which the wise Powres Deny vs for our good. 1719 WATTS Ps. LXIII. (L.M.) ii, Thou Great and Good, thou Just and Wise, Thou art my Father and my God! (c) of animals

(c) of animais.
a 1000 Boeth. Metr. xviii. 5 Sio wilde beo, peah wis sie [etc.]. 1560 Bible (Genev.) Prov. xxx. 24 These be foure smal things..., yet thei are wise and ful of wisdome. 1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg. 1. 271 The wise Ant her wintry Store provides. 1863 KINGSLEY Water-Bab. ii, The wise dog took them over the moor.

(d) of superhuman beings and personifications.

(f) in proverbs and proverbial sayings. (See

also 6 c.)

1303 R. Brunne Handl. Synne 9884 Wyys ys hat ware ys.
1526 Thorale Luke xvi. 8 The chyldren of this worlde, are in their kynde [1611 generation] wyser then the chyldren off light. 1539 TAVERNER Eratm. Prov. 18 He is in wayne wyse y' is not wyse for hym selfe. [See Prov. ix. 12, 1562 ]. Herwood Prov. & Epigr. (1867) 112 Who welth. Present is not wise for hym selfe. [See Prov. ix. 12, 1562 ]. Herwood Prov. & Epigr. (1867) 112 Who welth. Prov. 18, 1811 is a wise Father that knowes his owne childe. 1617 B. Rich Irish Hubbab 16 We were wont to say, it was a wise childe that did know the owner Father. 1717 Wodrow Corr. (1843) II. 319 The proverb of being wise behind the time. 1745 B. Franklin Poor Richard (1800) 157 Fools make casts and wise men ear them. 1879 Dixon Windor II. xix. 204 Men who are wise are wise in time. 1881 Salnysbury Dryden i. to Sir Gilbert Pickering. was wiser in his generation.

b. Of action, speech, personal attributes, etc.

b. Of action, speech, personal attributes, etc.: Proceeding from, indicating, or suggesting sound judgement or good sense; 'becoming a

wise man' (J.); sage.

wise man' (J.); sage.

a 900 CYNEWULF Crist 922 bam be hafaß wisne gepoht.

a 1225 Aner. R. 108 So bet non wisure read ne mei bringen
hire ut of hire riote. Ibid. 338 Of pe axunge mei uallen vuel
bute 3if be axunge beo be wisre. 1362 LANGL. P. Pl. A. x. 71
Vche wist in pis world bat hab wys vnderstondinge. 1422
YONGE tr. Ser. Ser. 134 Anothyr yewyth a vyse consail.
c1480 HENRYSON Fables Prol. 17 (Makculloch MS.), A
doctryne wiss anewch, and ful of fruyt. 1597 SHAKS. 2 Hen.
Ly. vi. 84 It is certaine, that either wise bearing, or ignorant
Carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another.
Ly. vi. 84 It is certaine, that either wise bearing, or ignorant
Carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another.
how the service of the service of the service and moderne instances. 1667 Millton P.L. xi. 666 One.
eminent In wise deport, spake much of Right and Wrong.
a1672 WILKINS Nat. Relig. 1. vi. (1675) 84 It must be a Wise
Being that is the Cause of those Wise Effects. 1753-4
RICHARDSON Grandison II. xxiii. 166 My father also thought
fit (perhaps for wise reasons) to acquaint us, that he designed
for us but small fortunes. 1821 SCOTT Kemilu. xvi, Teach
your affection to see with a wiser eye. 1849 MACAULAY Hist.
Eng. vi. 11. 80 By a wise dispensation of Providence. 1860
TYNDALL Glac. 1. xi. 71 He thought it wise not to attempt the
ascent farther.
ironically. 1535 Joye Apol. Tindale (Arb.) 28 S. Paule (by
this wyse reason) hand he need with the wist has the visite we wish

ascent farther.

ironically. 1535 Jove Apol. Tindale (Arb.) 28 S. Paule (by this wyse reason) playd bo peep with hys pistle to the hebrews. 1822 Sheller Scenes fr. Faust ii. 227 Twere a wise feat indeed to wander out into the Brocken upon Mayday night.

†2. a. Having practical understanding and ability; skilful, clever; skilled, expert (const. of).

Obs.

a 900 CYNEWULF Elene 502 Wordcræftes wis. c 1300
Havelok 282 Of alle pewes was she wis, pat gode weren.
c 1320 Sir Tritt. 1270 In warld was non so wiis Of craft pat
men knewe. Pa 1400 Morte Arth. 2745, I rede 3e wyrke
aftyre witte, as wyesse men of armes. c 1400 Destr. Troy
1530 Wise wrightis to wale, werkys to caste. 1508 Dunban
Tua mariit wemen 462 3it am I wise in sic werk. a 1548 HALL
Chron., Hen. VII 32b, He secretly sent wise espialles...to
searche & prye oute of what progeny thys... Rycharde was
dissended.

b. spec. Skilled in magic or hidden arts. Now only dial., as in wise wife, WISE MAN 3, WISE WOMAN I.

WOMAN 1.

a 1639 Spottiswood Hist. Ch. Scot. VI. (1655) 383 Agnes
Samson (commonly called the wise wife of Keith) was...a
woman not of the base and ignorant sort of Witches. 1653 H.
More Anid. Alh. III. VI. \$6 (1712) 102 While he wish dit
ohimself that some wise body would help him to his...money
again there appeared unto him a Spirit.

3. a. Having knowledge, well-informed;
instructed, learned (in, earlier of, upon). Obs.
exc. as in b. (See also wise MAN 2a wise Woman).

exc. as in b. (See also WISE MAN 2 a, WISE WOMAN

1.)
c1000 Sax. Leechd. 11. 146 Læcas lærdon, pa þe wisoste wæron, þæt nan man on þam monþe ne drenc ne drunce. c1250 Gen. & Ex. 331 Sone 3e it dor of hauen eten,...3e... sulen...ben so wise alle euene So do de wunen a-buuen in heuone. 13... Gaw. & Gr. Kni.. 1605 Wys ypon wod-craftez. c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xxxi. (Eugenia) 6t In al science at

dewyce, bar mycht na woman wysare be. c 1400 Rule St. Benei (prose) lxiv. 42 Sho asht at be wise in goddis law. c 1505 (title) Here begynneth thystorye of y\* .vii. Wyse Maysters of rome. 1503 Shaks. I Hen. VI, 11. iv. 18 But in these nice sharpe Quillets of the Law, Good faith I am no wiser then a Daw. 1651 Hobbes Levidham II. xxx. 179 Wiser and better learned in cases of Law... than them-selves. 1742 Gray Elon 100 Where ignorance is bliss, "Tis folly to be wise.

b. (a) Informed or aware of something specified or implied. Now only in such phrases as none the wiser, as wise as before = knowing no more than before (i.e., usually, nothing)

no more than before (i.e., usually, nothing) about the matter.

1200 ORMIN 2270 Forrpi wollde 3h0 ben wis off patt purth Godess engell. 1220 Bestiary 799 In water 3e is wis of heukes come. 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints ii. (Paulus) 424 bat god wyss pame wald make Peteris banis quhik war of pai, And quhik war paulis banis alsa. 1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. x. 722 bis is longe lessoun, .. and litel am 1 pe wyser. 1470 Hexny Wallace viii. 380 Thai maid him wys off all that suttell cace. 1599 Shaks. Hen. V iv. i. 206. 1616 Witholf Dict. 574 Obscurum per obscurius, I am as wise as I was made wyse of the imperfection of the Olde Covenant. 1712-13 Swift frail. 60 Stella 2 Mar., I went into the city to see Pat Rolt, who lodges with a city cousin, a daughter of cousin Cleve (you are much the wiser). 1714 — Let. to Mis Vanomrigh 8 June. The pretender, or duke of Cambridge, may both be landed, and I never the wiser. 1838 DICKENS. O. Twist xxxi, Messrs. Blathers and Duff came back again as wise as they went. 1889 Century Mag. July 1431. Not one whit the wiser of the world than when he left home.

(b) colloq. (orig. U.S.), to be (or pre) wises to the collog.

(b) colloq. (orig. U.S.). to be (or get) wise to, to

home.
(b) colloq. (orig. U.S.). to be (or get) wise to, to be (or become) aware of; to put (one) wise (to), to inform one (of), enlighten one (concerning). 1896 Aos Artie ii. 14. I told him that when he wanted to get wise to what was in my hand all he had to do was to dig up his bit and come in. Ibid. xvii. 155 There was somethin ailed me, but I was n't wise to it. 1901 H. Mr Hugh John Henry 69 When I hear a pool-room comedian speaking lines about getting seasick on the B. & O., I'm wise to the fact that he dips in the Farmers' Almanac for his comedy stuff. 1913 A. BENNETT Regent X. 206 Tell me... she hasn't got herself arrested yet, has she?' 'No. And she won't!' 'Why not!' The police have been put wise.' 1918 BINDLOSS Agath's Fortune xvii. 158, I suppose it was because the drummer you wise that you went to Miss Strangel's 1923 F. H. KITCHEN Divers. Dawson 103 There would be the very devit op sy if Crutchley, got wise to their existence. 1937 G. HEVER They found Him Dead ii. 41 Say, sister, get wise to this! You can't put nothin' across on me! 1950 G. GREENE Third Man ii. 21. I met him my first term at school... He was a year older and knew the ropes. He put me wise to a lot of things. 1953 M. Glibert Sky. High xv. 210, I suppose Bill had just about got wise to you. 1977 F. PARRISH Fire in Barley v. 49 Dan wondered if the arry woman was wise to him.

c. wise guy (colloq., orig. U.S.): an experienced or knowledgeable man; usu. ironic or derog., a know-all, a wiseacre; someone who makes sarcastic or annoying remarks; also (with reversal of meaning), someone easily duped; also attrib.

reversal of meaning), someone easily duped; also attrib.

1896 ADR Artie xvi. 150 He was the wise guy and I was the soft mark. 1903 H. HAPGOOD Autobiogr. of Thief iv. 82 When these Rufus's up the State get a Yorker or a wise guy, they'll strip him down to his socks. 1910 W. M. RAINE Bucky O'Connor ii. 28 You're wise guys, gents, both of yez. 1920 B. TARKINGTON in On Plays, Playwrights & Playgoers (1959) 42 However, they'd made the crowd aware of wise guy superiority. 1922 Wodenbouse Adventure of Sally xiii. 219 Obviously one of the Wise Guys of whom her friend the sporting office-boy had spoken, he was frankly disastisfied with the exhibition. 1929 W. T. SCANLON God have Mercy on Ut! 19.1 311 We had positive orders not to pick up any form of documents and to leave them for the Intelligence Section—the 'Wise Guy Section', as we called it. 1932 [see exs. 2. 19.1 1941 B. SCHULEBER What make: Sammy, Run? (1943) i. 7 Listen, wise guy... if you found something wrong. why didn't you come and tell me? 1959 C. Williams Man in Motion xi. 150 'What're you, a wise guy?' he snarled. 1972 Village Voice (N.Y.) I June 50/3 The cop.. told Rob he didn't think it was funny, portfolio or not, declared that he was a clear-cut wise guy and placed him under arrest. 1976 National Observer (U.S.) 7 Aug. 17/1 Kramer and Roberts seem unable to shake off the brittle, knowing, wise-guy tone of voice.

4. In one's right mind, sane. Now Sc. and dial. So Du. 47ij. Cf. wisdom 4.

Cf. Beotulf 2004 wis and gewittig (= fully conscious). 21390 S. Erg. Leg. 1. 412 Here men mighten isee Hou he pleisez with his 3004 wis and gewittig (= fully conscious). 67th. V. 1. 245 Oth. Fire, and brimestone. Det. My Lord. Oth. Are you wise?.. Des. My Lord? Oth. I am glad to see you mad. 1881 'Sanah Tyrler' here Fright (1882) o They were each, secording to a significant old Scotch phrase, wise (pronounced vice, and meaning rather rational than sagacious) and warld-like'.

5. † a. to make it wise (see Make v. 68 b): to deliberate, hesitate. Obs.

deliberate, hesitate. Obs.

1386 Chaucer Prol. 785 Vs thoughte it was noght worth to make it wys And graunted hym wit outen moore auys. b. to make wise (see MAKE v.) 69): to behave as if one were 'wise' about a matter; to pretend, 'make as if...' Obs. exc. dial.

make as if... Ubs. exc. dial.

1447 SHILLINGFORD Lett. (Camden) 14 Hengston seide
but litell therto, but made wyse as thogh hit were ves. 1561
Hobs tr. Castiglione's Courtyer 11. (1577) M vj. The two...
wente to bed darkelong, laughing and making wise to
beleeue that hee wente about to mocke them. 1589
PUTTENHAM Engl. Poesie 111. XXII. (Arb.) 265 He makes wise,
as if he had not bene a man learned in some of the
mathematickes. 1604 Hieron Preachers Plea Wks. 1614 1.

wise (watz), a. (sb.3, adv.) Forms: 1-5 (6 Sc.) wis, 3-5 (6 Sc.) wys, 4-7 wyse, 4- wise; also 3-5 wis, 4 wiys, wyys, wyese, -esse, weysse, Sc. viss, vyijs, 4-5 wijs, wyes, wiss, 4-5 (6 Sc.) wyss, wice, 4-6 Sc. vyise, 4, 7 wiese, 5 wijse, wies, weise, wiese, wisse, wisse, wysse, vise, vice, viese, Sc. vyis, 5 (6 Se.) wyis, wyce, vyse, 6 Sc. wisz, wyise, ice, iss, vyiss, vyce. [OE. wis = OFris., OS., OHG. (MLG., MDu., MHG.) wis, (Du. wis, G. weis in phr. einen weis machen), ON. viss (Sw vis), Goth. weis (in compounds):-OTeut. \*wisaz:-pre-Teut. \*wittos, f. Indo-Eur. weid-

See WIT v.1) + ppl. suffix -to-.

OHG. wisi (MHG. wise, G. weise) is from a parallel formation with j-suffix.

The standard pronunciation with voiced s (z) is presumably derived from the oblique cases. The normal representative of OE. wis with (s), as in ice (OE. is), survives in some northern dialects; the regular Sc. pronunciation is (weis).

1. a. Having or exercising sound judgement or discernment; capable of judging truly concerning what is right or fitting, and disposed to act accordingly; having the ability to perceive

and adopt the best means for accomplishing an end; characterized by good sense and prudence. Opp. to foolish. (See also WISE MAN I.) Also in

and adopt the best means for accomplishing an end; characterized by good sense and prudence. Opp. to foolish. (See also WISE MAN I.) Also in phr. wise old man; spec. = WISE MAN 4.

In ME. often in collocation with WARE a.

Beowulf 1845 Magenes strang and on mode frod, wis wordcwida. c1000 Rule of Chrodegang liv. Preostas secolon gemunan pæt his ne synt. wisran bonne Salomon. a1122 O.E. Chron. (Laud MS.) an 636 Theodorus, swife god man & wis. c1205 LAY. 6303 Heo wes swife wis of wordliche dome. a1225 Anr. R. 90 Salomon pe wise. a1250 Oul & Night. 192 He is wis and war of worde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 538 King alfred was wisost king pat longe was biuore. 1375 BARBOUR Bruce IX. 327 The viss king, that vesicht and bald. c1386 CHAUCER Prol. 68 Though pat he were worthy he was wys. Ibid. 309 A Sergeant of the Lawe war and wys. c1400 Detr. Troy 1463 A man witty & wise, wight, wildist in armes. 1414 MISYN Mending Life iv. 113 In meet & drynke be bow scars & wisse. c1440 Pomp. Paru. 526/1 Wyce, in werkynge and ware... discretus, protidus. 1500-20 DUNBAR Poema XXXIX. 39 And quha can reive whir menis rowmis... Is now ane active man and wyice. 1508 — Tua mariit wemen 204 As wis woman syl wrought knot as wod fule. 1526 Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1331) 31 We sholde also be wele ware or wyse, as is y' serpent. 1526 Tinoale Matt. XXY. 2 Fyve of them were folysshe, and fyve were wyse. 1599 SHAKS. Much Ado 11. iii. 167 Claudio. And she is exceeding wise. Prince. In euery thing, but in louing Benedicke. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Pt. Summers Trat. 42 To tempt and draw the wisest men to folly. a 1732 GAY Fables 11. v. 1 That man must daily wiser grow. Whose search is bent himself to know. 1798 SOUTHEY Well of St. Keyne 51 She had been wiser than me. For she took a bottle to Church. 1818 Collection Friend II. i. 23 The first duty of a wise advocate is to convince his opponents, that he understands their arguments and sympathizes with their just feelings. 1872 TENNYSON In Childr. Hosp. vi., 161, said the wise little Annie. was you, I sho

(b) of God. (0) Of GOG.

1250 Gen. & Ex. 260 lhesus, god and man so wis. c 1400
tr. Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordih. 92 God ys wys and conynge.
1256 TinDalte Jude 25 To God our esaveour, whyche only ys
wyse [1611 to the onely wise God our Sauiour], be glory,
maicstie, dominion, and power. 1606 SHAKS. Ant. & Cl. ti.
i. 6 We ignorant of our selues, Begge often our owne harmes, 511 Hee... made wise, as if he could have tolde great tydings, 1834 Mrs. Bray Warleigh x, Whether she really felt desirous to take this opportunity of gaining repose, or whether, to use a Devonshire phrase, she only made wise to do so. 6. absol. or as sb. † a. sing. usually with def.

article or demonstrative: A or the wise man:

article or demonstrative: A or the wise man; spec. a sage. Obs.

c897 ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. C. xxxiii. 220 Se dysega.

all his ingebone he geypt, ace wise hit ieldeas. a 1230 Out

8 Night. 176 Wel fyht pat wel flyhp, seyp be wise. c 1374

CHAUCER Troylus 1. 79 bis forknowyng wyse. 1390 Gowen

Conf. 1. 268 Upon the fol, upon the wise Siknesse and hele
entrecomune. 1401 26 Pol. Poems iii. 12 Do euene lawe to
fooll and wyse. c 1440 Alphabet of Tales 484 be wise sayd
vnto hym: 'pis way is bothe fayr & gude'.

b. pl. Wise men or persons: now always with
the: 'fformerly also with demonstrative.

tformerly also with demonstrative,

the; †formerly also with demonstrative, possessive, etc.

21000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xi. 25 bu pe behyddyst pas ping fram wisun & gleawun. c1205 LAY. 16817 He bi-heold. wule of wilsen ærest spæken wolden. a1300 Cursor M. 20794 Disput, he sais. es na mister, Bituix te wis in swilk a wer. 1340-70 Alex. & Dind. 973 Dindimus pe dere king, the docktour of wise. 1390 Gower Conf. I. 1 Som matiere, Essampled of these olde wyse. Ibid. 26 The wiseste of Caldee Ne cowthen wite what it mente. c1200 26 Pol. Poems i. 167 Fle fro fooles, and folwe wise. 1335 Coverdale Isa. xxix. 14, I wil destroye the wisdome of their wise. 1670 DRYDEN 1st Pt. Cong. Granada II. (1672) 21 The bold are but the Instruments o'th' wise. 1784 Cowper Task III. 583 Tennyson Pal. Art 103 O silent faces of the Great and Wise. c. a word to the wise (is enough): VERBUM SAP. Also † few words to the wise suffice, etc.

C. a word to the wise (is enough): = VERBUM SAP. Also † few words to the wise suffice, etc.

1500-20 DUNBAR POEMIXV. 24 Few words may serve the wyis.

1562 MOUNTCONERY in Archaeologia XLVII. 24 Feawe woordes to the wise doeth suffice. 1639 J. CLARKE Paraem. 51 Few words to the wise suffice. Verbum sapienti sat est. A word to the wise. 1754 RICHARDSON Grandison I. xix. 127 Nay, if she can withstand him—But a word to the wise, Mr. Reevest Hem!

4. The comp. wifeer as ch. (with all suitements)

d. The comp. wiser as sb. (with pl. wisers): One who is wiser; usually with possessive, (one's) superior in wisdom. Now rare.

(one's) superior in wisdom. Now rare.

(Cf. BETTER A. 7, ELDER 15. 2, GREATE C.).

13300 Cursor M. 26180 Ga til a wijser to sceu pi wond.

1385 CHAUCER L.G.W. 2614 Hypermnestra, And werke
aftyr thyn wisere eure mo. 2447 BOKENHAM Seyntys v. 292

And of pi wysers lern bettyr gouernaunce. 1480 HERNYSON
Want of Wise Men 22 For warldly wyn sik walkis, quhen
wysar wynkis. 1818 Scott Hrt. Midl. i, Since it is well
known these Delliahs seduce my wisers and my betters.

1838 HARE Cuestes Ser. 1. (1847) 161 All writers who feel an
itching. to be carping at their wisers and betters. 1843

CARLYLE Past & Pr. 111. xiii, I fthou really art my Senior,
Seigneur, my Elder,... if thou art in very deed my Wiser.

7. Used as adv. = WISELY. In later use only in
comparative. rare.

comparative. rare.

1375 BARBOUR Bruce XVII. 52 Thou vroucht has vis, That thou discouerit first till me. 1600 SHARS. A. Y.L. II. iv. 58 Thou speak'st wiser then thou art ware of. 1797 Mrs. M. ROBINSON Walsingham IV. 153, I cannot act wiser than to take the little Welsh girl off the hands of her dragon.

8. Comb. a. advb. with adj. or pple., as wisebold, -hardy (opp. to FOOLHARDY), -valiant; wise-framed, -judging, -reflecting, -said. b. attrib. with sb., as wise-ass sb. and adj. (cf. SMART-ARSE, -ASS); wisebones sb. (humorous

attrib. with sb., as wise-ass sb. and adj. (cf. SMART-ARSE, -ASS); wisebones sb. (humorous appellation for a wiseacre), wise-heart adj. (= wise-hearted). c. parasynthetic, as wise-assed, -hearted, -lipped, -worded (ME. wis iworded). 1991 Current Slang V. 1v. 2: \*Wise ass, n., a wise guy. 1972 J. Pover Chinese Agenda iii. 17 Listen to what I have to say, then you can make all the wise-ass remarks you want. 1978 J. Irwing World according to Garp iv. 66 Benny Potter from New York—a born wise-ass. bld. 67 It was unfortunate that wise-ass Benny Potter was the first to tell Garp the news. 1967 P. Tamony Americanisms (typescript) No. 18. 2 fantastic display of brash male and female \*wise-assed mediocrity. 1976 'Trevanian' Main xii. 260 Some wiseassed note about the bad luck of getting a parking ticket the same night you get killed. 1600 'TOURNEUR Transf. Metam. Iiv, With a \*wise-bold heed. 1894 ALMA-TADEMA Wings of Icarus v. 26 There you go, old \*wisebones! Here's a storm in a tea-cup! 1642 H. MORE Song of Soul! III. Ix ii. \*Wise framed questions. 1575 LANEHAM Let. (1871) 44 Valiant, & \*wize-hardy. 1587 HOLINSHED Chron. III. xii. \*Wise framed questions. 1575 LANEHAM Let. (1871) 44 Valiant, & \*wize-hardy. 1587 HOLINSHED Chron. III. xii. Solymer yiII. 27 The cunning of \*wise-heart Hephenstus snare. 1535 COVERDALE Exad xxxv. 26 Soch wemen as were \*wyse herted. 1867 MORRIS Jason 11. 862 Men there are Wise-hearted. 1644 MILTON Divorce II. xvii. (ed. 2) 66 Why men so disesteem this \*wise judging men. 1818 MILMAN Somor I. 384 \*Wise-lipp' dehiel. 1848 BUCKLEY Iliad VI. 110 By no means could she persuade just-minded, wise-reflecting Bellerophon. 1597 Pilgr. Parnass. I. 113 Your \*wise-salliant frame His Syres revenge. 01223 Ancr. R. 64 Sum is so wel ilered, over se wise iworded [etc.].