Hauptschuldner*, (3) *Hauptverbrecher*; Fr. (1) *mandant*, (2) *débiteur principal*, (3) *auteur*; Ital. (1) *mandante*, (2) *debitore principale*, (3) *correo principale*. (1) One for whom another is agent. See AGENCY (in law).

(2) One for whom another is surety.

(3) He who is the chief wrongdoer in a criminal transaction, as distinguished from an accomplice or accessory. (S.E.B.)

**Principle** [Lat. *principium*, commencement, beginning: trans. of Gr. ἀρχή, beginning, authority]: Ger. *Princip*; Fr. *principe*; Ital. *principio*. As the etymology suggests, the term principle has (or had) a double sense: chronological and normative (for a similar connection see PRIMARY). Literally, it means the first in time. But this may be taken as expressing the fundamental absolute reality, from which everything else is derived, and with reference to which all else is secondary and subsidiary. The chronological sense has almost disappeared in modern use, so that principle has come to mean the logical, or metaphysical, basis or ground of other truths. (1) Logically, the principle is a proposition upon which conclusions depend for their validity, and which, if conceded, establishes their truth: opposed to consequence.

(2) Scientifically, it is the law through which a diversity of facts, otherwise unrelated and unexplained, are classified and interpreted: opposed to datum, brute fact, or 'mere' fact.

(3) Practically or morally, it is the law which controls the factors of conduct: opposed