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## LIFE—In its Varieties.



Order! Order!

Mucers.

Tulip & Kinsey  
"mixing it."

Brix.

Take out, and Muzzler.

Fangana. Rum one.

Tom Dodd.

Swell one.

Chaunting.

Blown.

Pouffier.

Fancy man  
& Miam Pifs.

Rent collector  
and his Old Hen.

**Cock and Hen**—a man and his wife "for the time being." A *Cock-and-hen Club*, is that accurate admixture of the sexes over their *heavy wet* and inspiring *max*, met with in Cockaigne ale-shops, chiefly on St. Monday evenings; when all present should pair on, which enables them, occasionally, to "pair off," as they do in the hon. H. C. A regular *chairman*, and a Mr. Vice, "keep order," if possible, for the chaunt; the ladies expect to be called upon *in turn*, and get fidgetty (whilst sitting on each flashman's knee) if they are not —. All classes are admitted, "except vorking folks and their brats; as for, them is what I hates," says Mrs. Lapstone. Excepting the two *officers* just named, and the Swell coves and Rum-ones on *the right*, one of

whom is "Tom Dodding," a companion's hat, most of the company *present* have been *had up*, guess. The *chaunt* is going on, and so is *the Mill*; and as 'tis now, "according to Cocker," "very nice time I don't think," every one is talking *ad libitum*, notwithstanding 'the *Rules*' says "No; you shant do no such thing." 'A respectable boot-club' we observe, is held here weekly, by "Joey Mew;" and, on the other side of "the henemy," hangs "Fancyana," a Chronology of fighting events, 900 in number.

Of manners loose, and drapery tight,  
Three *Motts* thus pass each sainted night  
In Gray's Inn-Lane—the Peacock, *hight*.

Vide p. 25.

**SPORTSMAN'S SLANG;**  
A  
**NEW DICTIONARY**

OF TERMS USED IN THE AFFAIRS OF  
THE TURF, THE RING, THE CHASE, AND THE  
COCK-PIT; WITH THOSE OF BON-TON,  
AND THE  
*VARIETIES OF LIFE;*

FORMING AN ORIGINAL AND AUTHENTIC  
*Lexicon Galatronicum et Macaronicum,*

PARTICULARLY ADAPTED TO THE USE OF

**THE SPORTING WORLD,**

For elucidating Words and Phrases that are necessarily, or purposely,  
rendered cramp, mutative and unintelligible, outside  
their respective Spheres.

INTERSPERSED WITH

*ANECDOTES AND WHIMSIES,*

WITH TART QUOTATIONS AND RUM-ONES;

WITH EXAMPLES, PROOFS AND MONITORY PRECEPTS,  
USEFUL AND PROPER FOR

**NOVICES, FLATS, AND YOKELS.**

*Editio altera.*

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BY JON BEE, Esq.

EDITOR OF THE ORIGINAL FANCY, FANCY GAZETTE, FANCYANA, LIVING  
PICTURE OF LONDON, AND THE LIKE OF THAT.

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*" Words not in Johnson,—no fudge."*

London:

PRINTED BY W. LEWIS, 21, FINCH-LANE, CORNHILL;

FOR THE AUTHOR.

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1825.

[Turn over.]



Sold by T. HUGHES, 35, Ludgate-street; J. WALKER, 44, Paternoster-  
row; HAL FORES, 16, Panton-street; and  
at 4, Long-lane, Smithfield;

*Where, only, Messages for the Author, Letters and Challenges are to be  
addressed, free of Postage.*

## ADVERTISEMENT.

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WHILE in the very act of sending forth these pages anew, with some obviously necessary *additions*, ample opportunity for *erasure* and emendation presents itself to the Authour's mind—if that course were found desirable, and he could forget for an hour his original “disdain,” as expressed in the Preface, page x. Accordingly, referring to some unamiable communications,

Of whining suppliant and rampant fool,  
Churls of an hour, unwhipp'd at school,

he asked himself *the Question*, mechanically enough—“ Shall *we* punch the plates, and leave void spaces—fit emblems of their brain—to please the vitiated palates of certain grovelling *Quidnuncs* of literature, debased name? Again, are they entitled to pity who have shown none to COMMON-SENSE (chaste Matron! thou —) or the relative decencies of ordinary life? And again, finally, Is it proper that *we* should give way, and concede, even the moot point, to imbecility, or manfully withstand the malign encroachments of *men of straw*, the unlaurelled occupants of a groaning *Press*—prostitutors of type—frog-like aspirants after a *name!*”

An invocation to *Common-sense*, or simply an *appeal* thitherward, usually carries its own reasoning along with it: *the goddess*, though only *half-bred*, yet resides in the empire of Reason, on a secure basement story, and is, therefore, readily found at home by the people of that *country*. Had the whining knaves consulted the same authority, and hearkened to its dictates, instead of hectoring *in fumo*, or whelming their small understandings in questing for identities, they would

ADVERTISEMENT.

have arrived at a readier and more sane conclusion than has since resulted to their labours. They would have returned unmurmuringly to their original handicraft employments,

And more honestly exercised agen  
The brush or currycomb, instead of pen.

*Death*, however, covers a multitude of sins, and hath hid from our view several of the pigmy *litteratists* and offending demoralizers here stigmatized; for, we hold it equally 'death in the pot,' or out of it, whether a man's *giant* succumb to the *grim tyrant*, by the agency of law or logic, morally or physically, by each of which means, severally, death hath ensued our labours, as it ought. For, truly, there be *giants* in Ethics as in Physics, and we respect them, even to reverence; yet, if they stand not the racket of investigation, do they not prove themselves Tom Thumb's giants, "made for slaughter?" But, if a dwarf in literary attainments swell himself up with the assumptions of giantism, shall we not slay his puny *pretensions* with his own club? Let him moan awhile his unreal loss, and then live on, to good (for nothing) old age, a well-grown *proper pigmy*, but *no giant*—NO.

P. S. I cannot take leave of this impression without again seriously insisting on the great utility of my labours in another way than simply expounding our Balatronic lore. The Comparative Etymologist may consult profitably the derivations here sought out for him, and the general cause of Philology is served by being helped over many a rugged stile, by the short-cut road of positive terseness. The Slangery of the streets is herein rendered more intelligible; and in every case may be made available as cautionary precepts. J. B.



## P R E F A C E.

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WHOLLY unlike any of its precursors, the present laborious Dictionary claims for its characteristics a good portion of originality, great utility as to several neglected good old English sports, much amusement, and recent information, obtained *vivâ voce* from some eschewed walks of *life*; together with a moral inculcation here and there, that shall *tell*, where the solemn *concione* would fail.

Every reader has a right to know his authour's *motives* for publishing at all, to be brought acquainted with his means of performance and his eligibility for the task; and the latter having likewise *his rights* to assert, this mutuality begets the undisputed custom of preface—the more gumptious the better. If the writer willeth to add hereto an exposition of his views on the subject-matter in hand, or to say aught of the manner of executing his task—either by way of extenuation or exultingly, he has that right undoubtedly,—let him exercise it at his peril. Neither Grose, nor his editor Dr. H. Clarke, nor the *preux* Count de Vaux, have filled the balatronic gap, that is ever widening at the *extreme base* of the ancient castle of Lexicography: a chasm exists that the modern artificers have in vain endeavoured to pass, or cover with their out-works of counter scarp and covert-way—the fosse must be entered ere 'tis passed, but the necessity of previously filling it needs no argument. Captain Grose was much too gross, even for his day, besides which, his work is become antiquated, stale, and out of date; the *Count's* attempts *at the end of his life* (2 vols.) were indeed *Vaut-rien*, as that *life* had been; and our friend Dr. Clarke's augmentations, though evincing him *clericus*, added to the structure lead, rather than beauty, or strength. Nat Bailey should not be forgotten: he is even older than Grose, and twice as nasty; the *Old Bailey* was once a dirty place, and so unhealthily situate, that folks *dropp'd* there suddenly and frequently, and Nat either gave or received its cognomen—no matter which.

So much for the occasion and the motive for *coming out*;

now for an extended *view* of the melancholy state of this particular walk of literature, until the present auspicious moment (May 1823); and chiefly as regards the other *walks* and alleys, the lights and shades of the highways and bye-ways of science and art.

Throughout the whole circle of learning, each pursuit had long to boast its appropriate Dictionary, explicatory of terms of art, of words and phrases, that seemed necessary or were rendered so by long use. Motherby and Jacob, Nicholson and Mortimer, sat down and exhausted the *slangery*\* of

\* What a host of enemies will not this one little word engender? How will every repetition and inflection of *slang* raise the ire, expand the nostrils, and redden the frothy muns of those who imagine, that because they may have ascended the montalto of universal erudition, none else shall dare mount the bases of those literary glaciers over which they lord it as if they had already conquered posterity; and adown which they threaten to hurl the weaker, more humble, aspirant after fame, to certain inevitable destruction! But let them be aware: the last family of the gluttons will not surrender tamely to the first of old-word monopolists. Let Israel d'Israeli of the "new words" coinage take care of himself: spacing Jemmy still lives, as well as "*Hearsid*." Those monopolies need be told that the origin of all words introduced since the statute of 36th of Edw. 3d. was no other than Slang, "according to Act of Parliament then passed;" and for *living authority* we tell them, So thinks the grave antique Editor of *the Gentleman's* (vol. 92, p. 520), who further adds, that it consisted at first in "the *laborious* and *recondite*, consisting of cant terms and slang, in cotemporary authors." True, good Urban Nichols, —very true; and what beyond the recondite and the laborious doest thou detect in these pages? Look to 'the *Addenda*,' Sylvanus, look at it; and if thou deign do so—what findest thou there but the *reconditæ voces*, the *expurgata exuberantia* of "cotemporary authours?" What lopping, and pruning, and clipping alike of the weak tendrils and rampant shoots—besides weeding and trimming down the noxious undergrowth—is not *there* visible at every step and every turn? No longer confine your pities, *Sylvanus et Sylvius*, to the "poor froze-out gardeners," just alluded to; those Sylvicolæ of doubtful mien.

The *title* we have adopted for the verbal inventions of such "cotemporary authors," viz. SLANG, is thus borne out, not only by a legal enactment, but also by the gravest, if not the most learned of *cotemporary critics*. We have further reason for being satisfied with the choice thus made, and the application thereof—which although apparently trivial is nevertheless weighty, in a glossarial point of view: 'tis evidently derived from no *ancient* language, nor is it "indebted to a Celtic origin." The Latin having no word that begins with Sl—, (except *slavi*, properly *sclavi*,) cannot, therefore, have aught to do with our *slang*. In this negative we see just cause to hope for a long and lasting peace with the more recondite of the *word peckers* (at least)—those who deluge *the republic* with up hill authorities, and pointless quotations from the *Scriptores Latini*, that threatening endless gasp to overwhelm us by their stupendous ponderosity,

Medicine as of Law, of Chemistry and of Trade, each making up his long alphabetical account to the day of publication. But, alas! to little purpose did those dingy pioneers in the forest of words work at radix and stemmata, from stem to branch, to twig and leaf; vainly did they pursue their still receding labours, and exhaust by their pertinacity the midnight oil! Scarcely were the sheets thrown off at press when the *Slangwhangers*, each in his degree, set to work and inundated with novelties each separate science, lest the *public* should become as wise as the *professors*—and these lose their

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And make us rather bear those ills we have,  
Than fly to others that we know nought of.

Thrice happy are we, however, that our dependance for victory over the *simply learned in languages*, rests not upon the defensive position just now thrown up as a kind of outwork to our actual appui. “Happy, happy, happy tawney Moor!” Proof positive is at hand; i. e. derivate proof, and this, in equity, must be received as *legal* proof, according to the laws of *the republic* of word peckers. The definition of the word is its origin: better and better still. *Slang*s are the greaves with which the legs of convicts are fettered in our prisons,\* having acquired that name from the manner in which they were worn, or borne about, by the several occupants. Those irons being in weight from one to four stone (from 12 lb. to 50 lb.) each set, required a *sling* of string [hemp, worsted, or silk] to support them off the ground, so that the garnished person might move his pins about from post to pillar, from the ward to the court, thence to the common room, to the sessions-house, and finally the press-yard—whereat they usually fell off his legs—and he too *fell* a few minutes thereafter—“GOOD BYE, Jack.” In performing those evolutions, as is well known to many—whom we name not—those greaves, irons, fetters, or darbies—call them what we like—[in fact, *call* them as we may, neversomuch, they seldom *come*, unless we enact some *clever* thing or other to get into their good graces]—each movement occasions a musical clanking or clang, differing from its preceding *bar*, as the *sling* or string may support the appendages more or less tightly; and then each alternate *bar* would sound either upon the *slack*-ened side of the irons or at the *sling* side—going “sling slang; sling slang.” If the occupant for the time being, happened, in *merry pin*, to *hop* on one leg—as did often happen, the sound would be all ‘sling, sling, sling,’ or ‘slang, slang, slang,’ according to the leg hopped-on or hopped-off; and, as the string (of hemp, worsted, or silk,†) already had the name of *sling* applied to it,

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\* The information may be of service to literary larceners—book pirates, that within a few years the same favour was extended to simple culprits merely; but whether the reformation of Newgate extends to all jails *non-constat*.

† True; as is that part of the legend, respecting rogues of the last century, which tells that certain highwaymen ‘wore silver fetters’—To *appearance* and in effect they were silver: the richer thieves rubbed over their irons the solution of grain tin in *aqua regia*, which gave these an evanescent whiteness.

occupation. A new race of Physicians discovered and disclosed the fact, that their predecessors had been but *novices*—their patients *flats* and *yokels*; the Lawyers practised new *quiddities*, and reversed the old pleadings; Chemistry was completely capsized (including *le bouleversment des français*); and as for Trade, it slept, and had slept on, but for the lawyer's *help*: *he* stepped in, however, *officiously*, and poor Trade died within his grasp—at his office, in B. R. or C. B. New Editors then became necessary for this new state of things; and Bartholomew Parr, and T. Edlin Tomlins, Dr. Chenevix, and 'Squire Dickinson, repaired the rents which Time had made, modernised the antiquated cut of their predecessors habiliments, and introduced the more modern *slang* of their respective avocations.\*

In the midst of all this redundancy, who took in charge to elucidate and bring to the standard the all-important affairs of *the Turf*? What stagyrite settled those of the *Ring*, putting down his thoughts in alphabetic order?—None. *The Chase* lay scattered through massy tomes, or pined in puny manuals to this hour. † *The Pit*, and its inmates, remained in utter darkness as to one order of its sports, neither Billy, Charley, Rolfe, or Tim, knowing their way about, literally; ‡ Old Fleming, or Nash, although taking the lead as *doodle-doo men*, neither could or would expound or explain. Excepting a small tract or two on cocking—all

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the irons were *the slangs*, and the *slang*-wearers' language was of course *slangous*, or partaking much, if not wholly, of *the slangs*. So much for the derivation of the word SLANG: John Nichols hath used it, and so hath Jon Bee; and both must be wrong—or both right “to a T”

Never did Whitter make out a better Case, in *Etymologicon Magnum*; and, we leave the learned doctor to prove how it happened that the word *Slang* was subsequently applied, or misapplied, by many who could read books, but understood little of the *ordinary* talk of life; neither of that language which pertained to the Turf, the Stud, the Chase, or the Ring—which they equally termed the Slang of each particular species of sport. However settled, we submit, *Domine gratia*.

\* Even these last named are fast passing away, like the ‘baseless fabric of a vision;’ and they of the present era will see spring up new mushroom Editors, who will ‘stick to the Author’ (like the polecat to the coney, battenning upon its vital fluid) and overlay his matter until he get buried in *emendata et corrigenda*.

† What signifies alluding to Taplin, but to bestow *a line* upon an arrant offender; the old anonymous Sportsman's Dictionary (in 4to.) was never compiled up to the mark of excellency of its own date; and Time has heaped his dull oblivious years both upon this and that.

‡ Harlequin Billy, vulgarly called White, Charley Eastup, Jem Rolfe and Timothy Arrowsmith. Y. Fleming hath relaxed.—See *Pit*, in Dict.

remained open to chance, to whim, and vagary, as the tables might turn, or the thought vegetate. For the language of *Bon-ton*, nothing, literally nothing, had been done to reduce its language to the standard of excellence, or to fix its beauties at the point of truth.

For the last of our subdivisions, however, much had been attempted, long ago: the "Varieties of Life," were heretofore enlivened by the wit, or elucidated by the learning or the research of several sapient lexicographers. Nathan Bailey led the way in amount as to learning, if not as to antiquity; the glossary affixed to the memoirs of Mr. Bamfylde Moore Carew coming second, and going lowest.\* Soon after this, ordinary life and language received some illustration from an anonymous hand, entitled "Characterism, or the Modern Age Displayed; being an attempt to expose the pretended virtues of both sexes," 12mo. E. Owen, 'Part 1, Ladies.'—'Part 2, Gentlemen,' *no date*; but apparently circa 1750. Next in order, we had G. Parker's "View of Society and Manners in High and Low Life: Adventures," &c. and comprising a history of the Stage, *no date*; about 1780, 12mo.†

Encouraged by the sale of his preceding publication, Mr. Parker issued proposals for publishing a somewhat similar work, *by subscription*. It had for title "Life's Painter of variegated Colours, by G. P. librarian to the college of wit, mirth, and humour." Motto, "*The proper study of mankind is man*," 1789, Ridgway, 8vo.‡ In this volume the vocabulary was extended to the utmost pitch of the author's means, and this might be confined to a mile round Covent Garden. Capt. Grose's "Literary Olio" and "Provincial Glossary," § proved him adequate to the task of completing "A

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\* "A new Dictionary of the Taunting Crew," 1 vol. small 12mo. was also low, very low indeed.

† In this publication was introduced a vocabulary comporting with the title, in part; Parker being mostly addicted to *low life*, the society of players and that of the ale-shop. See *Finish* in Dict. where only we found him, and where he received and expected the adulation of *the finishers*; but he had never cut any figure as a player, was not a man of even ordinary education, though a close observer, acute and satirically inclined, with some portion of humour.

‡ Two thousand three hundred copies were taken off of "Life's Painter," and Parker is supposed to have realised above two hundred pounds by the adventure.

§ A work with the same title was afterwards produced by the Rev. Samuel Pegge, and another of the clergy gave us a third volume still more recently.

Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue," 1 vol. small 8vo. thus closing the catalogue of all that had been previously done for elucidating the language of *ordinary sporting life*, the life of fun, frolic, and gig.

Grose's book was reprinted *verbatim* several times; it had been part copied, extracted, and gutted, as often,\* but each time more imperfectly, because at every step further and further removed from the original. Many articles in the captain's book are finely archæological, and ought never to be erased; many more evinced his intimacy with the world, and will live though the man be forgot. Beyond this a long, dreary, and extravagant waste of words and phrases, then little used, often belied, some worthless or worse, and a few never heard of but when *the captain* pronounced them, contributed to *swell his book*. But the public was content; and year after year passed away, adding annually to the dilapidation till 1811, when a new and enlarged edition appeared with a grotesque title.

To this impression Dr. H. Clarke added "University Wit" to the "Pickpocket Eloquence" of a professor in that line, who had been suborned for the purpose, and cannot be named, further than the initial P. comes to: "Buckish Slang," and various scraps by several assistants, completed the

\* It would be gratifying to a writer of candour were he justified in making one honourable exception; but the pretensions set up for "A new Dictionary of *all the Cant and Flash languages*, used by every class of offenders, from a Lully Prigger to a High Tober Gloak," ill warrants the performance of such a wish. The *authour* is purported to have been dead at the time of publication, although the dedication to W. Addington, Esq. of Bow-street, is said in a memoir prefixed to have been written by him, yet signed "The Editor!" This little Dictionary, however, is on one account desirable to the present, and all authours who undertake to illustrate the language of common life, especially to those whose tastes lie in exposing that of the dishonest variety of life; than which none is more necessary to be known by those who dwell in town, who feel they cannot always stay in-doors, and have property they would not willingly lose.—His argument for the utility of such publications is neat and forcible, and would form our apology, so far, were such course desirable; he is addressing the chief of Police at Bow-street, and the magistrate sanctions the sentiment by his *permission*. "The danger of depredation is greatly increased by the circumstance of thieves associating together, and forming by their *language* a distinct community. Thieves at present, secure that their jargon is unintelligible to others, converse with ease and familiarity in the streets, on plans of plunder, &c. but when the meaning of those mysterious terms is generally disseminated, the honest subject will be better able to detect and frustrate their designs."

editorial *pains* of this flashy work ; and the publisher dished-up a title conformably thereto, to grace or to sell his books. “Hell-fire Dick’s” name, with some others, bore a prominent feature on the first leaf; Dick Owen, or Vowen, or Vaughan, had, however, nought whatever to do with “the writing part,” not being in the habit of penmanship; and he was, moreover, previously dead and buried. The other *names* on the title were fictitious, or not allowable,—it was, in fact, a printer’s job; nevertheless, the book contained all that other books of the same profession contained, and much new and interesting matter, and may be pronounced the best edition of Grose, and the farthest-gone thing of the kind ever produced, or probably that ever will be produced.

A reprint,\* of Grose’s old edition appeared last year, with copious extracts from this last-mentioned edition,† and the introduction of several inventions of the editor’s own manufacture.‡ These latter were necessarily impertinent; besides, a man who makes cramp words and invents arbitrary names in one place for the purpose of giving explanations in a fresh book, does but increase the evil by creating error and uncertainty. It was but a poor excuse, that a certain writer of his own memoirs, (Vaux) noticed at page 3, had added thereto a cant Dictionary, filled with the like absurdities.§ To complete the enumeration it is proper just to notice, that the latter *thing-like* Dictionary is reprinting (nearly *verbatim*) by piece-meal, as a make-weight, at the end of an obscure weekly publication, which has been set up

\* This reprint was undertaken in great haste, upon the printer thereof learning that materials for the present dictionary were in train, (April 28, 1822;) and it appeared in December, a time too short for the research necessary to such a work. How it has failed a comparison will show.

† Like every other work of the same nature, Clarke’s edition of 1811 contained a few misprints or errors of the press. These have been copied, with *Simian* servility, into the publication of last year; thus is error propagated. In ten minutes, ten such blundering mishaps of the copyist caught our eye; take for example, 1st. “TO BLOT THE SKRIP AND JAR IT,” Edition of 1811; the *k* in Jark is *dropped out*, leaving a *white* space:—the careful editor of 1822 has left it out also! 2d. “CARVELS RING,” in the edition of 1811, Hans Carvel, is misprinted *Ham* at one place—so the *new edition* of last year.

‡ Mr. Egan, we have shewn (with small exertion of critical acumen) is wholly incapable of undertaking a work requiring grammatical accuracy—to say no more *here*.

§ His *Memoirs* were suppressed by reason of the vice they inculcated, and with them Viscout Collard’s Cant went likewise to the trunk-makers.

by the black-legs of St. James's, in defence of their illegal occupation. It is a 4to., and if we quote the initial, M——, the *item* is not given with any design of aiding the infernal purpose of its supporters: See *Play-world*, in Addenda.

Of the manner of executing the following pages, something need be said in explanation; particularly as regards omitting almost entirely to name the authorities cited. With numerous examples before our eyes of a contrary and more satisfactory course of proceeding,\* the present departure from that custom might be considered a retrogradation in Lexicography, but for the circumstance of this work being calculated to throw light upon the authours so quoted, explaining their absurdities, elucidating obscurities, and laying bare their secrets, rather than *receiving light from them*. A few exceptions will be found, however, wherein this rule *no-rule* is departed from, without weakening its validness; for, it would be most absurd to say to a man who sets out in life, or in book-making, upon a wrong plan, "Don't alter," as some worldlings might then arrive at a bon-ton Cockney's *alter*—which has (h) for its initial; but, when we turned away from *wrong-doing*, in this respect, we disdained to erase, through pride, and to show how a vigorous mind goes on to improve *ad finam*, like the last gleams of an expiring taper. And, truly some of our authorities would be *none*, as Dogberry might say, not being drawn from *books*, or other *written* documents; but being *dictæ*, aptly *drawn* from the mouths of *downie coves*, phrases overheard in the market-place, or slang picked up in the coffee-panny, around *the ring*, and at other verbal sources equally authentic, where *the people* do not make parade of their *deep reading* or facile penmanship, the quoting of names would redound little to our——purpose. What satisfaction could be derived from the knowledge that such and such phrases fell in the super-finest style from the potatoe-traps of Harry

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\* The glossaries of Spelman, Ducange, Junius, Dr. Whitter, were visible precedents, as were the Dictionaries of the Academie Françoise, and of Johnson. But those old worthies required support and the suffrage of others still more ancient: sad apology for *book-making* culprits, who thus call evidence to character! For the present attempt, on the contrary, no such support is requisite, no helping a lame dog over a stile; whilst our *motives* rest unimpugned, no impleader of "Not guilty" can be put in; nor need we, by naming our *acquaintances* like those worthies, blazon our learned research; for this must be felt by the reader at every *pas*.



Lemoine, or Harry Dimsdale, of General or Joe Norton? What though we cited to reappear Bill Soames, or Mister G. Pound, or, indeed, to say no more, of Mr. William Perry,\* each, in his distinct degree, a *professor*? In another walk of *life's varieties*, would our readers balance between the preference to be given, in this respect, to those *par nobiles*, Bill Gibbons, Jack Scroggins, or Jack Carter? or those other great *orators*, Jack Atcherlee, Harlequin Billy, or Jack Goodlad?

Come we now to the consideration of those other heads of our glossarial labours named in the *frontispiece*; in the course of which we hope to show, these were not undertaken impertinently, without previous preparation for the task, nor without a view to practical utility, and to the character and manners of the times. Having well cleared away the rubbish, the elevation proceeds without interruption.

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\* This person, as well as *Soames*, are public characters of no little moment, on the present occasion, and each deserves a word or two—'to character.' Having once touted Bill drawing a tattler, without splitting;† the fellow in return paid a look of gratitude once a quarter for twenty years; and, when he had got lagged through the false evidence of Vaughan, (the traitor-trap,) who was it obtained a revision of his sentence, and consequent pardon, but Jon Bee, Esq.! Bill is, however, gone again, the herring-pond to scan; done, doubly, for a dingy wipe, the hapless man!

As for *Will Perry*, who "left it off, and went into the service of a brewer," with him our ratlins have been closer rooved. *Will* could write too, and indite too; qualifications which, backed by his master's assurances, recommended him to our consideration, though not to our endearments. He *confessed all*, in black and white (in 1818); we proved his veracity in most cases, took his word for the remainder, and, dismissing the last thought of concealing a secret, (an impossibility,) published all. Perry's "London Guide, or *Living Picture of London*," a pocket manual, will receive no puff at these plumed hands—the public having decided; it was, moreover, about to become the precursor of another work, modified to "Living London," undertaken for the publisher of a *still life*, "Picture of London." But the speculation having blown off, the circumstance casually came out before another publisher, in April (*mensis ominis*.) and not long after appeared the "Life in London" of Egan, 1820. In this sort was Will Perry, a character suspected of having lost something besides a fin, the first cause of that deluge of low-life exposition which, for three years, hath floated Town; unless, indeed, we go back to a *higher cause* than Perry, even to Soames himself, the recital of whose unwon suavities brought Perry under notice in such a way as to excite us to take a handmaid's part in his said confessions.—Proud lent a hand to Dr. H. Clarke's edition of Grose before noticed.

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† The reasons for inaction are assigned in the new Monthly Magazine, for June 1817, ("Hints on Police Matters") and London Guide, p. 21.

Fitness for an undertaking of this nature is not *always* to be found in the aptitude or similarity of an author's previous pursuits. Some pounce upon and perform (a novelty) a miracle at once, by a single effort as it were: this is *genius*; but genius is poetical, and belongs not to a critical glossary or explication, particularly of sporting terms. Hard work, years of drudgery, and *labour upon labour*, is his lot who undertakes the composition of a *dictionary*; and, notwithstanding his utmost care, he subsequently reviseth his pages with a blush for such as seem too positively penned. For *the Chase*, (primæval sport!) and that refinement on its hippiatric adjunct, *the Turf*, what has been done by Osbaldeston, by Taplin, or by the anonymous "Sportsman's Dict." 4to. *Robinsons*? Mere *names* these, signifying sound, with barefaced paltry plagiarism, *pre pense and aforethought*. *The Ring*, abandoned to worse than Cimmerian darkness, for years lay prostrate at the feet of misintelligence, to call *it* by no fitter name; misrule ran riot round its ranks, whilst mishaps and mistakes (buls) misfortunes and misericordia, with several other *misses*, followed each other in mazy wild, until "a Ring!" could no longer be called without a mis-fit and many misdeeds.

Paternally refrigerant of those misdoings, the projection of a fortnightly publication, titled "The Fancy," six months stemmed the torrent, like unto so many stout Acts of Parliament. Its pages inculcated some enlightened views, and boasted of more accurate reports, than hitherto attempted, on every topic connected with British sports, particularly those of *the Ring*, until the period of its cessation, (Dec. 1821;\*) when the projection of a greatly enlarged publication, monthly, entitled the *Fancy Gazette and Annals of Sporting*,† much more room, and a more substantial vehicle, gave hopes of the realization of those philanthropic wishes. In its progress hitherto, instruction as much as amusement has been sought

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\* Sixteen numbers owe to *this pen* their contents: We are answerable for every line of 392 pages, and the sale of several thousand copies of each, expressed the favourable opinion of the public. Hereupon, that which was done for the historians *Henry* by Andrews, and *Watson* by Thomson, Squire Jones, (the "Actual Life" man) undertook to perform for us; but he soon declined the plagiary, when several more publications with the same title, (numbering 17 and onwards,) were produced by a button-maker's apprentice. But "soft is your horn," Sawney.

† Conceding to an immaterial alteration, the first is now last and the last first.

for, and a portion of the credit attached thereto, was obtained rather than profit.\* Those characteristics, and unshaken honesty in drawing conclusions, attracted monthly to that print an unexampled degree of public patronage; not among those of 'The Sporting World,' merely, (novices, adepts, and amateurs,) but those right Old-English gentlemen, also, men of learning and taste, who see the *English character* in English sports, and would sustain the former by upholding the latter. To some of those, the *terms of art* appropriate to each respective sport, were unknown, or not properly appreciated, and the mixed *reading* of others necessarily fell into distraction and confusion, in consequence of the Slangwhangery of the Jargonists;† a state of incertitude, and liableness to error and misconception, it became indispensable should be put an end to, in some manner or other; and the alphabetic form offering readier means of reference than the didactic, (which had been awhile pursued,) that arrangement was therefore adopted. How the design has been executed may be worth examination.

Most of the amateurs in one species of sport evince a certain taste for one other species, at least, some for all; and it is not uncommon to find the same gentleman alternately in the

\* Very strange, but very true, notwithstanding, on the part of its editor, at least: very few real Sportsmen look after the bustle, except as it contributes to their favourite fancy.

The office of editor is described under that head in *Addenda*. He is not, however, entitled to commendation for every excellent piece that appears in his publication; nor, by the same token, ought he to attract censure for every prosing essay, or fudgeful treatise that may creep into his publication, any more than the skilful accoucheur is answerable for the after-follies of a wet-nurse. "More nonsensical essays have followed the word "On," said Sam. Johnson, "than any other word in the English language." "*On Peace, on Marriage, on Dying, &c.*" and alack the stuff that follows.

As to the particular publication spoken of in the text, the share its literary accoucheur-dad takes in each number, may be drawn from the big-letter words "FANCY GAZETTE" to the end of each, respectively; (with one unmarked exception, only, in No. 8,) including all the *Annals* proper, or "Occurrences," together with an essay or two (or three) in the first division, and the critical revision of such of those essayists as request that favour; the 9th No. being the only one for which those offices pervades every page, the 17th, on the contrary, having only one such piece at his hand, viz. "Memoirs of Thornton."

† The reader will of course turn to those words in the *Dictionary*; also, to *Bul, Craven stakes, &c. &c.* and *A la, Box, Nouvelle, Historian* and Snakeheaded in the *Addenda*.

Cock-Pit, at the Chase, in the Ring, or on the Turf, now fighting his cross-bred canine, now baiting the badger; occasionally, he frequents the haunts of Bon-ton, and during the sprees of Town-life he must see much of those *Varieties* which alone render this life supportable. Would it not be strange, then, if the language, the terms of art, and *go-by* phrases, used among one set of sportsmen, were not introduced to, and grafted upon another set? and thus produce a new series of combinations in our language, quite worthy of being marked and exemplified at this day, when many an old English sport is passing away, to make room for the sleek-headed age of decrepitude and toad-eating slavery! On the other hand, where secrecy is sought for a cant language, whose existence is dangerous, the necessity of disclosure must be obvious; even when comparatively innocent in its effects, the investigation of its origin and derivation is at least curious, if not instructive, for in this we may discern, with Monboddo, "*the origin of languages.*"

Many a critic will see, or fancy he can perceive, in the mode of illustration here adopted, some resemblance to that of other glossarists: be it so; but the mighty affair must be referred to some likeness of longer standing than the present century comes to.\* Let him be informed, that collections were made towards this volume, from the day that Clarke's edition of Grose first appeared (1811;) and finally, these pages have been at press from the 6th November to May, as may be gathered from many a temporary passage; therefore no *modern compiler* will please have the arrogance to consider himself *consulted*, as to what passeth in the present select

\* Talking of *likenesses*, the authour would have put *his'n*, facing the frontispiece, for the amusement of his readers, after the example of half a dozen other *great penmen*, [viz. Sir C. Alldis, the opposing Sir Cooper Daniel, and *his* friend Jack Cole; Mr. Evil Prince, Jemmy Asperne, and Parson White,] but that one Jones, (a fellow not known to the present quillman from Adam,) hath already forestalled the market in this respect, and fixed it up in effigie facing a book of blindman's type, writing thereon "*SHAKSPEARE,*" by way of hoax. Vanity! Vanity!! All is vanity.

Furthermore, would the student in Balatronic lore learn aught of the authour's birth, parentage, and education, his life, character, and all that sort of thing, will he not find it all written out at large in the first Book of Fancies, page 128? The reading twenty lines of auto-biography, will not be time thrown away in drawing together more closely the ties that ought to exist between a reader and his authour. Sam Coleridge drew upon patience much larger *bills* than this: *Idem* '*Biograph. Literaria*.'

company. If a man on his trial may be allowed to speak thus early, the authour would confess that he imagines himself indebted for *manner* to Mr. Cadet-Gassicourt, whose “Neologism; or new modes of thinking, acting, and writing,” may have served him for outline model. But then the work of Mr. Gassicourt proves that he was neither up to the macaronic style here used, nor down to our fustian, all his stiffening having the appearance of rich brocade hung over a fine *poupée*.\* *Pegge* has been already noticed, but not seen by us—and that seems *comical*: Meantime, upstarts Mr. Nares, with his “glossary of common words,” very similar to this; but him have we sedulously avoided, because in the *refraction* of his reviewer, (Mr. Urban’s) quotations,† he plainly appears to have *gone to work* upon our plans.—*Hear him*:

“To diversify the work, I have not confined it to *words*, but have included *phrases* and proverbial sayings, with allusions to *customs* and even to *persons*, when something of their history seemed necessary to illustrate my authours. I have made it also, occasionally, a vehicle for *critical observations*.” A clearer case could not be made out, either that this “one of the clergy” must be a wizard, and so have fathomed our brains, or, that the present state of our language and customs, lying betwixt “hawk and buzzard,” demands ample elucidation at this particular conjuncture, when a deluge of impertinent novelties must be opposed by a determined antique Neology and attachment to the radix.

Following the example of wiser heads and better pens, classic writers are here quoted abundantly; acting as props to the cause in hand, like stout witnesses on a trial at law, or

\* That writer is himself indebted to a much older authority for his *manner*, probably; the ‘Etymological Dictionary,’ of his countryman Menage, (1 vol. folio) having escaped recollection at the moment that bit of candour in the text escaped this pen. By the way, Mr. Gassicourt is recently dead, so we can say this, or any other scandal, of him, in perfect security—personal, legal, or literary.

† Gentleman’s Magazine for March, 1823, p. 520, odd. In a very early volume of this parent-magazine were given a few pages, by way of sample, of a Slang Vocabulary, then termed *Cant*. If, as we suspect, this part of the magazine fell to the share of Dr. Johnson, who was then its editor, we have to lament that he did not proceed with the design, or to rejoice at the opportunity this circumstance gave him of introducing even a small portion to his great work. Sam Johnson’s opportunities of picking up midnight slang was, probably, as great during the life-time of Dick Savage, as that of Jon Bee himself.

unpaid auxiliaries bearing the brunt of the battle. Homer and Virgil, in the freest and most sublime translations, Scarron in mædial story, and Dibdin, with twenty other vocalists of modern times, elucidate obscurities and clear up doubts, as charcoal (smutty agent!) carries down the empyreuma of fœtid liquids.

How hath the little busy BEE  
Improved each shining hour?  
H'ath gathered honey all the day  
From every opening flower.

ABBREVIATIONS, a few will be met with, and must be explained: *v.* stands for verb, whilst (*a*) prefixed to a word signifies that that is *a* noun. These words, with *pron.* for *pronounced* or *pronunciation*; *viz. videlicet*, for *namely*; and *i. e. id est*—that is to say, close the list.

Moreover, when the reader finds one hard word explained by another, he must turn to that other, either in this book or Johnson's; this course was pursued by way of exercise, after the example of that great doctor himself.

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BOOKBINDERS *be aware:*

Ye need not inquire for *signature C*: it was ever an ugly sign, so the printer thought, and he left *it* out, with its *twenty-four pages*. But *the matter* is right, and *reads on*; so 'tis *no matter*, though the printer have his frolic as well as the authour and his reader.

# DICTIONARY

OF

## VARIETIES.

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### A.

**A** *BATURES*—foiling; the sprigs and grass that a Stag thrusts down in passing out of, or into, cover.

*Abess*—lady Abbess, a bawdy-house-keeper, feminine, of the highflyer sort.

*Abbot's priory*—the King's-bench prison; ' *Abbot's park*' being restricted to *the rules*: so called after the actual C. J.

*A, B, C-darian*—a Schoolmaster or Mistress; or one who pretends to uppishness in spelling. "My poney eat plum pudd'n out of a barber's bason," no one in the room can spell *that*—for a guinea, *except myself*," says the A. B. C-darian; whereas he *himself* ever neglects the preterite *ate*, cockneyfies *pudding*, and expects Johnson should be the rule for *basin* and *pony*, in which latter his orthography is not right. See our '*Poney*;' 'tis a rum one.

*Abigail*—a lady's waiting-woman. She who *shows up* at a bodikin.

*Abrac*—learning, generally; He who is up to *Abrac*, being considered little less than a wizard. Arabic, and the learning taught in Egypt is understood, as Mathematics, Astronomy, &c.; and yet our strolling gypsies are supposed to have a natural insight of *Abrac* and futurity, than whom a less book-taught race never existed. Free Masons take a taste of *Abrac* in their '*lectures*;' but 'tis of the *naphta* (froth) and *residuum* (sediment) only.

*Abrahamers*—a lot, or receptacle full of beggars, half naked, ragged, and dirty. Vagrants.

*Abram*—naval for being sick; out of condition, naked.

"Sham *Abram* you may; ah, every day;  
But you must not sham Abraham Newland."

'She's all *Abram*,' i. e. quite naked. "What an *Abram*!" exclaimed of a ragged fellow.

- Abram-men*—fellows dressed up in rags and kickshaws, pretending to have been bedlamites. Also, thieves of pocket-books only.
- ‘*Absence, leave of*’—an order to depart; discharge from an employment, suddenly.
- Academy*—a brothel or bawdy-house. *Floating Academy*—the hulks, prison-ships. *Academy*—a prison of the hard-labour sort; thus, the House of Correction is Adkins’s academy, and the pupils or inmates are ‘Academicians.’
- Accommodation-house*. The Reader had better consult ‘Fubbs’ than we explain the minute difference that exists between these and a ‘Dress-house’ or a ‘Bodikin.’ Consult ‘Aunt’ also.
- Acteon*—a Cuckhold. ‘There sits my *acteon*, ignorant and hornified.’ *Acteon*, the froward son of Phœbus, had a pair of antlers planted on his brow, for prying into the secrecies of Diana.
- Active Citizen*—a Louse.
- Adam*—a thief’s accomplice. *Adam Tiler*; a fence, or receiver of stolen goods, who lends a hand occasionally—when he can do it safely. *Adam’s Ale*—Water.
- Addenda*—Additions; (bon ton) as, a dinner being ordered, some one orders an *addenda* of dishes: So have we an *addenda*, proper to be consulted of all.
- Ad libitum*—used in music, for to play or sing as the performer’s fancy and powers lead him. ‘*Ad libitum*,’ a bay gelding, ran at Aberystwith, 1822. *Ad libitum* is also high flash for ‘freedom of the Will.’ Fine fellows with frog-buttons, and halfpay-men who affect the high-flights, drink ‘*ad libitum*,’ give orders *ad libitum*, and pay for them—*ad libitum*.
- A. F.*—Across the Flat; a very pretty course for two-year-olds, of one mile and a quarter, at Newmarket. “A. F.”—(turfish), for having ‘come across a flat,’ who has laid his bets the wrong way.
- After-claps* are generally abjured: ‘Let us have no *after-claps*,’ i. e. surcharges or mistakes.
- Against the grain*—contrary to one’s feeling; as ‘tis when instead of winning we lose by our labour.
- Age*—That in which we live is reckoned the wisest, though croakers say ‘tis not the happiest, the preceding *age* being deemed ever the best. The present is the *age* of gas, of steam, and turtle; the last that of liberty, loyalty, and 45.



The *age* of Elizabeth, is considered her 'golden days,' though freedom lay in fetters till Cromwell's time. *Aged men* are esteemed but codgers and fogeys, though *aged horses* (full six and a day) are then at their prime, but *aged women* are never forty. *All-age* stakes, or plates,—are those for which start any horse, mare, or gelding, including 3-year olds; with *onus*' rising by grades from these, capriciously, but with *allowances*, and sometimes *extras*, according to circumstances.

*Air and Exercise*—the pillory, revolving; or being flogged at the cart's tail.

*A-la-mode*—without further explanation—'beef,' is to be understood; clods and stickings, stewed to rags and seasoned high. 'Tis used in throwing off against a person's dress, talk, &c. 'Some folks are all *a-la-mode* to-day;' showy, frenchified.

*All-agog*—women are so affected when they expect marriage, a trip to the fair, or the playhouse; Derived from the *goggle* of their eyes on such-like occasions.—*All aground*—is that man's affairs who has not a bob to bless himself with.

*Alderman*—a fat turkey, roasted and hung in chains—of sausages.

*Aldgate Pump*—a draft upon this hydraulic, when promised, is negative payment.

*All my eye*—See *Betty*.

*Allowances*—(turf) mares and geldings running against horses are allowed weight (usually 3lbs. each); also, if coming of untried parents, 3lbs. each and either. Fillies *always* carry less than colts 2, 3 or 4, and sometimes 5lbs., but this is not called by any name. *Allowance*—Bub and Grub, with a —, clean shirt, and a guinea, twice a-week, is good *allowance*. See *Monkey's allowance*.

*All-set*.—Desperate fellows, ready to start upon any kind of robbery, or other mischief.

*All sorts*, or *All Nations*—spirits compounded of all the drippers in a cellar, and the pewter *save-all* on a gin-shop counter.

*Amateur*—applied to frequenters and backers of pugilistic contests; most of whom sparr a bit, if they be not proficient. See *Ring*. Musical *amateurs* also exist.

*Ambidexter*—having the use of both hands alike; said also of a lawyer who takes fees from both plaintiff and defendant.

*Amen Curler*—a parish-clerk, or assistant at any chapel or conventicle.

*A. M.*—Ancaster Mile, at Newmarket, is 1778 yards long. In another sense: “at 10 o’clock A. M.” is ante meridian, —forenoon.

*Amuse* (v.)—Co-thieves, who keep in talk or otherwise amuse persons to be *done*. Snuff thrown in the eyes, will *amuse* the person practised upon, while he is robbed by the *amusers*.

*Anglers*.—Thieves who with a hook at the end of a mopstick drag to them the ends of cloth which may lie exposed, and so pull out entire pieces.

*Anticks*—those who practise distortions and tricks, to attract notice and extract brownies.

*Apple-cart*—To upset any one’s *apple-cart*, is to toss or knock him down, or otherwise harm him.

*April-fool*—one sent upon a bootless errand, or to obtain a nullity on the first of April.

*Aqua pumpagine*—water, cold; pump-water.

*Arguefy the topic*—a phrase used of boxing-matches formerly, by Captain Topham.

*Argument*.—He attains the best of any tavern *argument*, who has the best pair of lungs; whence we are inclined to fall in with that pronunciation of the word which calls it ‘Hard gumment.’ The next best to him, is he who can *offer* to lay very heavy sums that are quite *uncoverable*.

*Ark*—a boat or wherry. *Ark-man*—waterman; and ark-ruffs, ruffians who assist game watermen in robbery. Ark pirates, the same. ‘Ark and winns;’ boat and sculls, or oars.

*A—e.*—‘Hang an a—;’ to keep behind, having the back-side in view. See *Bum*. *Backside*.

*Article*—a woman, comeatable, is *an article*. ‘*The articles*,’ an agreement; also, a brace of pistols. ‘*My articles*’—my breeches.

*Ass*—familiarily called Jack, and treated accordingly; he is the emblem of patient stupidity, and the man who enacts himself like Jack, is an *Ass*, and should be told of his *Asinine* conduct. The ass’s mode of sitting is his most graceful attitude; hence, the name of the sitting part in man, with the trivial introduction of an (r). “’Tis all my a—in a band-box,” when *asinine* stories are hatched up.

*Attic*—the upper story of a house as well as of a person’s head. *Attica* was the place in Greece where people were most *up* to wit and learning—heads well filled. Cockneyshire, with all its faults, is the present *Attica* of the world—Paris a second rater—*Lutetia* avaunt.

*Autem*—(from the Latin *Auditio*) a church, and a clergyman is *Autem bawley*. *Autem* cacclers; Methodists, and dissenting chapels generally, are *Autem* caccler-tubs: the *Autem* sneak, is robbing in churches and chapels. *Autem*-jet; a parson, any how. ‘*Autem* quaver tub,’ a Quaker’s meeting-house. *Autem* Mott, or mort, a she-beggar pretending to religious fervour; and a w——e with the same aspect. ‘*Autem* divers,’ pick-pockets, who attend places of religion. *Autem* gogglers; conjurors, witches, and fortune-tellers, of either sex. See All-agog.

*Aunt*—a bawd or old procuress, or hanger-on upon wh——s; sometimes called Mammy or Mother ——. ‘My *Aunt’s*,’ an accommodation-house, where half-modest women resort, as to a relative or *aunt’s*.

## B.

*Babes of grace*—sanctified-looking persons, not so. Rogues in the stocks, are ‘*Babes in the wood*,’ and so are persons in the pillory. Almost out of vogue.

*Backgammoner*, or Back-doors man or gentleman—a fellow whose propensities lie out of the natural order of *things* in England.

*Backside*, of a house which has a front-side; ’tis an open space, illustrated by Lord Erskine in the House of Commons,

“There was an old woman who lived at Dundee  
And out of her *backside* there grew a plum tree.”

His lordship meant to pun upon her sitting-place.

‘*Bacon*, to save one’s,’—to escape danger, of hanging, of the lag, or loss of blunt. *Bacon* face—fat chops, full and brawney.

*Badge* Coves—Paupers who wear the livery of their parish. ‘*Madge* Coves,’ infamy itself—men who enact the parts of women: not to be confounded with the first in false elision.

*Badger* (v.)—to bully, to confound, perplex, or teaze.

*Bad manners*.—An exclamation accusatory of the person addressed. ‘*Bad manners!* cried I, of politeness don’t crack!’

*Bag*.—To give *the Bag* to any one; to leave him suddenly.

*Bagatelle*—play upon a board in which are nine holes, numbered, into which as many balls are to be knocked or shoved: it came up in 1804, was called the new French game, and the word signifies—a trifle, or thing of small importance.

*Baggage*—a saucy minx, a slut or w——e. Heavy baggage—women and children.

*Bags, Old Bags.*—Ld. E—n had the first name bestowed on him by his Royal Master, while his daddy and mammy yet lived at the Crown and Sceptre; *old* was added by Will. Hone, and since then *the lord* has used *green bags* for holding his incipient counter-plots, which he lays before *the house*, sealed up.

*A Baker's dozen*; 14, that number of rolls being given as 12.

*Balsam*—money. “Here’s Saturday night come and no *balsam* in the rookery! Here, pop my ticker at my uncle’s.”

*Ballum-rankum*—a hop or dance of prostitutes naked.

*Bam*—a jocular imposition.

*Bandogs*—bailiff and follower. Iron utensils, still used in country fire-places, where wood only is burnt.

*Bang*—to beat, to excel. *Banging*; great, big.

*Bang-up*—quite in fashion, at the top of the mode. All-right.

*Rank*—some thirty or forty different associations in Town, and about nine times as many in the provinces, form those extensive pawn-shops called Banks. Very convenient and very dangerous, they resemble much those other Banks in the Hells of St. James’s, which consist of congregated black-legs, who club together their numerous trifles and play against all comers. Strangers stand but a poor chance at play with such numbers, some of whom do not confine their hands to *shuffling tricks*, but rob outright.

*Bankrupt cart*—an one-horse chaise, of a Sunday.

*Baptised*—is the spirit, which has been diluted with water.

*Baptist*—a pickpocket caught and ducked.

*Barber*—‘That’s the *barber* ;’ a thing well done. And ‘a *barber’s knock*’ (at a door) double:—the first hard, the second soft, as if done by accident. Both, however, are becoming as obsolete as the barbers themselves. “That is no news, gemmen; I heard it from my barber, yesterday.” Vide speech of Sir W. Curtis in H. C.

*Barkers.*—Fellows placed at the door of Mock Auctions to invite soft people to get *shaved*; also bidders and pretended buyers planted within to entrap the unwary—of both genders. *Barkers* also invite vehemently passengers to buy household goods in Moorfields, and dresses in Cranbourn-alley.

*Barking creek*—persons troubled with a short cough are said to have been there, or to *Barkshire*.

*Barking irons.*—Pistols, in allusion to the report on explosion.

*Barnacles.*—Spectacles of a common kind. An instrument

for controlling unruly horses; and which usually spoils them.

*Basket*.—At Cock-fights, when a man bets beyond what he can pay down, he observes he will go into the *basket*, or owe so much. Children unborn, are said to be in the *basket*: a joker says, “I have no children myself, but my wife has four, besides one in the *basket*, and two in the grave.” “The old trade of *basket-making*” alludes to the same kind of thing. See *Addenda*.

*Baste*—to beat, without a chance of opposition; originally performed with a stick called *baston* in old French.

*Bastille*—Coldbath-fields Prison received this name, 1796, by reason of the close seclusion of its inmates; a discipline resembling that of the original Bastille recently destroyed near Paris.

*Battle-royal*—(Cockpit), several cocks put in the pit together. Men (Irish mostly) enact the same kind of Pell-mell trick, at times: 'Tis ever a scandalous proceeding; and often attended with loss of life.

*Baabee*—a halfpenny. Scotch-bala.

*Bawdy-house glass*—little measure, half-sized, as at the Vine in Holborn, and other such sleek and slum shops. 'Tis a good mode of keeping their customers' upper-works in order, and making the most of a bad thing.

*Bays*—Bay-leaves, laurels placed on the heads of poets anciently, and now practised on play-wrights in France; when successful, the author is called for, and *crowned* with the bays before the audience. O'Keefe wore *the bays*.

*Beak*—the sitting Magistrate, or indeed one who walks or rides abroad, is frequently recognized by his former customers, as “the beak that quodded me last winter; I hopes he may “just break his b——y neck before he gets home again—“that's all the harm as I vishes him.” *Beck*, is a *Beadle*.—

*Beak's-man*—a Police officer. The clerks and others about the Police-offices receive the same appellation.

*Bear-leader* (Bon-ton)—a travelling tutor; generally one of the clergy, leading young sprigs of fashion the tour of Europe.

*Bears, in the City*—are persons who would depress, tread upon, or keep down, the price of Public Stock. See Bull.

*Beau-trap*—A loose-stone in the pavement, which in wet weather soils the hose of our beaux. *Beau-nusty*, is he who affects the *beau*, but is dirty withal.

*B. C.*—The Beacon Course, and the longest at Newmarket (or

elsewhere), being 4 miles 1 furlong and 138 yards. King's plates are run for over B. C.; near the termination is a descent. B. M.—Bunbury Mile, at Newmarket; it wants 12 yards of a measured mile; viz. 1748 yards.

*Beef*—discovery of persons, an alarm or pursuit. 'In her beef,' in a woman's secrets.

*Beer*—a common name for Ale or Porter; the first is made from pale malt, the naphtha raised by the vinous fermentation being all taken off, produceth a clear supernatant liquor (ale). See also Chemistry, and Intire (in addenda) Porter, fit beverage of Britons, acts as manslaughter upon a Frenchman, murder on an Italian, and is like a massacre among the Greeks: 'Nottingham ale, London porter, and Berkshire beer—who shall sing their praises?' Among the ancient Britons 'tis *Cooroo dha*;—the northern appelled it bere; in Ireland, when good, 'tis 'the creature.'

*Beery*—from beer, and a little too much being taken.

*Beeves*—applied generally to herds of Deer, of any kind or sex. 'A bevy of Roes' would be a dozen; but those of the whole park are spoken of as 'beeves.'

*Beg, to*—at 'all fours,' is to steal sometimes, or rather *cheat*, which at cards is considered *no sin*. 'I beg pardon,' is in the mouths of frequent offenders, ready to plaster up a fissure made in your clothes by their umbrellas and sticks; also, as salve for the heel of your shoe and the skin of your heel, which those *beggars* alive have trod down with their hoofs. To ask for one's "Vote and interest," what is it but *begging*? in order that *the beggar* may sell his constituents to the best advantage. "At this stage of the fight 5 to 2 went a begging," i. e. was pressed with earnestness. 'Go home, you *beggar*:' a man who has been denuded of his blunt, is in a state of *beggary*, and could not do better. See Benison.

*Beggars' bullets*—stones, thrown by a mob, who then get fired upon, as matter of course.

*Belligerent*.—A fighting party, or crowd at a boxing-match, is thus termed, after the same epithet as applied to the warfare of nations. *Belly-gerent* is a pun applied to persons with large paunches, of which the late Mr. Mitchell, the banker, was one for certain, and the Duke of Norfolk considered himself another: when such fat-ones fall away in size, they may be considered as having made peace with guts.

*Bellows*—the lungs; whence ‘Bellows away,’ or ‘Bellows him well,’ is an injunction upon the person spoken to, not to spare his opponent. Puffing up of the cheeks, or hard breathing, or blowing out the tobacco-smoke forcibly, are all indications of the same wish (upon the sly) on the part of the performer. Each sentence of a slang discourse has been considered ‘*a bellows*’—i. e. as a *puff* of wind from that machine. *Blackwood* says, “but hear a *few bellows* forwards of this inconsistent Stot.” Yet is old *Ebony* no authority, though a Slang-Whanger.

*Belly-cheat*—an apron, tied on rumly; a pad, resembling ‘increase and multiply.’

*Belly-go-firster*—a blow, bang in the bread-basket, at or before the commencement of a battle. Street-robbers hit their victims in the wind, as first notice of their intentions, which they effect ‘ere the party recovers the action of the diaphragm.

*Belly-timber*—substantial food of any sort. To fight for a *bellyful*; without stakes, wager, or payment. A woman with child has a *belly full*.

*Bender*—is a sixpence; ‘a tizzy’ is the same, and takes its name from the form, the usual shape, of the old coin, which were bent, twice, adversely, presenting the appearance at the edge of the letter (s,) slightly. See *Bob*.

*Bene*, pron. Beeny; good—in argument or substance; as ‘*Bene* booze;’ good beer. ‘*Bene*, *Bene*;’ what you have said is right, or good. ‘*Bene* feaker,’ a maker of bad screens, or wholesale dealer. *Bene*, is applied to every action; as ‘*beneshiply*,’ worshipfully; ‘*bene-fiz*,’ good faced, *bene max*, *beneton*, *benezon*, &c. *Benar*, is the comparative—better. *Bon*, the superlative.

*Ben*—to ‘stand *ben*,’ to pay the reckoning or treat two or more; he must be *bene*, or good for so much.

‘*Benefit*, take the,’—of the insolvent debtor’s act is meant: and when thus too briefly spoken of, bodes no good. ’Tis flippancy itself.

*Benevolence* (bon-ton)—ostentation and fear united, with hopes of retaliation in kind *hereafter*.

*Benison*—is derived from the French *Benir*, to bless, *bennissez*—bless him (or her), and came over with the first Norman. ‘The Beggar’s *Benison*’ is a jocose toast or sentiment:—“May our p——s or purses never fail us.” ‘The Devil’s *Benison*,’ is shocking to relate: ’tis damnatory.

*Bets*—Wagers, on any event. They are *never laid to be lost*; for if made on the wrong side, they may be laughed off by queerums; if this will not do, they can be quarrelled off easily, or the decision declared unfair—a cross, &c. If the Cove has too much bother and won't stand it, the wager must be fought off. There is no law for illegal bets—as fighting, trotting, poney matches, &c.

'*Better late than never*'—*Retort*: 'Better never than come in rags'—or, *in poverty*, i. e. without cash.

*Betty*, or *Bess*—a crooked nail to open locks. Several sizes are carried by cracksmen: they are bent first and hardened afterwards. 'All Betty,' or 'all Dickey' same as 'all up;' past recovery, must die.

*Betty Martin*.—One would at first sight imagine this to be a woman; but upon inquiry she turns out to have been a man, and a saint of the Romish calendar, to whom a prayer was offered up of so silly and unmeaning a kind, that now-a-day, (and long before) any gammon or palavering talk, full of emptiness, is designated as no other than equal to

“ All my eye, Betty Martin.”

This however is but a corruption, by anglicising the first words of the prayer alluded to—which runs “*Oh, mihi, beate Martine;*” a species of transmutation very easily accounted for by reason of the carelessness of the *vulgar linguists* who take no heed of their cacology. We have got even different versions of the same very free translation: as 'All my eye *and* Betty,' the conjunctive (*and*) being perfectly gratuitous; unless the speaker meant to say that Miss Martin, or Betty, was all excellence in his eye, i. e. in his estimation. In Scotland they render it “*All á mon ée, &c.*”

*Bever*, from *Buvez, Buvoir*—to drink; an afternoon 'drinking,' or rest from mechanical labour.

*Bevy*, formerly *Bevis* or *Bevice*.—When Quails appear in numbers, it is then termed *a Bevy*, among Sportsmen.

*Biddy*—a duck or other fowl, trussed up. A public-house servant, tidy-vated off, is 'as neat 's a biddy;' so is a good stroke at bagatelle, when the balls pop in the right holes.

*Bilk*—to take money without performing the required service for which 'tis given:—female. Also, to run off after *performance*, without pay:—male.

*Billingsgate*—language of the coarse kind; though that place has lost its character in this respect,—a loss we deplore.



- ‘ *A Billingsgate w——e,*’ might be an expression nearer truth.
- Bingo*—a dram of any sort. ‘ *Bingo-boy,*’ *Bingo-mott*; dram drinkers of the two sexes. “ B with an I, I with an N, N with a G, G with an O, and his name was little Bingo.”
- Bird and Baby*—Eagle and Child public-house.
- Bishop a Horse*—to burn or carve the hollow mark in a horse’s teeth to make him appear young, after age has filled it up.
- Bitch*—a woman ill-behaved is ‘ a bitch about the house;’ ‘ a hot bitch,’ she who has been drawing the fire-plug, with or without a call of ‘ Tinney, O!’ To *bitch* a business, to spoil it, by awkwardness, fear, or want of strength.
- Bite* (v.)—to cheat or take in, by roguish tricks, lies, and false protestations. Selling an unsound horse, or one that has been bishopped, figged, and pegged, is a Yorkshire bite.
- Bitt*—money. Queer *bitt*, bad; rum bit, good or passable money.
- Blab*—to let out a secret. “ Don’t blab;” let not a hint escape. ‘ *A blab,*’ one who is likely to split, or, to ‘ open like an oyster before the fire.’
- Black art*—that of opening a lock. ‘ Blacksmith’s daughter,’ a key.
- ‘ *Black and White* for it;’ written proof or evidence. ‘ None can say black is the white of my eye’—cannot prove a —— blot in my character.
- Black coat*—a clergyman, generally, shabbily clothed; but used also of other professions so toggled.
- Black Jack*—the Recorder for the time being.
- Black mummer*—an unshaved person, whether he carry a smutty poll or not.
- Black-strap*—Port wine, fastened upon the inferior sorts, sophisticated in Jersey, &c. *Black legs*—See *Leg*. *Black joke*—See *Monosyllable*.
- Black shark*—naval, and long-shore. for an Attorney.
- Blanket Hornpipe* (the)—is danced at the commencement of every Honey-moon.
- Blarney*—The attempted suavities of the low Irish are thus termed. *Palaver* and *Carney* may be consulted.
- “ They talk how they live, but ’tis *blarney* and stuff,  
For a man when he’s hungry can eat fast enough.”
- Blasted fellow* or *bitch*—one whose character is *nullus*, and may be ‘ *blasted*’ with impunity.

*Bleaters*—sheep; persons to be cheated, or shorn of their bustle by means of Blarney. *Bleating-cull*, a sheep-stealer.

*Bleed* (v.)—to part with money easily.

*Blind*—a feint or excuse. One who stands before another while he robs a third person, is *the blind* on that occasion.

*Blood* (a.)—a man of high family connexion, or affecting to be so, and a little spree-ish. George Hanger was the *beau-ideal* of Bloodism true; Augustus Barry but his second, Captain Kelly a third rater.

*Blood-money*—forty pounds per capital conviction, paid to the persons taking the convict. Law repealed, word going out of use. 'Blood for blood'—Tradesmen exchanging one commodity for another.

*Bloodhounds*—those who for statutable rewards (now abrogated;) or to extort money, accuse wrongfully innocent persons. Several stood exposed in 1817, viz. Johnson, Vaughan, Brock, Pelham, Power,—tried, convicted, and *pardoned!* A *bloody* shame. See Talbot.

*Blott*, at backgammon—is an estopper put upon any *move* of the adversary, which prevents his *coming out*. To 'blott the scrip,' or bail to the sessions; and if *the security* will 'jark it rum' (swear to any sum,) both parties may 'buy a brush with a long handle.'

*Blow*—He who has stolen certain goods has 'hit *the blow*.' 'Blow the Groundsel,' is when *the pair* lie on the floor awhile. To 'blow the gaff,' or 'gaff the blow,' is to speak of, or let out the fact.

*Blower* (the)—the Dolphin—a public-house.

*Blowens*, *Blowings*—Whores; so called with some allusion to 'Flame,' a sweetheart honourable. *Bloss*, or Blossom—abbreviated, is the same thing.

'*Blow my dickey*'—Dickey is a smock-frock; and to *blow* or expose the circumstance of the speaker having worn such a thing, would be degrading.

*Blow-out*—a good dinner will *blow-out* a man's tripe, like any thing; so will a heavy supper. Either, or any other gormandising meal, is also 'a famous *tuck-out*'—of the hollow, sometimes. "You may get a famous *blow-out* at the Slambang-shops for ten-pence."

*Blow-up*—gunpowder as well as steam effect ruination in this manner too frequently; but much oftener, a disclosure of secrets and exposure of moral blemishes is a windy *blow*—

*up*, happening in high as well as low-life. Also, to give one a scolding in loud and forcible terms: 'Moll *blew up* the court of Conscience, finely.' The disclosure of secret machinations, is a *blow-up* of the plot. 'A blow-up' may be performed by any number, as 2, 3, 4 persons; and then, when it has proceeded some length of time, it devolves into *a row*. See *Yapp*. '*Blown upon*,' is any spinster who has been long exposed to hymeneal offerings; 'tis derived from the shambles, where the warm air, or the flies, commit incest upon the flaps and fleshy parts of nice joints and tit-bits. *Blubber-headed*—thick meaty nob. So 'blubber-mouthed' and '*blubber guts*.' To *blubber*, to cry. A fat deep-chested woman is said to 'sport the blubber,' when she makes an exhibition of her bosom.

*Blue Devils* (the)—Horriification. Imaginary flittings over the brain of unphilosophical persons who cannot stand to their misfortunes heroically. Pigeons (plucked) and rogues detected, become 'down upon their luck' and dream awake, the first of poverty and rags, the other of 'the round-about.' These are Blue Devils.

*Blue-pigeon*—lead. See *Pigeon*.

*Blue-ruin*—gin; and so is blue tape.

*Bluffer*—See *Buffer*.

*Blunt*—Money of any denomination is blunt; and the term is extended by most men to every description of property, a person of large estate, or in good trade, being said to 'possess plenty of blunt.' 'Blunty all over' has the same meaning. So 'in blunt,' and 'out of blunt,' are understood as indicating the present state of a man's pocket (*contiens pro contenu*). *Un-blunted*, implies that recent supplies have been all *expended*, or *lost*. Pronounced 'Blont' at times. *Blunt Magazine*—the Bank of England, or indeed any banking house.

*Bob*—A bald attempt at substituting one sound for another: 'So help me *bob*,' is an oath to deceive the hearer, doubly; for a *bob* is but a shilling, and not a fit thing to swear by. 'Tip us a bob:' hand over a shilling. 'A bob a nob:' a shilling a head; the price of admission to a place of entertainment is thus emphaticised. 'A bob and a *bender*' is eighteen-pence. "I axes three bobs and a bende for that 'ere six o' berries," is real Spitalfields for 3s. 6d: a peck for the commodity named. Much silver, as a dozen, or half score shillings-worth, has been spoken of as "that pale com-

fort of the poor-man's pocket." A *bob-stick* is the same.

'A *bob-tail* woman,' is a lewd one.

*Bobbish*—smart, spruce; also tolerable health.

*Bodiers*—(Ring) blows upon the belly and ribs, including breast.

*Bodikin*—a contraction of Bawdy-ken.

*Body-snatchers*—Undertakers' men.

*Bog-trotter*—an Irishman just arrived; pronounced 'bahg-throtter' by his countrymen of the Long Town. Also, *bog-lander*, for ever.

*Bogy*, or *Bogle*—a supposed ghost, a spirit misshapen.

*Bolt*—(Turf,) a horse which runs out of the course is said to have *bolted*, or 'bd.' So a person running away, or leaving without leave-taken, has in like manner *bolted*. See Brush-off. 'Bolt,' as a word of command, must come from a superior. *Bolt*—to start off quickly, fly like an arrow, which was formerly called *a bolt*. "I am *Bolt* in Tun," says one who alludes to the tavern in Fleet-street. "Bolt you beggars, bolt;" a command issued to the small fry of society. Rabbits are said to bolt when driven forth of their holes by the ferrets.

*Bone* (v.)—to seize, to steal quickly. *Boned*; apprehended, arrested. The *Bones*, dice. *Bone-setter*—a hard trotting-horse.

*Boniface*—a landlord of a Public-house, or Coffee-house. Derived from 'Bon á phiz,' i. e. *Fat mazzard*, and according to some 'Bonny' handsome, and *phiz*, face, or frontispiece.

*Bon-ton*—highflier Cyprians, and those who run after them; from *Bon*—good, easy—and *ton*, or *tone*, the degree of tact and tension to be employed by modish people; frequently called 'the *ton*,' only. Persons taking up good portions of their hours in seeking pleasure, are of the *Bon-ton*, as stage-actors and frequenters of play-houses, visitors at watering-places, officers, &c. &c. See *Haut-ton*. In Paris they are both called *Le bon genre*. The appellation is much oftener applied than assumed. High life, particularly of whoredom: he who does not keep a girl, or part of one, cannot be of the *Bon-ton*; when he ceases, let him *cut*. *Bon ton*—is included in *haut-ton*, and is *French* for that part of society who live at their ease, as to income and pursuits, whose manners are *tonish*, and who, like other divisions of society, employ terms of their own, which rather sparingly they engraft on the best King's English. *Mascul. et Fem.* Terms which denote *the ton*: 'The go, the

mode, or pink of the mode; bang-up, the prime of life, or all prime; the thing, the dash, and a dasher; quite the Varment—a four-in-hand, a whip, a very jarvy; a swell, a diamond of the first water.' None can expect to attain perfection in all these, unless he could obtain the same assistance that Faustus had, viz. Leviathan; and then he could not begrudge to meet the same end; ; ;

*Book*—' Brought to *book*,' made to account for a thing. ' Bell *book* and candle-light,' the publication of Popes' Bulls (*Bullæ*) or proclamations was done by taper-light and tingling of a bell: the proclamation was considered *the book*. ' *Booked*;' ring mostly, for any event being already settled beforehand, as so certain that 'tis already set down in the *book* of history. ' The *Books*'—Cards.

*Boosey*—drunk with boose or bouse.

*Booty*, at *play*—when one's partner, at Billiards, for example, loses the game purposely, he is said to ' play booty,' or to ' sell his partner.'

*Bore*, (bon-ton)—" 'Tis a curst *bore* to be asked for cash, those tradesmen are such damned *boring* fellows;"—" 'tis equally a *bore* when one meets none but ugly women." The Theatres in hot weather are almost a *bore*; the *pores* opening well then, exude the aqueous secretions of the inner surfaces. A silly long-speech fellow, is a *bore*. 'Tis a *bore* when vulgar persons add " wine" when naming Sherry or Madeira.

*Boring-in*, (Ring)—when one man hammers away at another, pressing forward *a-la-Scroggins*.

*Boronians*—pron. Boro-onions—the people of Southwark; used most during elections of M. P.'s.

' *Botanical excursion*, gone upon'—the Botany-bay lag.

*Botany-bay*—the Rotunda of *the Bank*; the Jobbers and Brokers there being for the most part those who have been absolved from *the house* opposite.

*Bother*—confounding talk, addressed sharply from one to another. Or both may *open* and bellows away, when 'tis ' a pretty piece of *botheration*.' The word came from Ireland and is naturalized. *Bothered*, is evidently derived from ' Both-eared'—talked to by two persons at once, or by one who can talk as much as two. *Botherum quid*:

Patriots say they'll mend the nation,

Pigeons will make pretty pies,

Lawyers deal in *botheration*,

A gun's too big for shooting flies.

*Bottom*—Spunk or lastingness under fatigue; as, a horse going a long and penible journey, or a man-fight most pertinaciously maintained—show bottom. ‘Bottomless Pit,’ is quite another guess-thing. See *Monosyllable*.

*Bounce*—to call for liquor, or toss up, or play for money, without having wherewithal to pay. Impudence does it.

*Bowled out*—discovered, knavery, design exposed.

*Box* (v.)—Boxer and Boxing. ‘To box,’ to fight; he who fights is *a boxer*, and *the pair* are then *boxing*. Very inelegant when used in the second person; for ‘*he boxes*’ *he fights* is substituted. ‘Tis ‘A boxing bout’ when two commoners meet; but ‘a battle’ or ‘a fight’ is adopted for a manly contest between men of scientific attainment. Also, a little country-house. A man is ‘boxed’ when he is put in prison. *Boxiana*. See *Addenda*.

*Box-harry*—To go without victuals. Confined truants, at school, without fire, fought or boxed an old figure nicknamed ‘Harry,’ which hung up in their prison—to keep heat.

*Box-lobby* loungers—the ante-room at the Theatres is frequented by persons *on the Town* of both sexes, who meet there to make appointments, lounging about.

*Brads*—money, of the smaller kind; used carpenterially. ‘Plenty of *brads*,’ would imply enough for the purpose, as building a house and pawning the carcass.

*Brass-face*—an impudent person of either sex, whether with a red face or not.

*Bread*—The means of living is a man’s bread: ‘in bread’ in work, ‘out of bread,’ no employment. One in trouble is said to be “in bad bread;” e. g. double-ironed in Newgate, a man may be safely considered in shocking bad bread. Those who act contrary to their true interests, do not know on which side their *bread* is buttered; but when slices are placed face to face the butter is in the middle, and ‘bread and butter fashion’ that couple must lie, who inhabit a bed large enough for one only. ‘Bread-basket,’ the stomach; and a blow upon it discommodes the diaphragm and the respiration, and sometimes the life of the receiver.

*A Breathing*—running at half-speed. (Turf and ring.) Used in training horse or man.

*Breeched*—having money in the pocket. A woman who holds the mastery over her husband, ‘wears the breeches.’

*Breeze*—a short brisk scolding bout of one or more voices.

*Brilliant*—bright, sparkling. Having been applied to certain ale,

sold by one Fulham in Chandos-street, near St. Martin's-lane, the name was assumed by a few choice-spirits meeting there to drink said ale: their sittings were permanent. 'The *Brilliant*s' had the complete use of their tongues; and when, in 1796, 'the Gagging-bills,' so called, became law, clogging liberty of speech and the right of assembling, the orators of *experience*, as well as those requiring juvenile *trials*, joined 'the *brilliant*s,' and talked pompously of trifles. The subjects of debate sprung up on the spur of the occasion, or, if notice of motion were given from night to night, it was but to attain higher burlesque upon 'the other houses' in the *adjoining parish*. On these bases were engrafted much good and elegant flower of speech; the speakers usually ran away with the argument for that purpose, and successfully ridiculed a law that would stop men's mouths, and its authors (Pitt and Grenville) got laughed out of conceit with themselves. At the introduction members paid 9d. each, the price of 'a *brilliant*' pot of ale; and in 1797 two thousand names had been inscribed; the admission was increased to half-a-crown when we *travelled*, and 10,000 members might have been introduced altogether, when it ceased. See *Eccentrics*.

*Brimstone*—female only; one who fires away at the first spark, throwing forth fine flashes of oratory and scintillæ of wit: faggot, bitch, or w——e, are the usual *adjunctivæ*. *Brim* and *Brimmer*—are but abbreviations of the same.

*Bring*—to obtain, to fetch, or steal. Dogs are said to 'bring well,' when they run into a shop, and bring off to their owners, goods, which the rogue had previously pointed out to his too faithful companion. See *Thing*.—Thieves are said 'to bring' such things as they may have stolen.

*Brisket*, or Breast cut—a hit on the breast or collar-bone, which is showy, but harmless, though it may cause a floorer.

*Broads*—Cards. See *Books*.

*Broad-ar*—'the King's Broad arrow,' H. M. mark on naval stores, which none are to imitate.

*Brogues*—primitive shoes of ill-tanned hide, used in Ireland and Scotland; whence the cadenza of enunciation is figuratively called 'the *brogue*' of this or that country.

*Broom*—See 'Brush.' "She carries the broom up" at the mast-head, [is Long Shore] signifies 'to be sold or hired,' and is applied to females as well as ships, which are likewise spoken of in the feminine..

*Brown bess*—a firelock. *Brown George*, a loaf made of wheat meal, entire.

*Brownies*—Copper coin, halfpence and pence.

*Brown study*, in a—thoughtful mood: “a penny for your thought, Sir.” A. ‘ ’Tis as much as ’tis worth; merely a brown study.’

*Brush*—the tail of a fox; and as he turns it up in running off, so sportsmen say, ‘he shows his *brush*,’ when one leaves a company. *Brush*, is applied to men going at speed. Thus ‘To buy a brush—with a long handle,’ to run away—and that quickly. ‘Brush along, brush off’—words of command, signifying—‘fly like dust.’ ‘*Broom it*,’ is the same thing, but most fairly applicable to old haggard women, because witches rode on *brooms* through the air *formerly*.

*Bub*—beer. *Humming-bub*; strong beer or ale. *Bubbery*, that species of double-tongueing which effects its purpose by clamour more than sense; one of the proceeds of *bibbing* too much good beer. Also, a wordy noise in the streets. Thieves ‘kick up a *bubbery*’ among themselves to cover their acts.

*Bubble-and-squeak*—a vulgar but savory kind of *omnium gatherum* dinner of fried scraps, the scrapings of the cupboard. A *bubble*, a cheat that lasts but a short time. ‘To bar the *bubble*’—to restrict the decision of a bet to the rules of common sense. A *buck*, buck’d-off—one dressed off sprucely; derived, probably, from the buckskin-breeches, worn almost universally half a century since. *Bucks* and *Bloods* are nearly synonymous.

*Buck*—male of fallow deer; when full grown he is a *Roe-buck*; the latter being most mischievous.

‘*Bucket*, to kick the’—to die. One *Bolsover* having hung himself to a beam while standing on the bottom of a pail, or bucket, kicked this vessel away in order to pry into futurity, and it was all UP with him from that moment: *Finis*.

*Budge*—to stir; as “Come, come, Marm, budge out of my bait—[*Budge-row*, probably]—Past eleven o’clock.”

*Buffers*—formerly, men who carried contraband goods for sale fastened about their persons, and were obliged, in getting them out, to undress partly and show their skin or buff. They could not well be honest, and with great propriety became thieves, of that kind who *run for it*, or ‘*buff-it*,’ i. e. run until the clothes fly off—or nearly so. ‘In *buff*,’ stripped to the waist, for a fight, or for work—as whipping



coals. An alehouse-keeper is 'a buffer;' and he is a 'Queer buffer,' provided he chalks double, or is a sharper. *Quere* whether *Bluffer* is not used quite as often?

*Bug-a-boo*—a silly, imposing, talkative, would-be gentleman, desirous of showing himself off; a hired constable who gives himself airs—is a *Bug-a-boo*. One who at the ale-house pretends to know but every thing, is also a '*bug-a-boo*.' Compounded in the same manner as *Crom-a-boo* (D. Leinster's motto 'I'll burn for it') and *Orange-boo-ven* (the *n* being mute); as these mean to exalt Crom and the Orange (family), so do our *bugs* attempt their own exaltation.

*Bul*—a blunder; generally ascribed to Irishmen; and one of them reports in *The Weekly Dispatch* of the 26th of May, 1822, the notable fact that "the winner of the Derby Stakes, Moses, was got by Seymour out of Whalebone;" but both being Stallions, we cannot *conceive* (being male) how this could be possible.

*Bull*—a crown, and 2s. 6d. is *half-a-bull*. See *Ounce*. A crown was formerly 'a *bull's-eye*,' but the *eye* is dropped out of late years. To *bullock*—to bully, hector, or maltreat others. Pron. *boloc*, in Lancashire, where 'tis practised among the Vulgar. He who knows 'which way the Bull ran, is up to snuff' and may be considered as 'one who knows what o'clock 'tis,' and 'on which side his bread is buttered.' 'The Bull in trouble'—the Bull in the pound, public-house, Spafields.

*Bull-beef*—he is such who, puffed up by some office, or by riches, gets meaty about the eyes and overlooks old friends: usually adopted by Parish-clerks, Beadles, Public-house men, and fellows of low origin. *Bull-Calf*—a clumsy chap in his teens.

*Bulls*, on the Stock Exchange—those who would enhance, raise, toss, or keep up the price of Stock.

*Bum*, a Bum-bailiff—any sheriff's officers' follower; derived from his following behind *the officer*, or after his *bum*.

*Bumm'd*—arrested by a bum-bailiff, or sheriff's officer.

*Bung the Eye*—to drink till the ogles are affected.

*Burning-shame*—practised upon Bodikins, by *the Authorities*, who station a man with a lighted candle day and night, with the supposed intention of placing it in *a socket* of a queer kind, as soon as convenient.

And when *she dies*, they'll say here lies, a burnt-out conflagration,  
Which like a *flaring* candle blazed, and died of expectation.

*Buona Roti.* (Bon-ton)—a light tent wine, sipped by *the fair* for the most part.

*Burster*—a Penny Loaf, or such as are given to prisoners; ironically applied when corn was high. *Burster and Bees-wax*—Carpenters' fare: a little loaf and slice of cheese.

*Bush-coves*—gypsies; from their lodging under hedges, &c.

*Bustle*—is blunt or money, but collective. If a man is worth a thousand pounds, 'tis *blunt*; if as much money be collected in *various sums*, 'tis *bustle*. Should a fellow steal a shop-keeper's till, 'tis all *bustle*; whilst the same sum in one note would be *blunt*. *Libri, Solidi et Denarii*, comprise *bustle*.

So, "Pounds, shillings, pence, and farthings I've at my fingers' end,  
And, how to buy, and how to sell, to borrow, or to lend."

'Those who have *bustle* may ride in chaises;  
He that has none must tramp it, by J—.'

Vide MENDOZA's Aphorisms.

'*Buy*; buy, buy'—the butchers' invitation to customers, of a Saturday. And "*Buy*, to sell, to change, to mend," is the cry of an umbrella dealer.

## C.

*Cabbage*—pieces purloined from their employers by Tailors and Sempstresses; the act is 'cabbaging.'

Tailors *cabbage* half your cloth,  
Shins of beef are very tough,  
*Flummery* is just like froth,  
*Mrs. Clarke* is up to snuff.

On the election of a Bailiff at Kidderminster, the inhabitants assemble in the principal streets to *throw cabbage-stalks at each other*—a very immoral proceeding.

*Cacafuego*—a pretender and braggart, all smoke and fœces.

*Caccle*—with reference to a hen, to blab and let out a secret.

*Cacology*—Undulations in the vernacular tongue of the *cacologist*, with slight knots in the throat, like the *caccle* of an old hen, and derived from the Greek *kakos*.

*Caddee*—pronounced *cadjee* (from *cadet*, a younger son), one who performs the minor parts in a joint robbery 'is but a *caddee* in the business.' Any inferior actor in a thing. Fellows who canvas customers for stage-coaches, are *caddees*; mostly thieves too. *Kedger*, 'to *kedge*,' probably, is from the same stock. 'A *cad*' is a passenger taken up on the road; his payment the *Jarvy* sacks. See 'Shoulder.'

*Cag*, the—*Sulkiness*, out of humour. A 'cove who carries the *cag*,' speaks seldom; such a man sometimes will take

- his *Davy* not to taste strong liquors for a given period. *Cag-mag*, is ordinary meat; dead by a *visitation*; or scraps, trimmings, &c. He who carries the *cag* should eat *cag-mag*.
- Cake*—a silly fellow; *cakes* being made, like him, of very soft dough and not over well baked. The *animal* may have received his surname from *Cacos*, the evil manner of enunciation *cakes* fall into, and given the title to his *simile*.
- Calf's head*—a tallow-faced fellow and meaty. 'Calf's head is best hot,' was the apology for one of those who made no bones of dining with his topper on.
- Canary-bird*—a Jail-bird. 'The bird is flown;' got out of his jail or hiding-place.
- Canister*—the head, with a sly allusion to its emptiness.
- Canterbury-tale*—a long endless story—twaddle.
- Capers*—to cut capers, to lark and run up and down, practised by young thieves in the streets, when people get hustled by the urchins and their doxies. See *Cut*.
- Capsize*—(naval, but adopted ashore;) to overturn any person or thing, any plan or resolution.
- Careened, Careening*—a naval term for physic-taking. See *Dock*.
- Caribbee islands*—See *Crib, Cribby*.
- Carney*—Love-tales; also, supplicatory intercessions, whereby the auditor is made to believe he has several virtuous attributes that he never before dreamt of possessing; some of these are correlative, as, much riches and great generosity being combined, means 'bestow your charity without waiting to be asked for it outright.' 'Tis a word of Irish extraction, and first cousin to 'blarney.' "The brewer who *carneys* with, or fawns to, a magistrate, will do any dirty work. Vide London Guide."
- "Och! Mr. Barney,  
None of your *Carney*,  
For married be sure we won't be."
- Carnigal-body*—a corruption of *carnal*, by Tom Rees: 'what shall ye do with your carnigal-body on Monday?' 'Bring your *carnigal-body* down to my triponions on Tuesday night.'
- Carriers*—Pigeons trained to fly with messages.
- Carrots*—red-haired persons are so surnamed. See *Flamer, Ginger*.
- Carry*—(Stud) 'To carry well,' a horse should have his neck well set, large in his shoulder; *bent*, if small-headed, if not straight, but not too long: the tail is concerned in the animal's *carrying* well. To *carry high* or *low*; the

head being too much elevated, or somewhat depressed. The former arises from weak fore-quarters; the latter from large head and neck too long.

‘*Castles in the air*’—imaginary exaltation in life.

“ Always since her journey there  
*Building castles in the air:*”

*Castor*, a hat—*Castor* is the old name for the beaver, from whose felt most hats are covered.

‘*Cat, pussey*’—a pert coxcomical little lass, with a round face, and nose curled up. But ‘an old *Cat*,’ is she who snarls and spits at those around her; and if she takes snuff without carrying a snorter, she is ‘a nasty old *Cat*.’ To ‘let the *Cat* out of the bag,’ is said by a certain kind of ladies when a secret is disclosed; but ’tis quite the contrary when one ‘feeds her *pussey-cat*.’ Then it is the secrets are put in the sack.

*Cat and Dog life*—the marriage-state, stormy. ‘A *cat*’ is the name of the whipping instrument; it is composed of nine pieces of cord or thong; and hence a *cat* is said to have nine lives, there being so many ways of parting with *pussey*—1st, Giving her away—2d, Carrying her afar off—3d, Throwing out at window—4th, Drowning in a river—in all which cases she comes home *safe*—5th, Submersion in a tub—6th, Shooting—7th, Starvation—8th, Burning—and 9th, and effectually—hanging.

‘*Cat’s Paw, A*’—is one who is pressed forward to perform disagreeable or dangerous offices for another. ‘*Cat’s sleep*,’ is counterfeit sleep; and ‘whipping the *Cat*’ is said of persons who have no business on hand, or trade. To ‘grin like a *Cheshire Cat*,’ a thin subject, should show all her ivory fangs, keeping them close together. ‘*Cat-a-maran tricks*,’ those practical jokes that annoy other persons or their property.

*Cat-call*—a whistle of bone, with a pea inclosed; used at theatres when a piece is damned, and when not, at times.

To turn ‘*Cat in pan*,’—to split, open, disclose.

*Catch-weights*—(Turf.) Any weights, the first jockies to be met with—no going to scale.

*Cat-lap*—Milk originally, but extended to tea-slops.

*Caterwauling*—Cats’ concert on the pantiles; and applied to men, who go out nightly in search of adventures.

*Cauliflower*—any one who wears powder on his head. A coster-monger from Common Garden, also, had that title

without powder (which shall be better than ‘thief or b—’ all to nothing), by reason of his pertinaceous *cry*, during the season, for thirty years.

*Cawch*—Cawchery; an irregular mixture of food. See *Stew* (Irish), Squad-pie, Colcannon. A left-handed meaning, not straightforward: hence ‘*Cowch* hand’ for the left.

*Certificate*, Jack Ketch’s; ‘given under his hand’—a sound flogging.

*Chair*. ‘Call a chair’—appoint a president—at a tavern party, when discussion ensues.

*Challenge*—(Chase;) at the finding of game, the good hounds open or *challenge*, curs babble. So in *ring* affairs, some chaps are ever challenging, never accepted: Tom Shelton has been four years at this *bawl*. “Ha, fine Lemmonn, he *shallinge* al de voorld,” says old Jack Gardolio, the orange-man, and his pupils.

*Chancery*—(Ring.) A man whose head is under his antagonist’s left arm while the right is punishing out his day-lights, is ‘in a *Chancery suit*,’ from which Lord Eldon could not relieve him, though old Thurlow might.

*Changes*, in a battle—are those turns which give the odds now to one side, now to the other.

*Chap*—any body; said of one below the speaker in *his estimation*.

*Chapel*—an assembly of journeymen printers, debating on the economy of their trade: ‘Call a Chapel;’ come together.

*Charity*, (Bon-ton)—the cloak of sin, which even gamblers put on; like Artemi’s priest, they must rob ere they can bestow.

*Charley*—a watchman. ‘A Charley-man no sooner gets on his coat and rattle, than he becomes choleric, accusatory, and venal.’

*Chase* (the)—generally speaking, all hunting or following of animals with dogs compriseth ‘*the chase*.’ *Coursing* is the first artificial exception, and formerly they divided the remaining species of hunting into Venary, Chase, and Warren: in the *first* are found all red deer of antler, hare, boar and wolf; in the *second* buck and doe, fox and martin. So divided, inasmuch as the first seek for food at night, and go into coverts by day, the habitude of the second being quite contrary. ‘A *chase*,’ a good portion of open land with cover for game. See *Forest*. In France all field-sports are ‘*la chasse*,’ and they describe the kind, as ‘*la chasse au fusil*,’ for shooting, and so on; but the French are no

sportsmen—in any sense whatever; they shoot the chase before the dogs (!) &c. &c. In law, landholders selling their lands mostly reserve ‘free chase’ or right to hunt over them.

Ye sportsmen come forth, quit your slumber and sloth  
And join in the musical *chase* ;  
Let fops of the Town our diversions cry down,  
Yet their sports to ours must give place.

*Chatter-box*—either masculine or feminine. A talkative person, whose tongue runs fourteen to the dozen. ‘A chatterer’ in ring-affairs—a blow on the teeth.

*Chatts*—i. e. Chattels, abbreviated—Lice; being the live stock in trade of beggars. Encamped gypsies lose their acquisitions of the sordid insect, and replace these by colonies of ants in their hair.

*Chaunt*—a song and singing. The best conducted chaunt in London is at the White Hart, Bishopsgate-street; a good one is ‘the Eccentrics’ in May’s-buildings; glee-singing by the Harmonics at the Ram, and also at the Globe, in Titchfield-street are prime chaunts.

“The men struck up a *chaunt*, and the beer went round galore,  
Till the publican sent word, he wou’dn’t trust no more.”

*Chant*—to *chant*, to praise off, inordinately. *Chanting* a horse, is to get one or more independent persons apparently, to give him a good name, swear to his perfections and make a bidding—by way of teaser.

*Cheapen*—to ask the price of a horse, a dog, or other goods—declare them too dear, and offer little, though probably more than the *cheapener* possesses.

*Cheek*—in the plural, is the sitting part, but when any one becomes a greedy guts and sups up *all*, he ‘takes it all to his own cheek.’

*Cheerer*—a glass of grog, or of punch.

“*Cheese-parings and candle-ends.*”—Windham’s description of the perquisites of offices of state. See *Chise*.

*Chemistry*—Man was inspired with the art divine for the promotion of science and the amelioration of his lot; but the evil-disposed have perverted its tendencies, and *coccus indicus*, quackery and gunpowder; loudly proclaim the fact. Copperas in gin; wine sweetened with lead; puff paste raised by potassium; snuff and hellebore—lie in ambuscade for us after running the gauntlet of the preceding crew and a hundred of their companions. See *Intire* (addenda) *Porter*.

*Chances* (The)—Those probabilities that any performance for stakes will be achieved, encrease *the chances* in its favour. See *Odds—Round-betting*. Events that are *coming-off*; may be judged of by parity of reasoning, or *upon* the view, or both combined: if a *boxer* has won all his battles, it is fair to conclude he will win the next (barring accidents; )—but if we perceive he is over-matched in any particular, *the chances* are against him: favouritism or dislike goes a good way to raise the mists of prejudice, occasionally. If a man of 12 stone engage to fight one of 9 stone, the chances of his conquering the little one seem like 4 to 3, precisely, if we look to *the figures* only; whereas, the tables may be turned, if, on one side we perceive superior activity, skill, and bottom, in a well-knit frame, arrayed against sluggishness, ignorance, and a *white-feather*.\* On the other hand, when a 12-stone man encounters another of 16 stone, the *figures* simply represent 4 to 3, again; but this does not really exist, though both be equal in the other requisites; for, 12 stone and a half is decidedly equal to any thing in the shape of man, that ever was produced.

*Cap* (to)—is very differently understood in Cockaigne and at Cambridge: here ‘to cap’ is to give the person *capped* a rap on the hat, or ‘thatch tile;’ *there*, the *square cap* toucheth his own cap out of reverence or fear of Proctors; Principals, or President. In ‘the city of cities’ they sometimes call it *bonneting*; but when they press down the hat over the eyes, some call it Tom Dodd-ing. Dodd was a *helper* in Newgate-market, *circa* 1790, and wore so large a castor over his ugly mug, that he ever seemed at hawk and buzzard, or hide and peep with his pals, the marketteers.

*Cap*—is but half a word at best, coming from *Captans*, a catching at the *Cap*, or the *caput*, on which ’tis a fixture.

*Cock and Hen*—a man and his *wife* “for the time being.” A *Cock-and-hen Club*, is that accurate admixture of the sexes over their *heavy wet* and inspiring *max*, met with in Cockaigne ale-shops, chiefly on St. Monday evenings; when all present should pair on, which enables them, occasionally, to “pair off,” as they do in the hon. H. C. A regular *chairman*, and a Mr. Vice, “keep order,” if possi-

\* Horse-racing, and all other animal exertion, may be judged of by the same rule of reasoning.

ble, for the chaunt; the ladies expect to be called upon *in turn*, and get fidgetty (whilst sitting on each flashman's knee) if they are not —. All classes are admitted, "except vorking folks and their brats; as for—them is what I hates," says Mrs. Lapstone. Excepting the two *officers* just named, and the Swell coves and Rum-ones on *the right*, one of whom is "Tom Dodding," a companion's hat, most of the company *present* have been *had up*—guess. The *chaunt* is going on, and so is *the Mill*; and as 'tis now, "according to Cocker," "very nice time I don't think," every one is talking *ad libitum*, notwithstanding 'the *Rules*' says "No; you shant do no such thing." 'A respectable boot-club' we observe, is held here weekly, by "Joey Mew;" and, on the other side of "the henemy," hangs "Fancyana," a Chronology of fighting events, 900 in number.

Of manners loose, and drapery tight,  
Three *Motts* thus pass each sainted night  
In Gray's Inn-Lane—the Pea-hen, *hight*.

*Cabbage-leaf*—an Umbrella.

*Cabriolee*, so pronounced by those "who understand a little French." In good English 'tis *Cabriolett*; an one-horse vehicle, dragged by a capering *tit*, introduced in 1823 to London. Word derived from the Latin *Capriol*: *Caprioller*, to leap and be frisky, like a stag (*capriolus*), gave name to the French *cabriole*, which is a drag for two or three persons, and, to *cabriollette*, or little cabriole, big enough for one only, the rider sitting in front, and *the fare* having a loose leather over his knees resembling a blacksmith's apron—worn *threadbare*.

*Cant*—low whining talk in silly language or little English, resembling Gipsy gibberish and Irish palaver, derived of *Cantans*, chaunting in recitative, which these people seem to do in their talk. "To cant," to throw or cast off; and to 'sell by public *Cant*,' is still used in Ireland for Sales or *Sets* made before the Lord Treasurer's remembrancer, and some others.

*Cast* a horse (to)—to throw him down, perforce, for the purpose of *castration*, (whence the term came) or the better to perform some other surgical operation.

*Catolla*; (a)—a flat or dupe. Of Jewish origin; but more originally, *Catillo*, a gudgeon, that swallows any stuff and nonsense.



*Catcall* (the)—has been invoked with

Come pretty tube of mighty power,  
Sweet charmer of a *playful* hour!

*Cats-meat*—any cag-mag animal food, like horse-flesh: horses hide-bound, by their sorry appearance, are eschewed as *cat's-meat*. A man's cat's-meat is said to be affected when his lungs are disordered.

*Chops*—any fat-faced fellow, who *protrudes* much.

*Check*—chase. When the hounds lose scent a minute or so, and then break away again. 'Tis a sad *check* on his proceedings, when a thief is *had-up*, and more securely so when he is *tied up*.

*Chronology*, or *Fancyana*, is the name given to a history of 900 transactions in the prize-ring, the *opera et studio hanc Lexicon Auctore*. Brief histories of every battle for above 100 years past, with other useful information, forming a proper, corrective, and necessary addenda to *Boxiana Pancratia*, and other detailed accounts of boxing; supplying their deficiencies and correcting their errors—numerous, delusive, and absurd as they be.

*Cob*—a large poney, stiff and well formed; he must be 13. 2 to 14 hands high. To "*Cob* a man" for some minor offence, seize him, lay him down on his face, and his hide baste well with a boot.—A discipline of *the stable*.

*Cock-tail*—is ginger; and a *cock-tail horse* is a half-bred, nick'd.

*Cock-pit* (The)—the enclosed *space*, either square, round, or rhomboidal, in which game-cocks do fight *ad exterminationem*.

*Cock-pit abbreviations*—for facilitating the making out of a *main-bill*, by which they pit their cocks—thus, a cock may be set down, in one line, with his *weight*, as

*St. B, Dk r. Lo brd co, Curd ovr no, Fl et lrgst r, Glgs, Btrt, Dk ftd, m nls wts*: all which means that the fowl, so described, is streak-breasted, dark red, low broad comb, curled over norels, foul cut largest right, green legs, both right dark footed, middle nails worst.

*Cocked-hat-stakes*—are among the many "whims" adopted into practice by our sporting gentry, to increase the fun and glee after which they seek. The same with Macaroni nearly, but further removed from strictly "gentlemen riders" stakes; and all were instituted when men of

fashion toggled highly, *i. e.* before A. D. 1795. He who goes to scale without a thorough-paced cocked-castor on his pimple, carries 6lb. extra, but he needs no skirts like *macaronies*. See *Turf*.

*Coffee-mill*;—a watchman's rattle, from its vraisemblance to a *Molendinum parvum*, and its effects in contributing mainly to kick up a dust.

*Colicky*—is that man who is easily offended at trifles: *quere* if derived from choleric?

'*Colours*—of the riders,' *turf*. The colours of the jackets and caps of the jockies, established formally at the recommendation of the Jockey-club, in October 1762, "for the greater conveniency of distinguishing the horses while running."

*Company*—among the *haut-ton*, an assemblage at the house of some person of distinction, when the Mansion is filled with live lumber to the staircase, and that too; when only half the company can get chairs to sit down upon for half-an-hour, whilst about one half of the other half faint away or contract pulmonary complaints, or get half their ribs broke; whilst they are half smothered, and all become par-boiled in vapour and suffocated with scents; of which medicated vinegar is the least *mechant* by one half.

*Com-rogues*—Fellows who consort or join in carrying on some dishonesty: sometimes applied to statesmen, scoffingly. The word *rogue* came up about 1560-80, and ceased to be slang in Cromwell's time. Derived from *cum* (with) and *rogo* vel *rogare*, to ask or demand—as the *cum-rogues* did, the property of others.

*Coming off*.—Events that are certainly to take place on a day certain—*turf*, ring, and pit; stakes being put down, and the hour of trial approaching, the events are then said to be 'coming off.'

*Cricket*—a fascinating athletic game, indigenous of the South Saxons in England, among whom women, children, and cripples play passing well; and the *old saying* is finely instructive, which tells that "the very babies are born with bats in their mouths." As merry as *crickets* in the hearth, they sing, whilst we write—

"Let us join in the praise of the *bat* and the *wicket*,  
And sing in full chorus the patrons of *cricket*;  
With heroes and she roes all Hampshire we'll drub,  
And bring down the pride of the *Hambledon club*."

*Chevy*—a bawling of one, or many. In field-sports, a *chevy* is the blast of a horn, the *notes* whereof are intelligible of their import to the sportsman.

*Cheveaux*—pron. Shivaugh by Jack Burdett, who often holds one at Bill Wendy's, or up at the Popper: Dinner, wine, song, and uproar, constitute a *cheveaux*.

*Chief muck of the crib*—literally, principal lump of dirt; but, freely, meant to designate a head director in small affairs, and cannot possibly mean the Governor of the Bank of England, the Lord President of the Council, &c. since every one knows that *crib* implies a single place, as a tap-room, a drinking-booth, coffee-shop, &c. Yet some there are who perversely extend the term to the first gentleman of England, and call that *the crib* where he presides when Parliament is opened or shut—and he “Chief,” &c.

*Chigger*—a still, ‘Working the chigger or jigger;’ a private still. ‘Ask my jigger-driver, ye pig,’ is the retort upon any impertinent question. *Gigger*, is also a door.

‘*Chiltern hundreds*, to accept the’—to vacate a favourable seat at the alehouse.

*Chink*—Money. The *chink* rolls in at Shoulder-of-Mutton Jack's on Saturday nights.’

“I am happy to think  
I have got so much *chink*.”

‘*Chip* (brother)’—one of the same trade, originally confined to carpenters, who are all ‘chips.’

‘A *Chirrup*,’—from *cheer-up*, an additional glass. *Chirrup*—said of birds; and a man that sits and quaffs and talks gaily, and a good deal, is said to *chirrup*—probably from the “*cheer ups*” he has taken.

*Chise*—a knife, saw, or file. *Chise-it*—is also a verb inactive, and means ‘give over,’ whether that be *the talk*, or some *action*, as robbery. *Chise* is a knife, sometimes called a *chiser*, from *chisel*, a carpenter's sharp instrument: all mean to cut, to divide, or separate; to cut the string, thread, or concatenation of a discourse, and to cut or sever the design from the execution thereof, is to *chise it*. *Chiver*, (pron. shiver and shliver or shlivey) is derived from the same, but a little corrupted. When a certain Trojan chief visited Venus on Ida's mount, he would, of course, ‘return to town’ of a morning, like a modern cockney; and 'tis fair to presume he said to the lady, ‘I must get up, dear Venny, and-chise it;’ but she, regretting his absence, and

repeating his last words, ‘*and-chise*, an-chise, wherefore art thou, Anchises?’ Whence the name of him who begat Æneas on such occasion.

*Chitterlings*—properly the small guts of a pig, and by resemblance the frill of a tulip’s shirt.

‘*Choice Spirit*’—a high fellow, who enters into the merits of the bottle and glass, is always frisky, and drops his blunt freely.

‘*Chop upon a Hare*’—to come unexpectedly upon and kill her without a run. Fox-hounds ‘Chop a hare’ at times: ‘Tis spoiling sport. A *chop*, is long-shore for a letter, a newspaper, and an act of parliament.

*Chopper* (ring)—a blow that descends straight down the features, the knuckles making fine work thereon. Not a desirable *strategie*; originating with Dan Mendoza; now little used.

*Chorus*—‘Come, gemmen, bear a hand in the chorus,’ says a chaunter, ‘and the assembled gobs open like alligators.’ *Choruses* are of various sorts, and differ in different countries, [we will not, however, *travel*]; and they bear some affinity to the subject. “Down, down, down derry-down” belongs to plain John Trot narrative ditties. Madrigals sport their ‘Lira, Lira, la,’ and Roundelays repeat the last lines and sometimes entire stanzas. Hunting songs and such-like cheerings of numbers, terminate with ‘And a hu’nting we will go, we’ll go, we’ll go,’ ‘Tantivy, my boys, lets away,’ ‘Tally ho,’ and ‘Hark forward!’ ‘*Thieves*’ chorusses drop plaintively in the gamut, and the words slide off the tongue flashily; they are long—“Fol lol de ra, Fol lol de ray; fol de riddle, diddle diddle i-do:” *ido* is a very common termination, and indicates a *do* or ‘diddle,’ which is generally a ‘riddle diddle ray.’ *Soldiers* use ‘Row dow dow;” their trade lying in *rows* and a *dow* or down. *Politicians* ‘Bow wow wow,’ as if they would worry each other like dogs, as they are. *Butchers*, and other full-feeders, emit the last syllable of each verse hard and loud ‘to hammer the sense in’ to the thick skulls of their hearers. Our national songs (Dibdin’s) conclude with the repetition of the last stanza of each verse, or a line or two, which is itself a repetition that is ‘brought in’ to make up the sense. He also shook over again the best meaning phrases *in medio*, with repetitions at the end of each stanza, when the verse consisted of several. The

Irish *chorus* is fantastic; and the reader who would know *how*, must see and sing ‘Pip.’ Scotch chorusses contain the reason (generally metaphysical) why the song was made at all: e. g.

“There’s nae luck about the house, there’s nae luck at a’;  
There’s nae luck about the house, when my good man’s awa.”

*Chuckle-head*—Heavy supper-eaters, nappers after dinner, turtle, fish, and venison mangers, who thus supply new blood too fast and determine it towards the head, nor e’er perspire but by overaction of the lacteals—become meaty about the nob, throw out carbuncles, ‘large lumps of fat impede the brain,’ and the tongue *chuckles* like an old hen in the poultry-yard. In such an effort, the whole meat of the head seems to join joyfully, wagging in unison with the clapper—hence the term.

*Chum*—A companion or partner in lodgings, chiefly used among imprisoned debtors.

*Circumvendibus*—going to a point by a roundabout way—whether that be an argumentative point, or one upon the highway.

*Clack*—Woman’s talk, incessant, from its resemblance to *the clack* of a grist-mill:

“The Miller he laid down on his back,  
Whilst his mill went clicketty clack.”

*Clank*—silver vessels, spoons, candlesticks.

*Clapper*—the tongue. ‘Stop your clapper’—i. e. Silence!

*Clapper-claw*. Domestic prattle in St. Giles’s, in which a woman or two join to tell a third (usually the husband) a little bit of his own. The performance is carried on in the manner of a *fugue* in music, one party *holding on* while the other capers through the gamut, the husband now and then adding a running-bass; whereupon the treble weeps, and the counter-voice gets up an octave or two higher, shakes a Catalina in A in alto, and falls into a swoon, or goes off—for some gin. *Higher folks* than they entertain family discussions occasionally.

—“had not Vulcan seen ’em,  
’Tis two to one but their dispute  
Had ended in a scratching bout.  
Juno, at length, was over-awed,  
Or Jove had been well *clapper-clawed*.”

*Claret*—(ring,) not fit to drink. A softened term for the stream of life—‘*blood*’ in a slaughter-house.

*Clargy*—a chimney-sweep, from the colour of his tog. ‘A clear road for the clargy,’ in a crowd.

‘*Cleaned out*, quite’—lost every farthing—at gambling, is commonly understood. ‘Wiped out as clean as a whistle,’ means the same thing.

*Click*—a hit, with a small report, as made by a back-hander on the cheek. “Hereupon Cut-away took Ma’am a click in the winker, which grassed her cleanly.” ‘Clicker,’ a shoemaker’s cutter-out.

*Clicket*—is used for foxes ‘*in actus coitu;*’ as ‘to line,’ is for that of dogs. Both terms are applied to all bipedes occasionally.

*Clerk of the Works*—he who takes the lead in minor affairs—as an ale-house dinner, or wrestling-match.

*Clincher*—a lie by refraction, or lie for lie. Two carpenters, Ned and Dick, being at high dispute as to which was most eminent in this department of oratory, left to the decision of a third person the all-interesting fact. Says Ned, “I drove a nail into the Moon last August, without the use of a ladder.” “I know you did,” replied Dick, “for on the first of September, after supper-time, I stood behind Ma’am Luna and *clenched* your nail.”

*Close-rubbed*—When play is going on, the best of two out of three to be the winner, he who wins the two first games, has *close-rubbed* his opponent. Mostly applied to cards, tossing-up, and nine-pins. See *Newmarket*.

‘*Clover*, to live in’—to eat and drink joyously; Clover being the food most desired by cattle.

*Clout*—a clumsy blow, as if given with a damp cloth, which is a *clout*.

*Clubs*—One of the *four suits*, the coat-cards whereof wear dark habiliments, &c. Any black-muzzled man might ‘sit for the knave of clubs’ to advantage of the pack.

*Club-Law*—is where sticks settle disputes; the *Argumentum Bacculinem*, in which a ground-ash is more efficacious than an act of parliament. ‘A club,’ of people, an association, thus we may have ‘a *Sick-Club*,’ not one of the members whereof are indisposed, ‘a *Singing-Club*,’ quite *roupy*, and other incongruities. Besides the ‘King of Clubs’ belonging to *the pack* alluded to, there is now assembled a ‘Club of Kings’ at Verona, not one of whom knows but he may *pack* before *the rubber* is over. See *Free and Easy*.

*Clutter*—the rising of birds from the stubble, &c.

*Clye, clyes*—the purse or pocket, and by an easy transition, the shining inhabitants thereof: ‘no *clye* ;’ no money;— ‘empty *clyes* ;’ out of cash, unblunted.

*Co*—to ‘act in *Co*,’ or company; to be leagued together.

*Coach-wheels*—large silver coin. ‘Hind-wheel,’ a crown; ‘fore-wheel,’ half-a-crown.

*Cock*, game: a thorough-bred fowl, that never runs away. Hence any hardy, evergreen, indomptable fellow acquires the adjunct (*cock*) in some shape or other. As a ‘hearty *cock*,’ ‘*cock* of the walk; he may be ‘*cock*-a-hoop,’ at times, or ‘strut like a *cock* in a gutter;’ and be ‘a good old *cock*’ for all that; and *cock* his eye or his glass, or his hat awry, or indeed any motion to show his *cockishness*. He may be fond of *cocking* too, but not of a *cockatrice* ;

“ She lives and lies and cries alone,  
And her eggs she lays  
Just as she may please,  
While the ‘old *Cock*’ pecks at each moan!”

A woman cannot be a *cock* in any sense, even though she may ‘*cock* her eye’ ever so prettily. A colour between red and yellow is *cock*-like; a feeling of exultation, has been expressed by ‘*Cock*-a-mi-cary-kee, demme!’ ‘Chief *cock* of the walk’—he who boasts or blusters over others, or takes the lead—in parish-affairs, &c.

*Cockney*—See ‘*Cock*.’ *Quere*, ‘Is he a *cock*?’ ‘nay’—is the answer, i. e. not a game one. The tale about the *cock* crowing and the horse neighing, is not worthy of credit—not pointed or semblable. Within ‘*Cockneyshire*’ and ‘*Cock*-aigne,’ lies all that district which is within the sound of Bow-bells, (Cheapside), and every native is a *Cockney*—certain; and the appellation has been extended to Westminster-born and Boroughonian people. All three together are denominated ‘*Cockneyshire* ;’ and ‘the wit of *Cock*-aigne,’ ‘its school of poetry, and school of rhetoric,’ have been spoken of by Blackwood in cauterising terms—with a political bias. When applied scornfully, ’tis considered a reproach; but when boasted of, the speaker has good reason to be proud of being a particle in the population of the first of cities. In manners, no two nations can differ more than the high and the low classes of *Cockneyshire*: the *vulgar high*, ignorant, sordid, and proud, all they perform is by imitation; their feeling of richness is

unbearable, and the recent access of titles among *the Cits* (proper) in removing them farther from themselves, disconnect them from their neighbours, whilst those with whom they sojourn in the Western part of 'the shire' will not amalgamate, and they subside in sediment, or ascend as naphta does—showy, frothy, and puerile. The *low* are full of prejudices, the *lowest* invariably dishonest: in the centre (the bulk) the shopkeeper is manifest, the merchant predominates, intelligence abounds though *learning* is scanty. 'Cock and a Bull—story;' a tale of great length; vapid and trifling, with endless repetitions and drawling.

*Cockney Slang*—of several classes follow: 1st. the Dandy-swell of the *Bon-ton*. "As to *the fight*, I have been cursedly disappointed, not to say disgusted, at the entire set of proceedings: my person has experienced extreme inconvenience from the weather and the pressure of the populace; my stomach has been much deranged at the horrid exhibition, and I have been clandestinely deprived of my property by some adept at irregular appropriation." 2nd. On Change. "How is things I vonders! Tallows is bad I knows vell enough." "Yes, they 're down; but Rum's ris." A. "Aye and Sugar's fell—*that's rum*." 3rd. 'Chill it'—says the Cockney, when he would have his beer warmed. 'Air it,' say another set, as a hint for placing the pot near the fire-place. His wife orders the servant to 'dust the room,' and his neighbour writes up 'eating-house,' as if the house ate the customers. The termination *ess*, is used to mark the feminine gender, in imitation of French, but very seldom done rightly—always vulgarly. Even 'lady Mayoress' is an amplitude, bearable because of *her* antiquity; but 'Tayloress' for the wife of cross-legs is intolerable, though not less damnable than Carpentress, Bakeress, or Bellows to mend-ess. Yet are we compelled to stand 'Actress' for a female actor, and 'Jewess' for a She-Jew. Dr. Carey's suggestion, that the ancients drank *Cocagna* wine, must be set down to the score of that learned gentleman's ingenuity. The low-bred *Cockneys*, however rich, bring out the r after w final, particularly of the monosyllables law, jaw, draw: e. g. 'You Jim, *jaw-r* him vell, *draw-r* him if you can, and I'll take the *law-r* of him.' See *Cry*. The same class, however, if familiar with 'the varieties of Life,' drop the final r in *bawler*, *bender*, and most dissyllables; even their own father is



enunciated as 'ould fathey,' although he says a *saw* is a *sawer*. A place near Bolton, Lancashire, is called Cockney Moor.

*Codger*—usually addressed with the prefix 'old,' to one or other of those Evergreens who imagine the first syllable of their cognomen will never fail them. See *Coger*.

*Coffee-shops*—Coffee-houses of the second, third, and fourth rate: long the nightly resort of thieves and fences and their wenches, who were 'accommodated' in other respects; they were regulated by law in 1821, and no longer keep open *all night*: 600 were then going in the metropolis. See Scrub's Coffee-house: 'Coffee-shop' is another of many appellations bestowed on the Cloacinean receptacle.

*Cog*—a tooth, die and dice. To 'Cog the die'—is to conceal or detain it—See *Dice*. Also, to coax, manage, or wheedle, and whatever is obtained, is *Cog* too. *Cogue*—a glass of gin, or rum with sugar in it. *Incog*. abb. of *incognito*, a man who has an assumed name, or is dressed uncommonly. *Incognita* is feminine. *Cogey*—drunk.

*Cogers*—a Society instituted in 1756, by some of the people of the Inner Temple, who imagined their free thoughts or profound cogitations worthy of attention, and charged half-a-crown for the *entrée*. Complete inanition, as a society mark their nightly meetings—unless during elections of members of the hon. H. C. &c. &c. Meet in Bride-lane.

*Colt*—a horse, four years old and under, whether perfect or emasculate. *Colts* should not be crossed too early: it renders them hollow-backed; and, when so put into a *drag*, they become roach-backed. Both species of misformation is the harbinger of predisposed ill-health—the 1st, of diseased kidneys; the 2nd, of distorted chest, and obstructed viscera. 'A *colt*' is he who enters upon a new avocation, as apprentice, or juryman for the first time. 'A *colt's tooth* in her head'—is said of a woman in years who retains the lechery of youth. Men show their *colt's teeth*, too, at times, and imagine they have a notion to taste a fancy bit, which as often turns out mere 'vanity and vexation of spirit.'

*Colcannen*—stewed vegetables, a fine Irish dish, made in England also. 'She is as soft as a dish of *colcannen*,' said of a crummy-lass or fat landlady.

*Cole*—money.

*College*—The Fleet Prison. (New) *College of Physicians*—

a society of choice spirits, not quite extinct, who met in Newgate-street some years, and ridiculed the *old college* by talking dog Latin.

*Colour* (stud)—the coat or hair of horses, and the manner in which they may be described, is their ‘colour’ *in common parlance*; and we say (in order) he is either white, cream-colour, light grey, chesnut, bay, bright bay, blood bay, brown, iron grey, dark brown, or black. Famous horses and their feats seem to be connected, in our recollections, with their colours respectively: a chesnut racer always reminds us of Eclipse, and that colour sometimes *comes out* in his progeny of the third and fourth generation.

To *Come it*—to comply with a request, as lending money. ‘She’s a coming’—she is with child.

‘*Come it strong*, ‘To’—is to pitch lies heavily upon a person or a circumstance, sometimes done civilly, at others adversely. “How well he comes it!” How well he lies! ‘Come it strong as mustard,’ to brag of his property; e. g. ‘My poney’s the best in all England, and as for my pointer—never was the like—I’ll bet a thousand to £500 upon either.’

*Commoner*—M. P.’s are commoners, so are the Common-councilmen of London, &c.—common enough occasionally. In the ring, ‘Commoners’ are ordinary boxers; *bye-commoners* those who mistakingly presume they know how to fight, and try it on, when they can get a customer;—‘bye’ from ‘bye-men,’ non-regular men.

*Common Garden*—Covent Garden market-place, or theatre.

*Company* (to see)—said of a highflyer lass.

*Constable*, to out-run the—to live beyond one’s income or allowance. A youth being sent up to town ‘to follow the law,’ he so far ‘out-run the constable,’ that at length the law followed him.

‘*Convenient* (My)—a woman open to the speaker; if a landlady, her’s is ‘a very convenient house to call at.’

*Conveyancers*—pickpockets; and a mill, is *Term-time* to them.

*Cooped*—detained in lock-up-house, or prison. ‘Cooped-up.’

*Copers*—fellows who cheat at horse-fairs. ‘To cope with’ is common parlance, for to contend, contest equal-handed. ‘Cope!’ an exclamation used as a hint—to be aware of—disused.

*Copy of uneasiness*——a copy of writ in any court.

*Coriander-seed*—coined money.

*Cork*—a man's cork is said to be drawn, when he has received a bloody nose. 'Draw his cork.'

*Corinthian*—a man highly togged was so termed; by reason of the supereminence of that order of architecture. In process of time (1761), the term was applied to superlative articles of dress, when we read 'The luxury of his Corinthian coat was retrenched to the simplicity of the quaker's own cassock.' *Vid. Taylor's Life of Taylor of Hoxton.* We would confine the word to nobility and gentry of education, who join heartily in the sports of the turf or the ring, the latterly particularly; but well-dressed prigs assume the envied name, or seedy sordid knaves, who have no souls for those things.—(See *Gentleman, Swell, Tulip.*)

*Corum, or Coorum.*—*Coram*, or sessions, technically wrong written '*quorum*': Justice of the quorum. The Judges at Westminster-hall sit '*in coram domini rege.*' K. B.

*Costard*—the head, a sheep's head; and these being cried about the streets, formerly begat the term costard-monger (pron. costermonger) as applied to itinerant venders of any other eatables whatever.

*Cotton*—he is the Ordinary of Newgate, and praying by the suffering malefactors, they are said (by a little stretch) to "leave the world with their ears stuffed full of *Cotton.*"

*Cove*—Any body whatever, *masculine*; thus we may have a *rich cove*, a '*gentry cove*,' or a *poor one*, a tall cove or a short one; 'the cove's a lawyer,' or 'he's a writing cove' that takes down the trials, and that '*ere*' (reporter) means to show the speaker's low opinion of the person spoken of. He is, however, understood to be one who frequents the haunts of low-bred people, or of '*seeing life in its varieties.*'

*Covess*—*Feminine* of the preceding, only by indulging the latter kind of *habit* she becomes sooner contaminated and falls faster than the male cove.

*Covent Garden ladies*—Those who frequent the upper boxes or infest the saloon, and show off under the Piazza, were so denominated, and a descriptive list of them published annually, by one Harris. Glanville, living under the Piazzas, published "*The Fashionable Cypriad*" two years, with the same view.

*Coventry.*—He is sent thither (ideally), against whom a party turn their backs: "*Gone off by the Coventry coach.*"

*Cover*, (field-sports)—a thicket of more or less extent, in which the game pursued shelters itself. The animal is *covert*,

(anciently *couvert*,) when secluded, but when he comes forth he is said to 'break *cover*.'

"Then haste, haste away, 'tis the enlivening view hallo,  
See Reynard breaks *cover* and flies;  
The hounds true to scent, his track quickly follow,  
And loud tally-hoes rend the skies."

'Sportsmen going to *cover*,' are approaching the place of concealment in order to rouse the fox, &c. (anciently it was *covert*).

"'Halloo *into covert*,' old Anthony cries,  
And no sooner spoke than he Reynard espies."

Again,

"The fox for shelter vainly flies;  
And *caverns* in the *coverts* strong,  
His cunning vainly tries."

A horse is said to *cover* a mare when he effects procreation. 'To *cover*,' in wagering, is to put down as much money as the opponent. 'Put down and I'll *cover*,' i. e. produce the like sum for a wager.

*Count*—was a term applied to men of wealth who joined heartily in general company. We have known *count Fig*, *count Calico*, and *count Carter*. All however are extinct, the last-mentioned *count* having been absorbed in 'Molly.' *Count Ugly* is given to any queer-mugged one who preseth forward much, and was first fastened with truth upon Heidegger of the Pantheon, by Pope and Swift.

*Counter-hit* (ring)—when both hit from the same *side*, as a left-hander for a right. See *Return blow*.

*Countrymen*—none are so but what come from Ireland, in the opinion of some; all others are 'dirty English,' or 'lousy Scotch.'

*Couples*—collars for greyhounds, or hounds, which attach two together.

*Coursing*—either hare, fox, or deer; the following in sight with greyhounds, the first-mentioned in particular; mostly practised to ascertain the comparative fleetness of the breeds of the canine, and when for *stakes*, they meet in a paddock, or enclosed mile.

*Cow*—an opprobrium addressed to a fat woman; but if she be dirty, also, she is 'an old sow.' *Cow* is the name given to a revolving chimney-pot, and made of tin. *Cow's baby*—a calf, and so is any lubberly kind of a fellow.

*Cow* (v.)—to *cow*, to bend down the spirit and courage of any one, whence 'coward.' "When Cribb obtained an

advantage, his friends' loud plaudits cowed Molineux. *Pancratia*, 369.

'*Crabs!*'—exclaimed after a losing throw to the main at hazard.

A *Crack*—House-breaking. *Cracksman*, a housebreaker or burglar. Also, '*To crack*,' to brag: '*To crack a whid*,' to give a prisoner a character—good. *Crapped*—hung. *Crap*—money, and the whole of it that could be obtained. *Crash*—is derived from the chase; the din of men, hounds, dogs, &c. when the fox breaks cover being a *crash*.

“ See there—how the murderer flies!  
How well out of cover the hounds;  
Ye gods! what a *crash* rends the skies!  
The scent—how it burns o'er the ground.”

*Craven Stakes*—small sums (as 10 guineas) subscribed to be raced for by horses of every age, 2 or 3-year-olds and upwards, weight for age. The first meeting at Newmarket, in April, is called the '*Craven Meeting*.' Derived probably from an earl of that name, who instituted such. They were then 5-guinea stakes (1771). '*A complete Craven Meeting*, was said jocosely by some one, of a lot of such '*All aged*' running up and down, as at Smithfield. *Craven Bul*: Speaking of the Craven Stakes, at Epsom, (1822) the *Sporting Editor* of the *Weekly Dispatch* (May 26,) says (sapiently,) “ If the horses had been nearer alike, it would have been a much better race.” A. Why ees, measter Paddy, only they would not then have been '*Craven*.'

*Creature*—another name for gin, or other strong drink.

*Crib*—a small house; a minor public-house is a lush-crib. *To crib*—to purloin, in little. '*Cribby islands*,' said of populous poor neighbourhoods.

*Crinkum crankum*—a woman's misdoings, who is *untrue* to her deceased husband. Local of the '*Nymet towns*,' in Devonshire and Sussex.

*Crispin*—a shoe-manufacturer; and his *full dress* is only complete when in half-boots and white stockings.

*Croaker*—one who never abstracts himself from the ills of life, and conjures up imaginary ones. Political *croakers* are feigners of bad news and bad omens. *To Croak*—to die.

'*Crook your elbow*'—an oath whereby the juror wishes his arm may never come strait, if 'tis a lie. Much used in Spain—the speaker crying out “ *Arrievo*.”

*Crookshanks*—a knocked-kneed subject, or one whose shins are like cheese-cutters.

*Cross*, or perhaps *across*—the fore-fingers being so placed in the rotunda of the Bank, means the parties crossing shall cheat a third person of one shilling and threepence, the half or division of an eighth of a pound sterling, which they between them subtract from the third person upon every £100 stock transferred.

*Cross-men*—those who rob persons are so called; and to ‘live upon the cross’ is to exist by dishonest means. ‘A cross-cove’ is applied to a swindler of every degree. ‘The cross—cheatery and robbery; thus, when prize-boxers agree beforehand which shall win, ’tis *a cross*, in order to cheat third persons out of their wagers. ‘*Cross-jarvy* with a *cross-rattler*’—a co-thief driving his hackney-coach.

*Cross-built*—awkwardness, shown in the gait. ‘A cross-built covey’ is one whose hips and heels work by inversion, as regards his shoulders and knees, like the joints of a pendulum.

*Cross-buttock* (ring, &c.)—when one man can get his hip-bone hard against his antagonist, equally low down, twisting him with head and limbs off his balance, any how, the latter receives a heavy fall or throw on his head—’tis a settler for him.

*Croupier*—an attendant on Rouge et Noir parties, who draws to him the winnings, pays the losses, and otherwise assists the dealer—he is confidential clerk to *the bank*, at any given Hell.

*Crow* (v.)—to exult over another; to threaten, is *to crow*. Cowards crow most, and unseasonably—so do coward chickens. *Crows* are those about gambling-houses, who *crow* up the honour of others, or the fairness of the play, and will attest the truth of any lie. See *Rook*.

*Crummy*—plump, fat, soft *in tacto*; principally applied to females, who may be ‘Arms full of joy for Johnny, O.’ Derived from ‘*crumbs*,’ the fragments of soft bread.

*Crump*—a hump, or hump-backed man is *a crump*, as used, in our old translation of “the Arabian Nights.” *Crumpets* were mis-shapen tea-loaves: to *crumple* (v.)—to wrinkle up, heedlessly, as paper.

“This is the Cow with the *crumpled* horn,  
That tossed the Man all shaven and shorn,” &c.

‘*Cry*, (great) and little Wool’—at Sheep-shearings, the event of taking the last fleece is crowned with ‘three,’ or ‘three times three,’ according to the taste of the cheerers, which

again will be guided in great measure by the quantity of wool shorn; not so, however, the pompous, inflated *grower*, who would make his neighbours to understand and feel his accession of power (riches) and induceth very much shouting or *crying* out. 'A crying sin'—transgressions well known, that demand amendment. *Cries* of London; not always comprehended by *non observant* persons: 'Weep!' cries the chimney-sweeper; 'Loo!' weeps the milkman. 'Green Heestins,' are pease, and 'Sithes thee grind,' expresses a wish to amend the sempstresses' forceps. See '*Twa-pinny*.'

*Cubit*—'Punishment by the *Cubit*;' the tread-mill, *Cubit* being the inventor's name. See *Round-about*.

*Cucumbers*—taylor's; because both are *seedy*—root and cove.

*Cue*; properly *Queue*, a tail—is the strait stick played with at Billiards and Bagatelle. When puppyism reigned in the land, the best men wore their hair *en queue* behind, *un toupée* in front, and curls of two or three tier on each side. 'The *cue*,' is also (among players), the tail or last words ending each speech, and is the signal for the prolocutor to begin *his say*.

*Cull*—the meaning has quite changed sides within a few years. Formerly a cull was a prostitute's favourite; now, however, 'tis a customer of any sort who *pays* for 'favours secret, sweet, and precious.' Poll Ellis carried a great basket-reticule, she said, the better to catch *culls*.

*Cully* is but a variation. Minerva says of Hercules, that he 'her-cull-is,' whence his name.

*Cunningberry*, also *Cunningham*—a half-witted fellow.

*Cups*. 'In his cups'—when *he* has taken one or two more than usual. A *Cup* is also a small earthen vessel with which each person was furnished at the feasting of the olden folk, after a hunt, &c. and this being repeatedly filled by the *servitor ambulant*, was held up with a *cheer* or *chevy*, whence the terms 'good cheer,' 'cheerful,' &c.

"Then remember, wherever your goblet is found,  
When a cup to the smile of dear woman goes round,  
Oh remember the smile that adorns her at home."

*Cur*—a cur is a coward, whether man or dog. "When they were on the ground, The Sprig of Myrtle again had recourse to his *currish* tricks, by biting Stockman's shoulder."

*Curls*—human teeth obtained by the body-snatchers.

*Curricule*—a two-wheel chaise, with a pole for driving two

- horses side by side; derived from '*Courir*,' to run, or from '*Coracling*,' when the horses do not *step out* together.
- Customer*—one cheapening a horse is '*a pretty customer*,' if he offer much less than the animal costs. In the ring, a man who is ready to fight any proper person is '*in want of a customer*.'
- '*Cut*.'—Drunk; also, the old name of an engraving. *To cut*, to quit and go away—from '*cutting the cable*.' Naval. (See *Knife*. *Chise*.)
- '*Cut bene*'—to talk smoothly.
- Cut*(v.)—to sever connection with an undesirable acquaintance, neighbour, or old friend. Many *degrees* of *cutting* occur to the mind: if slightly known as a fellow-traveller, the *cutter* insists he never was at the place, nor sailed in the vessel mentioned; and finally denies his own name. This is the *cut obtuse*. To look an old friend in the face, and affect not to recollect him; this is the *cut direct*. To look any where but *at him*; is the *cut modest* or *cut indirect*. To forget names with a good grace; as, instead of Tom, Dick, or Harry, to address an old friend with—"Sir," or 'Mister—What's your name?" This is the *cut courteous*. To dart up an alley, dash across the street, slip into a shop, or do any thing to avoid the *trouble* of nodding to some one; is the *cut circumbendibus*. (See *Rump*.—*Knife it*.)
- Cut Capers*—'He *cut capers* for joy,' i. e. danced about. 'The Bristol-man set-to with a caper.' Dancing-masters live by cutting capers; whence the Epitaph on one, at Brynylls, in Brecknockshire:—
- Man's life's a vapour,  
And full of woes;  
He *cuts a caper*,  
And down he goes.
- '*Cute*; sharp, knowing—*Acute* abbreviated.
- 'Gad! I was so *cute*, when the players com'd down,  
I ax'd 'How d'ye do?' of the show-folk.'
- Cutting-out*—in Cocking 'tis usual for one of a brood to be taken from the rest and sacrificed to a stronger fowl—or '*cut out*,' in order to ascertain the bottom of his brothers.
- Cyprians*—high flash for whores, derived from *Cyprus*, the residence of *Calypso*, '*the first going*,' as to era and qualifications.



## D.

*Dab*—a bed; and sixpence is the price for a *dorse*. It is not every ‘roosting-ken’ where they will let people lie a bed all day, nor enter after twelve o’clock in the Darkey.

*Dabster*—‘The Pink of Bow is a *dabster* at skittles, and so a’nt Joe Mew;’ but the latter would not put up with a *dab* in the chops from the former.

*Dace*—two-pence; *Deux*, pron. slummily. *Dace-head*—a silly, mouthing fellow, having leathern lips and his teeth in his throat, like the fish so named.

*Daddle*, the hand, right—‘Tip us your *daddle* ;’ shake hands to confirm a bargain, or make up a quarrel; or previously to fighting, as if saying, ‘no deadly animosity exists.’

*Dairies*—woman’s breasts.

‘*Damn* a horse if I do’—originally it was (no doubt) damn me for a horse.

*Dandy*—an invention of 1816, and applied to persons whose extravagant dress called forth the sneers of the vulgar; they were mostly young men who had this designation, and they were charged with wearing stays—a mistake easily fallen into, their wide web-belts having that appearance. Men of fashion all became dandy soon after; having imported a good deal of French manner in their gait, lispings, wrinkled foreheads, killing king’s English, wearing immense plaited pantaloons, the coat cut away, small waistcoat, with cravat and chitterlings immense: Hat small; hair frizzled and protruding. If one fell down, he could not rise again without assistance. Yet they assumed to be a little *au militaire*, and some wore mustachios. Lord Petersham was at the head of this sect of mannerists.

*Dandyzette*—feminine of the preceding: her characteristics were, a large poked bonnet, short petticoats much flounced, and paint. When she walked she kept *the step* with her Dandy, as if they had been drilled together in Birdcage-walk. *Dandy-ism*—pertaining to Dandy. See *Jack o’ Dandy*.

*Dandymania*—the rage or desire to become *dandyfied*. In the reign of Mary I. square-toed shoes were in fashion, and the *Dandies* of that day wore them so prodigiously broad, that a royal proclamation was issued, ordering that no man should wear his shoes above six inches square at the toes.

*Dandy Horse*—Velocipede, or instrument for journeying far and fast: two wheels, one behind the other, supporting a bar of wood; the traveller gets across and propels himself forward, by striking his feet against the ground. Hundreds of such might be seen in a day; the rage ceased in about three years, and the word is becoming obsolete.

*Darbies*—Irons, fetters; not so much used on culprits recently, being restricted in the Newgate regulations to malefactors, or convicted felons. Formerly, the free intercourse which existed between the outside and the inside of *the jug* just named, begat a practice of silvering over the darbies of big rogues: now disused.

“Come rattle up your darbies.”

‘*The Darby-roll*’—discharged felons, who have long worn the darbies, fancying they are still fettered, acquire a roll in their gait—not easily overcome.

*Darkmans*—a dark lanthorn. *Darkey*, night. ‘Bene darkey, good night.’

*Davy's Locker*—the other world; in death's keeping—

“And if to old *Davy* I go, my dear Poll,  
You never may hear of me more.”

DIEDIN.

The word may not, however, be originally naval. When David Garrick died, his brother George *went* soon after, and was said to be ‘Gone to *Davy*’

*Day-lights*—the eyes; whilst *night-lights* are lanthorns.

“The hero (Achilles) in his tent they found,  
His *day-lights* fixed upon the cold, cold ground.”

*Deadly lively*—is one who is half stupid, but pretending to his wonted activity and *nous*.

*Dead-weight*—Merchants and tradesmen talk of their partners in trade who do not ‘Push along keep moving,’ as ‘dead weight’ upon the concern. In turf affairs ‘dead weight’ is that addition which a light-weight jockey wears about him, to bring him to a certain ponderosity: 'Tis very inconvenient sometimes to the jockey.

‘*Deady's*, a drop of’ Gin,—so called after the rectifier's name in reality, without slangery. *Deady* is dead, now; and this word must be transferred to our addenda in the next edition.

*Dealer*, a general— a species of *fence* very common in the City, which sprung up with the necessities of the war; and are continued by the influence of the Insolvent Act: they

buy, at *quarter-cost*, goods of multifarious kinds—no matter how obtained. ‘A *dealer* and chapman’ is one who is but just within the meaning of the bankrupt laws; and ‘*Dealer* in marine stores’ placed over the *shop* (?)—“in letters four inches high”—but so slender as to be scarcely legible, are rogues ‘by the first intention,’ according to act of parliament. A *dealer* at a *Rouge et Noir* table; he who shuffles the cards, and deals destruction upon the wrong-colour men.

*Deer*—the genus *cervi*, generally; differing in habitudes on the same lands, they become more distinct in various countries, forming the highest species of field-sports every where. We have the hart and hind, buck and doe, (indigenous), and lately imported the rein-deer of Lapland and *Cervi Wapeti* of the Missouri. Our native *deer* are those of antler and the pole—the red and the fallow; the former come out nearly white, and obtain colour the third or fourth year; red *deer* (all red) are indigenous of Devon; others, the face only, brown sides and black stripe down the back.

*Derby* (the)—Sweepstakes so called, after the late Earl Derby, instituted 1780, are for 3-year-olds, 50 guineas each, held annually at Epsom, in May. They run a mile and three-quarters, carrying—colts 8 st. 7 lb., fillies 8 st. 2 lb. 53 horses were subscribed for these stakes in 1822. The second horse *in* receives £100.

*Derby-weights*—are those just mentioned. Gentlemen running matches of 3-year-olds often agree upon ‘Derby weights,’ or, from some trivial circumstances of less age or height, demand to ‘throw off a pound or two of the Derby.’

*Degrees*—a jail-bird is said to have taken his *degrees* who has inhabited one of those ‘academies’ called starts: He is *entered* and matriculated by a whipping bout; three months quod makes him an *under-graduate*; six months a *batchelor of arts*; twelve months more is the *gradu doctoris* towards his *final promotion*.

*Demirep*—feminine of Buck, Swell, and Corinthian, which see.

*Dennis*—a small walking-stick.

*Derry-down triangle*—a name bestowed upon Castlereagh, the Irish member for Londonderry, for his *services* during the insurrections of 1796—8, when the Paddies’ backs were tickled at the halberts, under the auspices of said Irish secretary.

*Devil*—He is brought in to aid in every case, thus—‘As

sure as you are there, and I am here, and God's in heaven and the devil's in Ireland.' *Devilish* is used as a superlative by many men, who are *devilish foolish* when they say, they are either devilish queer or devilish cold, devilish glad or devilish sad—the *devil* being neither of these.

'*Diamond-bright*'—said in allusion to a man's faculties, when they are 'diamond-bright.' Spoken also of woman's eyes, sparkling. 'Bright as a ruby;' has the same origin in things precious, with similar allusion to the state of health in a horse, a man, &c. 'Tis

'Diamond cut diamond' when two sharpers meet.

*Dib-chick*—a choice or favorite cock-chicken, a pet of the walk, and applied to her fancy-man by Chloris.

*D. I.*—Ditch-in course at Newmarket; from the Ditch towards the town, it is 2 miles 97 yards; is a plain, and good for four-year-olds. The D. M. wants 42 yards of a mile in length.

*Diabolus Regii*—the King's Attorney-general; so appelled by the great "little Waddington," radically speaking, in *Coram Banco Regis*. The Radical used *diabolus*, which would be the same thing—hispanically speaking; and the Timeirian critic was out, hypercritically out, when he attempted to alter the nominative into *Regius*.

*Dice, Dies*—square pieces of ivory, the six sides whereof are marked with spots, ascending to that number from *one*. They are made, as the name imports, of a true *die*, or square; but the material (ivory) being harder and heavier, as it may be cut nearer to the centre of the tooth, one side of each die will ever be disposed to lie undermost—and this is its *bias* or tendency. To find out this bias, the proficient *Leg* spends a day or two in throwing them in every varied manner; now rolling them out of the box gently, now rudely, now amongst the men, (in backgammon) then against the sides. '*Loaded Dice*' is the most flagrant of the robberies carried on in 'the *Hells* of the metropolis:' a hole being drilled near a corner, lead is cast into the cavity, and an ivory screw covers the imposture. In playing, the leg gets one finger into the box, placing it upon one or more of the dies, whereby he can insure a heavy throw nine times out of ten.

*Dickey*—when made of *flannel*, 'tis an undermost garment. *feminine*. *Dickey*—half a quarter of a shirt, covering the breast only (all frill) forming one of the *necessaries* through-

out the French army [old regime] and of two or three regiments in the British. It resembles a ladies' "Habit-shirt," to which the gentlemanly reader will please to *turn*. Waggoners' frocks, when short, are but Dickeys. 'Tis all Dickey' with a man, when he is upset in trade, or 'likely to swing for it.' 'Dickey Gossip,' Dick Suet; and since 'twas *all dickey* with him, extended to any gossiping person, who therein makes a fool of himself. 'As tight as Dick's hat-band;' he certainly drew *the band* tight, did Dick Smith. He was a Dorchester Coachman forty-five years ago, and had an habitual hoarseness; "A hem! said Dick Smith," when he wanted a dram and pointed to the bottle.

*Dickey-box*—the seat at the back of a stage-coach, outside.

*Dicky Diaper*—a linen-draper. In France, they acquire the title of 'jeune Calicot.'

*Diddle*—to cheat by sneaking means. To coax or cajole a person out of small sums, parasitically. *Diddler*—he who diddleth. *Vide* Jeremy Diddler: "Here is a letter arrived, you haven't such a thing as tenpence about you, have you?"

*Ding*—to steal by a single effort. 'To *ding* a castor;' to snatch off a hat and run with it: if he throws it away, the thief considers he has then *dinged* it; and the word would imply—*it fled*, in both cases. 'Going upon the ding.—'Ding the tôt,' run away with the whole—as the pot from the fire, mutton and all.

*Dining-room*—the mouth. 'Dining-room chairs;' the teeth.

*Dirty-butter*—a handsome lass with a thousand or two, is no *dirty butter*. Adopted out of the Irish; and by them pron. 'Dirirty buttra.'

*Dished-up*—Dinners never undergo this ceremony until they are *done*; a horseman is dished whenever he is thrown out in the chace; and when gamblers have done with a pigeon, he is dished also.

*Dish'd*—done for. A culinary idea.

"Mrs. Lobsky begged her company to take whate'er they wish'd;  
Says Will, 'don't wait for plates, if you do, you'll all be dish'd.'"

*Distance* (turf)—two hundred and forty yards is *a distance*, and horses which are thus far from the winning-post in one heat are not allowed to start again; such are set down as '*distanced*.' 'Double-distanced' is the same thing, superlatively—farther off; 'out of sight,' expresses it as well.

*Dive* (v.), and *Divers* (n. s.)—an old term for picking of pockets, into which the hands of the thieves or divers are said *to dive*.

“Ye scamps, ye pads, and divers, and all upon the lay,  
“In Tothill-fields gay sheep-walks, like lambs who skip and play.”

*Do*.—‘A *do*’ is a cheat in trading, as selling a lame horse for a sound one. ‘A gallows *do*,’ it is when any of the party may be nippered and split upon. *Do* is derived from the chase term: when a head of deer is taken, they say ‘*Do* him,’ i. e. cut his throat and chop off his head; then ‘he is *done*.’

“Ha! dead, ware dead! whip off  
And take especial care;  
Dismount with speed and cut his throat,  
Lest they his haunches tear:  
*He’s done*; and a hunting we will go,” &c.

*Do* him, *Joey*: i. e. let fly and kill him.

*Dock*—he is ‘*in dock*’ with a vengeance, who has occasion for the blue pill and a spitting-dish; sometimes, however, things are not carried so far: naval men, from whom we have the word, know that a ship may be hove down and *careened* (cleansed out), and have her bottom scraped, without going into *dock*. *Bail-dock*—a waiting-room, where *culprits* anxiously look to the moment when (like *Chrysales*) they shall change their state to that of *convicts*. Derived probably from *to dock*, to cut off, as these are— from society. *Docked*, is said of a horse which has recently lost its tail. “My colt, rising three-years old, was so dock’d and cropp’d and nick’d and trimmed, that I scarcely knew him again, but he knew me.”

*Doctor*, *The*—the last throw at play—whether of dice or nine-pins. ’Tis also that heterogeneous mixture with which publicans *doctor* their beer, spirits, and wine.

*Doodle-doo* man—a cock-fighter or breeder.

“I’ll race my Jack, or bait a bull,  
Or pit my *doodle-doo*;  
Can flash a quid with any cull,  
And fly the pigeon blue.”

*Dodge*—to follow at a distance, within sight.

*Dog*—That man is *a dog* who behaves like one. Thus ‘nasty dogs eat dirty pudding.’ Habit is second nature; and the man who is scandalously inclined, talks like a scoundrel of scandalous people. ‘*Dog* can’t eat *dog*’; but *dog* always bow-wows about *dogs*.

*Dog's nose*—Or, half a pint of beer cold as a *dog's nose* is, with a glass of brandy mixt, and still it will be no warmer. This is a dose for a coachman, guard, or any other out-all-night man, who would preserve his trachea and glottis from the operation of the cold air.

*Dollop*—the whole sum of money.

*Domino-box*—the mouth and teeth.

A *Don*—at play; he who excels and is lucky. Also, a high-born person, or *seemingly* so.

'*Done*, he is'—said of a Hart when his throat is cut. So is a man *done*, when his career is stopped. 'Done brown,' a culinary idea, adopted by gamblers who can play no more, *faut d'argent*.

*Donneken. Ken*—a little house, and *donnez*, give (gift) compose this *necessary nomen*. See *Jacob*.

*Dorse*, sleep—See *Dab, Listener*. 'Some men are sent to *dorse* by the most trivial blow on the right place'—i. e. upon the jugular or carotid artery.

*Dose*—a man is supposed to have 'Got his *dose*' when he has been well thrashed. Thence probably comes 'a *douse* in the chops,' and '*douse*, or *dust* his jacket well.'

*Dover Waggoner*, (the)—'Put this reckoning up to him landlord.' A pun: the waggoner's name being Owen, pronounced *Owing*, 'tis left unpaid.

'*Double (le)*'—pronounced in French, whence the term comes, though 'tis good English also; the imitation of some high bit of blood by a second or third-rate blood, in dress, manner, gait, and conversation. This was carried so far after the *short campaign*, that when the principals returned with the loss of an arm or an eye, their *doubles* also slung an arm or patched an eye: lord Anglesey's *doubles* became sympathetically stiff in *a leg* apiece. Most professed gamblers pick out some nobleman of their own height whom to personate, or *double*. Piercy Roberts is *le double* of H. M. Geo. IV., and Bob Roberts formerly doubled Ld. Percy.

*Down and Up*—are used synonymously by some careless people, who disregard etymologies; as mere *downey coves*, who know how to pick pockets, or gamble cleverly, or how a man can 'get off *the capital*' (i. e. avoid hanging) or being lagged, bottled, or even stagg'd; but who are not *up* to the art of writing or that of pricking in the garter, nor can expound the law of felony or of arson. Indeed, the one may

be considered as most appropriate to the lower affairs of life—whence *down*; the other to arts, science, philosophy, and school learning. Thus a Bishop may be *up to* the classics, but he is not *down to* foraging like a soldier. A cobbler is *down upon* the most prizeable sorts of leather; but he is not *up to* the best mode of tanning it. “I was *up to* his slang and *down upon* his *tibi*,” means a knowledge of the kids’ talk, and of his loco-motions, or what he would be after, what was *to be* the effect thereof.

‘*Down upon his luck*’—a man who is in the mumps by reason of his losses, is said to be down upon his *luck*; when his liberty or life is placed at stake by his misfortunes, he is then ‘down upon himself.’ A woman who cries bitterly is equally *down*, or ‘in a gallows-taking fit.’ ‘Downey coves,’ men who are knowing upon ordinary matters: e. g. “We inquired of Jack Acherley, Jack Watkins, and others, the most *downey coves* of the dog-fighting and bull-hanking system, which way the rum-titum was gone,” &c. ‘No down’ among thieves—none know of our doings.

*Drag*—any wheeled vehicle drawn by a horse; but a *cart* is the radix of *drag*; any thing inferior, drawn by cat’s-meat cattle is a *thing* indeed. *Drag’s-man*, a carman.

‘*Drain*, of gin’—the *third* person in a quartern of gin, when the glass is too large for ‘*three outs*.’

*Draw*—‘To draw a wipe,’ a tattler, or reader, is to pull either article from the pocket of a person. ‘I drew the cove,’ I robbed the person alluded to. ‘Come, I say, we’re go’en on the *draw*’—going out to rob. To draw one in conversation, is to extract his secrets from him. ‘Draw the badger’ [Pit], is performed thus: an oblong badger-box being provided, which has its smaller end with a door to it, the dog is permitted to run in and seize the badger (in spite of his teeth), which he *draws* forth by *running* backward, or his owner (player) pulls the dog out *per queue*. This being repeated as often as may be, until the dog refuses the badger, constitutes the game. See, also, ‘*Badger-baiting*.’ *To draw* a bet—is for each to receive back his stake. A *draw* in backgammon or draughts, is that final state of the game when neither party can win. A huntsman with his terriers and hounds is also found ‘upon the *draw*,’ occasionally, but then this is of ‘a covert.’

*Dreams*—visits paid by the stomach to the brain, by deputation of fume and consequent impregnation of folly: those



impressions being related shows the fool, or being acted upon evinceth the dupe; he is 'a dreamer wide awake' who takes his impressions from the stomach and may be said to follow beef, or to be 'led by the nose,' culinarily.

*Dress-house*—ladies who rely much upon appearances when they *show* in the lobbies, repair to *dress-houses* for loans of habits suited to the seasons. They are expected to return —'body and goods' before morning.'

*Drink*—beer, or perhaps ale in some districts, is to be understood as meant. 'Strong drink,' spirits. 'He's gone a *drinking*'—means liquor. '*Drunk*, positively;' too much for a man's reasoning powers. '*Drunk* as Chloe;' she must have been an uproarious lass. '*Drunk* as Davy's sow;' a heavy swinish departure of the faculties. A thousand other grades of drunkenness might be quoted, but we cite only one more: 'as *drunk* as a fiddler's bitch,' would imply, that the patient has the buz of music in his ears and will not sit quietly, but danceth about. "Dear me! you are *drunk*, Mardin," said his wife; "what have you been about?"—"My dear," replied the old *file*, "I've been *drinking*."

*Drinking time*—four o'clock, usually, with mechanics and other labourers.

*Drop* (the)—Jack Ketch's *shop of work*. The finishing nature of *the thing* and the known accuracy of its machinery, begets many sublime ideas, and the oath or asseveration 'Drop me if I do' is considered much more binding upon certain persons than swearing by the prophets, or perdition, because it comes nearer their business and bosoms who use it; 'tis a thing ever before their eyes, i. e. every six weeks or so, and towards which all their movements tend, as regularly as herrings seek the sun.

*Drops*—glasses of spirits; gin generally. To *drop* the blunt, to pay freely. In the ring—a blow by which a man is sent down on the spot where he stands, like being shot.

*Drove* of Oxen, *drove* of Sheep—so there are *droves* of people. 'There were such *droves* at Camberwell fair,' means that the people pushed along in large numbers. Turnpike tolls are collected upon sheep by *the drove*, upon oxen by the score. At Highgate, toll is taken only of Sundays, but if a bull be among the *drove*, it pays separately: Richards the *gate-house-keeper*, long employed his female waiter upon this duty, which she exercised with due dis-

crimination, nor ever *thought* amiss—we have reason for believing.

*Drover*—a man employed to conduct cattle and sheep in Smithfield, &c.; regulated by statute and numbered, those drovers (four or five hundred in number), are supposed to be habitually cruel. They are the subject of many a pathetic appeal to *the House* by soft-hearted members.

‘*Dub* your mummer’—shut your mouth.

*Dubbs*—money, of the copper kind. ‘Down with your dubbs,’ at cards of small play, or stakes for a subscription dinner of steaks or cawchery. ‘Dub up,’ to pay at once. ‘*Dub* at a napping gigger.’ A Turnpike man.

‘*Ducks and Drakes*’—to make, of his property, a man is supposed to kick it and flap it about any how. ‘Lame *ducks*’ at the Stock Exchange, are those who make bargains to *sell* stock; which they have not, or to *buy*, without blunt sufficient; the bargains being made for days at a distance—when they ‘waddle out.’

*Duck* (My)—said by an uxorious man to his loving wife.

*Duel*—two testy chaps firing at each other, until they are tired, or one drops, and thus brought about: one takes umbrage, *practises* a bit, sends a letter in a curst stew, gives no time for reflection or ———, loses no opportunity, takes aim [ah, *aim*] and hits his man. “When I saw Mr. Stuart’s arm rising very steadily up, I felt anxiously for the fate of Sir Alexander.” *Vide*, Evidence of the deceased’s second (Mr. Douglas). The murderous practice has declined much; sensible people now-a-day generally have recourse to those arms alone which God sends—Pugilism. Gamblers are all good shots, (must be learnt *se defensio*) and generally bring down annually a pigeon or two—apiece—i. e. —bald-coots.

*Duffers*—vendors of goods, assuming various characters, who stop strangers in the streets with well-formed lies of India goods, of smuggled bargains, and friends arrived from abroad. ‘*Buffers*’ was long time their title.

*Dule*—*sorrowful moan*, as that made by the Dove; thus an assembly of these birds, is called ‘a Dule of Doves.’

*Dun* (v.)—to haunt debtors for money.

*Dummie*—a pocket-book. *Dumby*—a dumb fellow; three brothers, Jew pedlars, travel the town, and are called the three *Dumbies*.

## E.

*Ebony*—Black-wood or any other b——. At Edinburgh *at present*; up at *Attica* as soon as he reads ‘these few lines hopping;’ at hammer-and-tongs as soon as he arrives; at supper in twenty-four hours after—along with Polonius: *Hic jacet Ebonius*. The —— wood may be obtained by stirring a bog-house with a broomstick (*secundam artem*) and one end will thus become *Ebony*—this is ‘the sh—n end of the stick.’ “If he (Leigh Hunt) dares to go to Rome, we shall send over Hog to assassinate him.”—Vide Blackwood’s Mag. No. 71, p. 780:—N. B. Mr. L. H. was then at Pisa, or Florence, and would probably go to Rome.

*Ear-wigged*—one who is addressed in whispers is ear-wigged by the speaker, who is invariably a fellow of small parts, not to say a rascal, who is scandalising some one, falsely.

*Eccentrics*—an assembly of high fellows, similar to and springing out of ‘the Brilliants’ (which see). Held at Tom Rees’s, in May’s-buildings, St. Martin’s-lane, *circa* 1800.

*Edge. Edge-off*—To lay wagers contrarywise; in general, ’tis done to advantage, by taking more odds than are given; and betting is then rendered a safe game, no matter which side wins.

‘*Elbows, cut at*’—(Bon-ton)—one who has mortgaged every thing—including his honour.

*To Enter*, a horse—to inscribe his name for a certain stakes or plate. *To enter* a hound—his first essay at the chase.

*E. O.*—a circular table, the radius of which is divided into compartments marked alternately E and O, and people stake their money on either. On a pivot in the middle moves a rotatory clock-like *hand*, and which-ever letter its point stands at, those players win equal to their stakes; the others are losers to *the Bank*. There are also two barred letters E and O, to either of which should the hand point, whatever may be staked on the letter is swept into *the Bank*. This game was first set up about 1760, by one C——, at Tunbridge Wells assembly-rooms; two and a-half per cent. was then paid to the table, and was found a profitable speculation.

*Evergreen*—an aged buckish sprig, who pertinaciously resists the attacks of old Time in the winter of his days, and is considered—by a fine allusion to the Vegetables that never shed their leaves—‘*an Evergreen*.’

*Exaltation* of Larks—is said by bird-fanciers of several larks when they ascend, *in alto*, until out of sight, but not out of hearing. 'Tis the finest word, so applied, as is to be found in any language from the time Babel was deserted to the day of the publication of this Balatronic Lexicon. In poetic language larks are spoken of as songstresses, though the male only sings.

*Extras*, (turf)—a few pounds weight are put on some horses, by reason of their having won before, as 3 lbs. for each plate, or fifty pounds. Sometimes more, if both parents have been winners; always for age and height in Give and Take plates, but not now much used. See *Allowances*.

*Exquisite* (an)—another name for Dandy, but of more *refined* or feminine manners. The *Chronicle* says, "It is a fact than an *Exquisite* fainted away on Friday, Dec. 20th, in Bond-street, and was assisted into a shop, where he remained some time before he recovered. Medical aid being sent for, it was ascertained that his valet had laced his stays too tight." Such were 'Dandy-prats,' *circa* 1750.

*Eye-water*—Brandy—mistakenly used of *gin* also—'Wet the other eye,' take another glass; probably the word should be *whet*, from to *whet*, to sharpen, or brighten up the eyes—which drams effect awhile. 'All my-eye'—an abridged expression. See *Betty Martin*.

## F.

*Facer* (ring)—a straight blow imparted on the face.

*Factotum*—mistakenly used for '*fact*,' by the Humgumptious. Rightly it means—one acting for another in all things.

*Faddee* (Billingsgate)—stale fish, the film of the eyes being dull and loose, they say 'peu faddee' for fâdé, faded.

*Fair-weather Friends* (bon-ton)—those who quit a man in adversity, real or supposed.

*Fall*—a *fall* of woodcocks, is said of many being discovered together. In *ring* affairs, a *fall* is a throw upon the ground which one boxer gives another at in-fighting. See *Throw*. So in wrestling for 'the fall.'

*Famms*—the hands. 'His *famms* are too cold to frisk.'

*Fanner*—a long-slash whip, with which to fan off curs.

*Faradiddles*—lies of the amusing kind.

*Fantail-boys*—dust-men. *Fantailers*—fellows with long-tail coats, which may have been made for much taller men, and which fly up in the faces of others passing by.

*Farrier* (stud)—an ignorant blockhead without education, a worker in iron (*fer, ferrum*), properly *ferrier*. The worst-written treatise on this subject now extant is that by one *Clater*; which, for excessive ignorance of diseases, and utter stultification as to mixing of medicines, never was surpassed: Let it be burnt by Jack Ketch.

*Fawney*—a ring; and ‘the fawney rig’ is pretending to find one of gold, and disposing of it to a by-stander, as such—though ’tis but *brass*.

*Fastener*—a warrant, or writ.

*Feather*—to ‘ride a feather’ (turf)—very light jockies; boys under six stone are said to ‘ride a feather,’ ‘feather weight’ being the lightest that is to be had. Feathers, Clothes are so called, mostly applied to the women, loosely. “If I warn’t going to church, nurse, I’d take and pull off every precious feather from Ma’am Bonish’s back.” ‘Feathered his nest,’ got together some property. When a waterman handles his sculls well, he is said to *feather* them:

“He feathered his oars with such skill and dexterity,  
Winning each heart and delighting each eye.”

To *Feague* a horse—formerly a live eel was used, ginger being then dear. See *Fig*.

*Feeder*—a Spoon (of silver). Feeder priggers frequent coffee-houses.

*Felo-de-se*—Latin for self-murderer—often misused.

*Feint* (ring)—a blow aimed at the head (say) but not sent home, while the other hand alights on *the mark*.

*Fence*—the partition-mark of lands, as hedges, rail, boarding, &c. In the chase, to leap over these is *to fence*; the horse is ‘a fencer,’ and a good one, if six feet be *cleared*; but when the hedge or mound is broad at top, and the passage is effected by leaping up and off—’tis then *a cast*.

The Farmer, not “by his fierce landlord awed;  
But courteous now he levels every *fence*,  
Joins in the common cry, and halloos loud,  
Charmed with the rattling thunder of the field.”

*Fence*—a receiver of stolen goods, stolen Bank-notes, &c.; giving about 15s. in the pound for the latter, or less for larger sums, and small payments for other property; unless they be the real fogle. These pests are detectable easily; for the most part Jews, they carry this property into distant provinces, and frequently to Holland: common to both genders; and *the house* is sometimes so de-

signated in which *the fence* dwells. “Long Tom is off to the fence (or gone a fencing) so let’s have in a pint o’ rum, landlord.” ‘Fence it; damme, Jack, let us fence it.’

A. ‘I tell you, the fence won’t *open* before two of us at one time.’

*Ferret* (v.)—to haunt one for money. Pawnbrokers and Tallymen are *ferrets*, also.

A *Fetch*, a *heave*, and a *lifter*, would be synonymous, if they stood without context. Finesse being used to obtain any man’s secrets, is a *fetch*; if much labour is employed, resembling a *heaving* at the capstan, ’tis a *heave*; but a single effort, by which the person operated upon is brought to think highly of self, is a *lifter*.

*Fib* (v.)—to batter the head of an antagonist, (ring.) ‘To fib,’ to lie.

*Fibbing-gloak*—a boxer professed, who misapplies his talents.

*Fiddle-faddle*—marks the conduct of those suitors, who have not yet made up their minds to the wedding pitch.

*Fieldom*—Field-lane, Holborn, anciently Fay-lane, so a field-lane duck is half a sheep’s head, baked.

*Fig, figged*—ginger; little lumps whereof are thrust into the rectum of horses to give them a short-lived vigour; they are then said to be *figged*, and *carry* better while the stimulus lasts; but horses of any original breeding afterwards flag in their disposition, as if resentful of the beastly indignity shewn them. Fellows there are who traverse Smithfield of Friday evenings seeking for old *figs*.

‘*Fight* in silver;’ (cocking) i. e. in silver-spurs. ‘*Fighting* captain,’ ‘*fighting-grenadier*,’ denote quarrelsome personages, clearly enough. Your *fighting-dogs* are known by their aspect; but that man is a *cur* who won’t *fight* upon proper occasions. ‘Man-fights,’ may be either Pugilistic, Milling, Hammering, or mere boxing, all which the inquisitive reader will please to consult; as also ‘*Duelling*.’

*Fighting*—‘*in-fighting*’ is where the men come close together; perhaps lay hold, struggle, try for the chancery suit, and ultimately fall. It is frequently the termination of ‘*off-fighting*,’ which consists in placing a blow, parrying it, and returning with the like hand; or counter hitting, then recovering the guard, or position, and defending the vital parts as at first. ‘*Out-fighting* a man,’ is mostly applicable to Millers, but may extend to all

classes of boxers: when a man repeats his blows more fast and heavy than his opponent, the latter is 'out-fought.' Lacon, that gumptious fellow, says, 'An Irishman fights before he reasons; a Scotchman reasons before he fights; an Englishman is *not particular* as to the order of precedence, but will do either, to accommodate his *customers!*'

*Fillalu*, an Irish botheration of many.

*Filly*—she-horses under five years old. When *fillies* run against colts they are allowed 5 pounds, as in the Derby, though the Yorkshire, 'quite unpolitely,' allow only 2lb. as the Doncaster, (St. Leger), at York 3lb. generally. In *matches* they make especial bargains. 'Filly-stakes,' those wherein no colts do join. 'A pretty filly' is turfish for a young lass. 'Fillies, running fillies, and *entered fillies*,' express the condition of town-girls—usually such as attend at races and parts adjacent.

*Fin*—the arm. 'Wooden *fin* ; naval, but naturalised ashore. 'You little *fin* ;' low Cockney for *fiend-like*, devilish temper.

*Fine-draw*—to get at a secret by finesse.

*Finish*—(The) nearly obsolete; but connected with many an *early* recollection. 'Carpenter's coffee-house' in Covent-garden, opposite Russell-street, is that building; which being opened soon after midnight, for the reception of market-gardeners, admitted also [not *likewise*] of *other folks*, who might have been *keeping it up*—at Vauxhall, at the *Go*, or else-where. Whence the expression for 'going the rounds 'of several public places:' the *jump*, the *go*, and the finish, *finished* me last night.' Carpenter, whose portrait even now overlooks the bar, was a lecher; his handy bar-maid, Mrs. Gibson, a travelled dame, *suck-seed*-did Carpenter; her daughter Bob Way wedded, but

Bobby Way, he vent away  
To Southern Africa-y;  
And, at the present day,  
'Tis kept by *Georgey* Way.

For about the half century just sketched, Theodore Savage (an octagenarian) was the presiding genius of the little ale-room, and often boasted to how many he had shewn 'the road *home*,' by dint of the potent extract of malt and hops—*cum max. et multis aliis*. The Savage was a scholar and chemist.

*Fire-ship*—a woman diseased. 'A frigate on fire,' the same.

*Fire-plug*; ordinary people would imagine this to be the F. P. stuck up against many houses, to tell how many *feet* distant water-plugs may be found, in case of fire; but, *by the double*, means the *otherwise affected* young fellows who may have laid out their money *badly* in the flesh-market.

*Fishing*—as a sport. Every method practised in fresh-water rivers is so termed; even to dipping out a trout decoy. Anciently, herring-catching was pursued as a sport; a whale on the coast entangled among rocks or flats is a fine treat, occasionally.

*Fisgig*—*gig*, or fun, made at or concerning another's *phiz*, or face. '*Riz ma nez*,' in French; a part for the whole. '*Whizgig*,' as given for name to the duke of Grafton's filly by Rubens out of Penelope, must have been an etymological mistake of Mr. Robson's. See *Whiz*.

*Fiszog*—or *Physiog*; the face. Used by people who have heard of Lavater's great work on physiognomy.

*Fist*—the hand, when the fingers are closed, or nearly so. *Mutton-fists*, are those which have too much muscle for the quantity of bone. 'Here's a fine *hand*!' exclaimed a loo-player—'yes,' rejoined his left hand player, 'tis like a shoulder of *mutton*.' Jove's *fists* must have been most powerful:

He grasped me as you would an apple;  
And from his *mutton fist* when hurl'd,  
For three long days and nights I twirl'd.

In the *ring*, they are to be made up with the thumb outside, covering the first knuckle of the fore-finger, and a little more of the middle one: he who covers his thumb must not *hit*—even a woolpack; he is then 'coney-thumbed.' Neither does a *pugilist* quite close his fist until the blow is *let go*; millers and hammermen slobber-away as they ~~like~~. *Fist* is wholly masculine: when a female makes up a fist, she is no longer a *woman*, and must be floored like a man.

*Fit*—meant to be the preterite of *to fight*. 'Ben's ould father *fit* him last night.' And see *Misfit*.

'*Five over five*'—said of pigeon-toed people, who tread with toes turned inward. *Fives*. 'He keeps his *fives* a-going'—he robs constantly; and it applies to picking of pockets chiefly. 'Bunch of fives,' the hand. See also *Daddle* and *Irons* (thieving.)



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are said not to be *flash*, or *fla*—now corrupted to *fly*, which see. They were invariably thieves and gamblers who used *flash* formerly; but other kinds of persons, now-a-day, who may be rippishly inclined, adopt similar terms and phrases, to evince their uppishness in the affairs of life; especially those of the less honest part of the community, who, in this particular, run the risque of being foiled at their own game by means of this dictionary of modern *flash*. Those gentlemen also consider all terms of art and of science as *flash*; declare themselves ‘not fly to law,’ nor ‘flash to physical phrases;’ of course, those words and sayings which are appropriate to the turf, the ring, and field-sports, are equally considered as *flash* by them, and the word has been applied (too generally we allow,) to all this species of *quid pro quo* lingo. See also *Jargon, Slang*. *Flash*—a *liqueur*, made with expressed juice of fruit, and an inspissated juice, preserved with spirits and spices; ’tis drank warm, and made still more pleasant by the addition of brandy. Much is taken off near the drop on hanging mornings. ‘He *flash’d* the blunt,’ made a show of money to dazzle the spectators. *Flash of lightning*; a glass of gin. So said, aptly, by reason of the flashy manner of its flying off—like lightning.

“ — But ’ere they homeward pik’d it,  
A *flash of lightning* was sarv’d round  
To every one *as* lik’d it.’

*Flash-man*.—Derived from his language, and this again has its appellation (’tis suggested) from the first flash men being highwaymen—that then greatly abounded (*circa* 1770.) He is the favourite, or protector, of a prostitute, whose *flash-man* he is; and she is called, inversely, his *flash-woman*; but, in the lower degrees of misery, they have it *flash ma’am*, or *marm*.

*Flat*—one who pays money when he can avoid it, is reckoned *a flat* by most people; if he gets done out of any, we also consider him *a flat*, and recommend him to take vinegar that is *sharp*, to whet up his wits. He may avoid much evil by studying these pages.

*Flea-bite*—said of trivial pain or danger, as ‘losing a tooth is but [as] a *flea-bite*.’ ‘I minded not the storm, it was but a mere *flea-bite*.’ Yet, very differently thought an elegant lady-author [aye, there’s the *rub*]: speaking of the town of Ath in Flanders, she says,

“Whoe'er comes here must hope for *little ease*,  
By *day* the landlord bites, by *night* the *fleas*.”

*Flesh-market*—any walk, or *run* for females who carry the broom up, is the *flesh-market*—so and so, as of the Piazzas, Cheapside, Strand, &c.

*Flight*—not used by us for running away: 'tis 'bolted, mizzled, made himself scarce, bought a brush,' or, indeed, any thing but right Johnsonian. Pigeon-fanciers say a *flight* of pigeons, for many flying together, or the flight itself: 'While breakfast is getting ready, I shall go out on *the top* and give my doves a flight:—overheard in Spitalfields. See *Dule*.

*Flints*—tailors; and dungs are the same, but work at less wages or by the garment.

*Flip*—beer, hot, with brandy and sugar. 'Egg *flip*,' the same with this addition.

*Flog* (v.)—to excel, to beat a person without resistance: 'I can't *fight* [scientifically] but I won't be *flogged*.'—'Vell, so help me Deborah, if that there does not *flog* all as ever I know'd.' 'A *flogging* cull'—an old lecher, not often heard of.

*Floorer*, (ring)—is a knock-down blow. But a man may be *floored* by losing all his blunt, or having the house burnt about his ears. 'Floored him clean,' a knock down at full length. See 'to *Drop*.'

*Fly*—is a corruption of *Fla* (for *flash*), and is but one further step towards that complete abasement in language which is always sought after, and is sometimes partially attained. Already we have it *floi*, from the mouth of the new Yorkshire bruiser. To be *fly* to every thing that is said, any man, however uppish, must pretend to a great deal more *nous* than any one ever did or will possess.

*Fly-by-night*—run-aways who leave empty houses. Look at 'Moon-light.'

*Flying-horse*, (in wrestling)—a manœuvre taught by old Parkins, for throwing the opponent over one's head.

*Flummery*—deceptious talk. See *Cabbage*.

*Flush*—in money. Also a '*flush* hit,'—a straight hit, which catcheth the adversary as he comes on, in boxing.

*Foal*—a young horse whether male or female, and is confined to the period of lactation or sucking. *In-foal*, a mare *enceinte*, or big with young: but 'a cow in-calf,' 'a sheep in-lamb,' is said of actual breeders of these species.

*Fog*—smoke; *Fogo*, the same with a stench, from *Fuego*, Spanish. See *Cacafuego*.

*Fogram*—an old fusty fellow, still itching after the thing. The *fogramites*—a supposed club of imbeciles.

*Fogle*—a handkerchief, generally understood to be made of silk. Common cotton goods, and sometimes the undoubted *fogle*, are derided as *wipes*. ‘Drawing a *fogle*,’—picking a pocket. *Fogle-hunters*—fellows whose highest flight ascends to no nobler objects than pocket-handkerchiefs.

Q. ‘Where’s Teddy?’ A. ‘He’s out a *fogle*-hunting.’ Sometimes ’tis said ‘drawing *fogles*,’ and ‘*fogle*-drawing.’  
*Foil*—the dung (particularly) which the objects of the chase leave behind them, but applied also to every other token, (See *Abatures*,) and collectively termed *foiling*.

“Yon crowding flocks, that at a distance graze,  
 Have haply *foiled* the turf.”

Somerville must here have used the word in its more general sense; for he is singing of the hare’s wiles, she having just passed through a flock of sheep.

*Fool*—that man is a *fool* who believes every thing that is said, without examination. He is equally so if dull of comprehension—opaque of mind; those are fools negative; the following shall be fool positive. If he chatters senselessly he is a *fool*; if he minds not rebuke, but persists, he is ‘a fool and a half good weight.’ He who meddles with others’ affairs is a ‘Tom fool.’

“Prithee, *Tom Fool*, why wilt thou meddling be,  
 In other’s business that concerns not thee?”

‘Tom fooleries;’ ridiculous efforts at distinction; and are either *domestic*, as citizen Clio Rickman’s uniform dress:—*trade foolery*, as Asperne’s sign, ‘bible, constitution, and crown,’ i. e. two wooden *books* and a bauble; or *state-foolery*, as bowing and scraping in *certain houses* at Westminster.—*Mummery*.

*Foot*—‘To put one’s *foot* in it,’ to make a blunder on the wrong side; to get into a scrape by speaking.

‘*Foot’s horse*, Mr. to travel by’—is to walk.

*Foraging*—stealing articles of life, as fowls, apples, garden-stuff, hay, turnip-tops, &c.

*Foreign parts*, gone to—transportation generally.

*Forest*—a large domain, with franchises, having its verderors, regardors, foresters, &c. It would be ‘a chase’ but

for these circumstances ; but if a *chase* be planted greatly it changeth so much of its nature, though acquiring no new privileges, and 'tis appelled '*forest*:' beasts of *venery* are proper occupants of *the forest*, as those of *the chase* would leave the planted part as the change might be effected. Legally, there is 'free chase' in a forest. See *Park*.

*Force-meat balls*—a rape, or any other compulsory measure ; as, going to prison, or going abroad, 'as the act directs;' also an order of affiliation, with a *forced-meat* marriage—going without gin, for want of the bustle—is *forced-meat*.

*Forks*—the middle and fore-finger, being both of a length, are those with which pickpockets *fork* out the contents of pockets, &c.

*Form*—a hare's seat, where she repositeth.

*Fourteen-penn'orth* of it—he who has sentence of fourteen years transportation passed upon him.

*Fortification*—a Welch definition concluded it must be twice twenty-fication—*fica* being *Cymrw* for defiance ; thus, Flewellyn gives *mine ancient* 'A *fica* for you, master Pistol.'

*Four-in-hand*—driving, stage-coach-fashion, without a postillion. '*Four-in-hand club*,' an association of high fellows, elegant, unsophisticated, and truly British ; about twelve in number, 'all prime,' mostly best blood, 'colour no object.'

" With Buxton bit, bridoon so trim, three chesnuts and a grey,  
Well coupled up my leaders then, ye hip! we bowl away.  
Some push along with four-in-hand, while others drive at random,  
In whisky, buggy, gig, or dog-cart, curricule, or tandem.  
Prime of life to go it, where's a place like London?  
Four-in-hand to-day, the next we may be undone."

*Fowling*—intrapping, shooting from the perch, as well as on the wing ; stalking, netting, snaring, &c. very common formerly, now called poaching : not allowed.

*Frammagem'd*—hanged, or otherwise *disposed* of.

*Free and Easy*—an occasional or stated meeting of jolly fellows, who sing and recite in turn, (having a chairman and a deputy-chair,) call for what they like, and go as freely as they come. Twenty-seven years ago, the cards of invitation to that at the Pied Horse, in Moorfields, had the notable 'N. B. Fighting allowed.' See *Brilliant*s, *Eccentric*s, *Rum-ones*. *Freeman's Quay*—Drink gratis.

*French leave*—going off without notice.

*Fresh*—abbreviation of refreshed—overmuch—drunk, hilariously so.

*Frisk*—to *frisk* a man, or the premises, is to examine all over for the object sought after. A bum-bailiff is said to *frisk* a house, who enters the front door without ceremony, and pushes up-stairs to the chamber of the required defendant, and from bed to bed—commonly termed ‘from post to pillar.’ Persons are usually *rubbed down* in the streets preparatory to robbery; this is *to frisk*.

*Froglanders*—Dutchmen.

*Frontispiece*—‘the face is the frontispiece to a man’s mind.’ The title of a book should be its frontispiece; but the picture which faceth it has that name, improperly; from the French, probably, ‘*espece de front*.’ Hogarth placed one to his book, and titled it ‘Front-is-p—ss;’ it represented a *genius* bestriding the world, which it enlivened with a shower—saline.

*F. R. S.*—not a ‘Fellow of the Royal Society,’ as the *learned* might imagine, but a ‘fellow remarkably stupid.’ *A. Hogg*.

*Fry*—small fry: children, boys in the streets.

*Fubbs, Mrs.*—any lady who’s *home* is ‘an accommodation’ to persons whose desire of seclusion is temporary, and no *bodikin*. ‘Mrs. Fubbs’s *front parlour* [vide *Tom Rees*,] is not to be mistaken for any part of any *building*. A lady who possesses some degree of *em-bon-point* is necessary to constitute a *Mrs. Fubbs*. Mrs. B——t, of Silver-street, is the *beau ideal* of the Fubbs’ family.

“With manners debonnaire, and a leering eye,  
Pronounce her one of the Fubbs’s family.”

*Fuddle*—Drink. ‘Out upon the *fuddle*!’ said by the wife of a drinking cobbler.

*Fudge*—ridiculous talk is all *fudge*: used by Mr. Burchell in the Vicar of Wakefield.

*Funk*—she must be in a dreadful *funk* whose husband recognizes her at the theatre in company with a suspected rival; so is the tradesman, when he first dishonours a bill: ’tis *nothing* afterwards, *noting*.

*Furmen*—aldermen. See *Beaks* and *Harmanbeck*.

## G.

*Gab*—slack-jaw; and ‘the gift of gab,’ a readiness of reply, and power of persuasion. *Ulysses* is reported to have had great experience, good sense, and a ready wit.



*Fubbs, Mrs.*—Any lady whose home is ‘an accommodation’ to persons desirous of temporary seclusion, and no *bodikin*. A lady who possesses some degree of *embonpoint* is necessary to constitute a *Mrs. Fubbs*.

With manners *debonnaire*, and a leering eye,  
Pronounce her one of the *Fubbs’s* family.





*Gad*—a huntsman's whip,—long thong, handle crooked.

*Gaff*, (v.)—to toss up for liquor, &c. *A fair* is a *gaff*, as well as all the transactions enacted there.

*Gag*—a grand imposition upon the public; as a mountebank's professions, his cures, and his lottery-bags are so many *broad gags*. A showman cries 'Walk in, ladies and gentlemen, they're all alive,' but the spectators soon perceive 'tis all stuff, reproach Mr. Merryman, and he, in excuse, swears he said 'they were' and not 'are alive.' He thus gags the public.

*Gala*—a rout, or assembly of the *haut ton*. 'Madam Fig's *gala*,' the same of vulgar citizens.

*Galavant*—a nest of whores; when a man goes into such a living flesh-market he is said to be 'gone to *galavant*.' 'Galavanting tricks,' romping, ogling, &c. with an ultimate meaning that way.

"Says Mrs. Lobsky, I'm sure you ar'n't,  
You brute, you 're going to *galavant*."

*Galimaufry*—revelry, an odd mixture of scraps, and derived from *Gallimatia*. See *Amelia*, b. vii. ch. 4.

*Gally*, (v.)—to frighten or alarm by hideous means; probably derived from the Gauls—*Gaullois*, or Normans.

*Gambadoes*—loose, boot-like cases, for covering the legs of old horsemen, and suspended at the saddle. Geoffrey Gambado, Esq. was the name assumed by H. Bunbury, in his ironical treatise on horsemanship.

*Game*—any play; and its termination or the number to be won is, in like manner, *the game*. All those animals provided for by the game-laws, 9 Henry III. &c. are *game*. 'Game coachmen,' (hackney) 'game watermen,' those who would assist at carrying off stolen property, or help themselves, *solus*. 'Game women,' prostitutes of the highflyer sort. *Game publicans*,—those who deal in stolen goods, or wink at the misdeeds of their customers. He is said to 'die game' who shews no contrition.

*Gammocks*—running up and down, as in a fair, rolling among the hay, or flaunting at Vauxhall; these are *gammocks* truly. 'The boot was placed on the other leg,' however, upon a similar occasion, when the proprietor (who it seems was, as they say, the *proper-rioter*) would stand no *gammocks*. For

"When they got up to dance, about fifteen or more,  
Some could hardly stand up, while some fell on the floor;

Till daylight put an end to Mrs. Lobsky's rout,  
 And those that you'dn't go, vhy, Vill, he kickt 'em out."  
 With his tol de rol, &c.

*Gammon*—deceitful talk, between fun and falsehood; while 'pitching his *gammon*,' a silly fellow oft-times thinks himself clever, when no one else *can* do so. To 'pitch *gammon*' well, a man should, at least, have a good delivery, or 'gift of the gab,' some small share of sense—high or low—both commixed form pungent wit. *Gammon*, in backgammon-playing—the loser of two games following is said to be gammoned.

*Gentility*—affectation to something above the pretender's actual state; it begets a desire to behave *genteelly*, and to contract great expenses, and attain 'the *dish up*.' The word is in the mouth of all society—except the highest; *genteel* dress, and a *genteel set-out*, *genteel* company, and *gentility* of strut, do not compose *the gentleman*. Beggars ape *gentility*, and carmen talk of *genteel* behaviour, when they imitate waggoners.

"To go to sarve a gemman so,  
 Who to his treat had ask'd ye;  
 And in his ken to breed a row,  
 Why, if 'tis *genteel*, b—— me."

*Gentleman*—gamblers denominate themselves *gent.* if not *Esq.* even when detected and *had up*; but the bills of indictment dub them *labourers*, every man; yea, labourers at the tread-mill. Tailors are the most blameable of all tradesfolk: 'tis they who transform blackguards into *gentlemen*. *Gentleman*—he only is one, and 'a real *gentleman*,' who spends his money upon those who bestow the distinction upon him; otherwise he must be so undeniably such an one, that none think of questioning the issue; none can be considered a true English gentleman by us, who has not stored his mind with English lore, spells every word rightly, and is capable of forming a sane off-hand judgment upon every subject that may come upon the carpet. See *Swell*, *Tulip*, *Corinthian*.

*Get*—to 'get a watch' is to steal it. 'What did you *get*,' is used when one has been to the fences with stolen property; he always reports *a lie*, which can never be discovered, unless he himself *opens*. *Get*, (turf)—a horse's *get* is his progeny. 'The get of Whalebone, of Rubens,' &c. is the son or daughter of Whalebone or of Rubens.

‘ Ah, that foal is of a good *get*, and ’twill turn out a goer.’

*Gew-gaws*—showy articles, a watch-chain, seals, rings, brooches, &c.

*Giant*—any thing or subject that is great, mighty, or terrible: a ‘ *giant* in literature,’ is the Quarterly Review; Canning is a giant in politics; and our Levant merchants talk of the ‘ giant typhon’—a dreadful tornado, common in the Mediterranean sea.

*Gibberish*—applied to the first efforts at language of little children. In advanced life it devolves into ‘ *Slum*,’ which see.

*Gibes*—taunts thrown out against another. *Gib*, or *gibe*, does a horse that shrinks from the collar, and is restive.

*Gig*—frolic and fun revolve themselves into *gig*. “ Full of his *gig*;” ripe with laughter, and with mischief, probably. Thieves frequently have a little *gig* with each other and their girls in the street, and then rob in sport—usually practised near their homes.

*Gilliflower*—none can be a *gilliflower*, who does not wear a canary or belcher fogle round his twist: if he put up many more colours, he becomes a *tulip*.

*Gils*—cheeks, (derived from fish) and a *Gil* is he who pokes in his nose unasked, as if authoritatively. Gil Gill, was a beadle of Farringdon-within.

*Gimblet-eye*—Cock-eyed, squinting;

“ Gimblet eye, sausage nose,  
Hips awry, bandy toes.”

“ Much good may it do you—as the old woman said to her pig, when she found he had swallowed a gimblet”—said to one who has got a bad bargain after much pains—as, a glandered horse.

*Gin*—a very vulgar expression, indeed; consult Old Tom, Max, and Juniper, three own brothers. *Gin-buds*—Tumours, with *pus*, on the face, thrown out by the heat of *gin*, mostly acting upon the *prima viæ*. *Gin-spinner*, a distiller or rectifier, or vendor.

*Gin-twist*—hot water and gin, with sugar and lemon-juice, or orange ditto.

*Ginger*—another name for red-haired persons; and ‘ ginger-whiskers’ is an appellation for such men as use yellow soap, or otherwise discolour their whiskers: ’tis a regimental mark with some commanders. Among grooms

and horse-dealers, they obtain the description ‘chesnut.’  
*Gingery*—(stud) hot, distempered; applied to horses, whether they have been *figged* or not. So, at a flash-house, ‘how *gingery* is Cow-cross Billy to-day; b——y eend, if he han’t had a quarrel vith all on us: I suppose he’ll fight, and I vish he may *nap*.

*Give and take*—plates, turf-weight according to inches; the standard being 9 stone for 14 hands, but carrying 14oz. extra for every eighth of an inch above, and allowing the same for every eighth less: thus 12 hands would carry 5 stone, 15 hands 11 stone.

*Glaze*—windows; and, ‘to mill the glaze,’ the miller may adopt a stick or otherwise, as seems most convenient.

*Glim*—or candle, abbreviated from Glimmer. ‘They douced the glims, and frisked the Cove of all his bustle.’ *Glimstick*—a candlestick.

*Glim-fendors*—hand-cuffs, or wrist manacles.

*Go*—a half quartern of gin is ‘a *go* of Max’ for mixing at the parlour of the Queen’s head, in Duke’s court, Bow-street; whence that house formerly had the surname of ‘*the go*.’ ‘All the *go*’—the fashion in dress. “Put up the pins; ’tis my *go* and tip,” says one; another exclaims—“Here’s a h—l of *a-go*, Saal, I’ve lost my white bitch, the best von as ever pinn’d a bull: vot a *go* this is, surelye; as for, she had herself full of pups.” ‘Little *go*,’ a private lottery, not depending upon state-lottery or insurances; both are illegal. The E. O. table is also a ‘little *go*.’

*Go along Bob*—Bob Bussicks was a notorious sheep-drover in St. John-street, and the word of command ‘when flock follows flock in quick succession moving,’ was naturally enough extended to all who might engage in the same occupation. ‘Come along Bob,’ had the same origin. Bob died of old age some thirty years ago, but his tom[b]-stone (if his mortality had such a *thing*,) would not contain the foregoing surname, which was applied to the shape of his legs, that were of this form ( ) or some thicker part of his body; derived from the compound *bi* and *sex* or *section*, or bi-section which his lower members described in walking, or else the double (bi) *sex* which Robert was supposed to enjoy. Either Hybrid or Hermaphroditical, Bob’s choler could not be excited by all the girls in Cow-cross.

*Gdb*—the mouth. ‘Gob full of claret;’ bleeding at the mouth. See *Gab*.

*Go-by*—in coursing, a ‘*go-by*,’ or bearing the hare, is reckoned equivalent to two turns. On the road when one vehicle passes another, the *latter* has *the go-by*. ‘The cut-away Jarvy received an intimation of the intended *go-by* with glee, and reined up a moment.’ Any thing super-excellent, gives all others *the go-by*. E. g. Our friend Ted Blower, calls ‘the Annals of Sporting’—the Sporting ‘*go-by*.’ So—“the *go-by* he gave to his houses and lands,” said of one who lived too fast for his income.

*Gods*—the gallery of a theatre contains nothing but *gods*, when *empty* they are sylphs of darkness who inhabit those woods (timbers). Jem Bowden called Drury ‘a wilderness.’ Goddesses *there* are none (as Dogberry would say); this sex being left out in all addresses oral or written: they are supposed to have the power of damning—plays, which constitutes their Godhead; no one believes it, however, ‘the Pit’ in darkness does *the deed*, the gods of the gallery only growl assent.’ ‘O, ye gods and little fishes!’ Likewise ‘Wooden *gods*,’ draughts: two stupids bending over, and studying the moves, seem like devotees—at prayer.

*Good woman*—one who spares her tongue, gives her husband’s ears a holiday, or, more pointedly, *a silent woman*.

“A silent woman,” sir, you said!  
Pray, was she drawn without a head?  
Yes, sir, she was: you never read on  
A silent woman with a head on.

Hence it was, that an oil-man in High-street, St. Giles’s, was induced to place over his door a well-painted sign-board of “a good woman,”—one without a head. In this shop, Capt. Grose would lounge of a morning, and he it was that suggested this piece of waggery. The Capt. lodged not far off with Mammy Hooper, who was also his publisheress, the sempstress of his antiquities, his laundress, bed-makeress, *et-cæteris*.

*Goggle-eyes*—staring on no fixed object, as o’ercome by the other senses—*feeling* particularly: Juno jealous, is thus represented:

The goddess with the *goggle eyes*  
Roll’d them about, and thus replies.

*Go it*—proceed with the affair; whether that be of street robbery, or of jawbation. ‘Go it,’ is the precursor of ‘Do him,’ and ‘*finish the Cove*.’ ‘Does she *go it*?’ said of a doubtful whore.

*Gong*—a mixed-metal-vessel-looking piece of *music*, beat upon with a six-pound shot tied up in a clout, its vibrations grate upon the ear like something mixed up of a dying pig's groans, and a distant crack'd bell. Used at the oriental raree-shows of Covent-garden and Drury-lane.

*Goose*—single women thus designate dying-swains, who make love sillily. 'Tis applied also to the formless iron with which taylors smooth down their seams.

Right fal de riddle del,  
A yard of pudding's not an ell,  
Not forgetting didderum di,  
A tailor's *goose* can never fly.

We eat goose at Michaelmas in commemoration of the defeat of the Spanish armada (1588;) Queen Elizabeth receiving the news thereof whilst she was breakfasting upon *goose*. At Alphinton (Devon) the day and eve is devoted to goose-eating, and many thousand gastronomics gormandize greedily, on the foolish bird, 'which is too big for one of them, and too little for two.'

*Gooseberry*, to play-up; children romping about the house, or the parentrating them over. *Gooseberry-eyes*—grey ones.

*A Gorge*—a tuck-out, or bellyful, up as high as the throat or *gorge*—French.

“ And I said, if *a gorge* is to be found in this world,  
A man that is hungry might hope for it here.”

*Gorse*—is a thick, briery, rank-grass spot, a few acres in extent, for the most part made purposely to serve as a cover for foxes.

*Go-out*—or going-out; to rob in the streets, is understood. “ I don't *go out*, now,” said by a reformed rogue, or by one who would have this believed of him. “ Come, I say who's a *going-out*? Autem is over,” i. e. the church being about to emit its contents, 'tis time to go and rob the audience.

*Grab*, (v.)—To snatch; from grabble, probably, to take into custody.

*Grab-coup*—modern practice of gambling, adopted by the losers, thus the person cheated, or *done*, takes his opportunity, makes a dash at the depository of money, or such as may be down for *the play*, and *grabs* as much as possible, pockets the proceeds, and fights his way out of the house. The many-headed *grab-coup* is performed by several persons fighting their way into a hell, flooring the inmates, and seizing the bank, or collection of money.

“ He seized a rake, he laid about,  
 And put to flight the rebel rout.  
 He hit once more; again, again;  
 Glass and decanters flew amain;  
 What now *they lost* was no man's gain.  
 Candelabras, fine chandeliers  
 That lights sustain in tapering tiers,  
 All went to wreck: one broken head  
 The banker *dropped*—he lay for dead.”

See *Annals of Sporting*, 424.

*Gradus ad Parnassum*—the tread-wheel, when trod by a pupil of school attainments—he is then ‘*scanning*,’ ’tis supposed.

‘*Grassed* neatly’—(ring) is a prettier expression than *floored*, when the act is performed on ‘Nature’s natural garb!’

*Gratitude*—hath been defined “the memory of the heart.”

It is found in every body’s mouth, but should no where be expected in the great world; and when it is paid, so seldom does this happen, that people apprehend the old trick is then playing off, of getting further into debt.

*Grease*—a *bonus* given to promote the cause of any one, as *Grease* to a cart-wheel. ‘Deer of grease’—those which are fat; they are conscious of the fact, and run cowardly.

*Greek*—Irishmen call themselves *Greeks*—none else follow the same track to the east; throughout *this land*, many unruly districts are termed Grecian. ‘It’s all *greek* to me,’ says one who cannot well comprehend what is said.

‘*Gricks*—as merry as;’ crickets, probably; those little inmates of the fire-place evincing much sprightliness.

*Grig*—or grick; a farthing.

*Griffin*—a grinning booby, who hath lost a tooth or two at top, and the same at bottom. John Dennis, the literary Mohock, had the name *christened* upon him by Pope.

*Grog*—spirits and cold water, in the proportion of 2 to 1, introduced at sea by admiral Vernon, who wore a grogram cloak, whence the name.

*Groper*—a blind man. Groperess, a woman blind.

*Gropus*—the coat-pocket—from the manner of groping for its lesser contents.

*Grub*—meat of any sort. ‘Going to grub,’ about to take a meal. ‘A grubbery,’ a cook’s-shop. ‘Grubby,’ dirty-faced, as if the slobberer had just dined. ‘Bub and grub, a dab, and two bull a week:’ meat, drink, and lodging, with 10s. wages. ‘In grub;’ in work, and the means of buying victuals.

'*Grub-street*'—is applied to badly printed, or ill-composed writings, as the Weekly Papers, Dispatch and Advertiser; and to Maittaire's *new* editions of the Classics: "that place was formerly noted for its authors, printers, and scurvy journals."

*Guineas*—when laid on Turf-events, are to be paid in pounds, from May 1822.

*Guinea-trade*, (the)—is practised by persons who having resided a certain season at the university, and got M. D. tacked to their names, obtain *guinea fees* from the sick and valetudinary, for *advice* about the tendency of their disorders, and the exhibition of chemicals—without knowing aught of chemistry, or of the cause and progress of disease. *Aut Oxon aut Cantab.* See *Quackery*.

*Gutter-lane*—the throat.

*Gumption*—general uppishness to things, and being down to most ordinary transactions in *life*, is *gumption*; and he who thus knows what the *world* would be at, is *gumptious*. See *Humgumption*.

*Guy*, a—an ugly mug, or queerly-togged old-one, like the effigies of *Guy Fawkes* on the fifth of November.

*Guts*—'Greedy-guts,' who will eat all the world up. *Gut-scraper*—a fiddler. *Grumble-guts*—discontent; or

"My great guts and my small,  
They cry out one and all,  
Hark away all together, my brave boys."

## H.

*Habit-shirt*—a sham plea put in (on) to save appearances.

Worn by the *ladies*; but gentlemen should 'look well to't,' as Hamlet says, or it will be all *Dickey*.

*Had*—taken up; in the Compter or jail. See *Tapp'd*.

*Had-up*—police examination.

*Hail*, to—to greet or welcome any one; thus Somerville:

"Hail, gentle Dawn! mild blushing goddess hail."

*Hail* him—call him. *Hail* the boat—to call to the persons in the vessel. *To hail*, to accost, to excite attention.

"Hail, Macbeth, who shall be thane of Cawdor."

'*Hail* fellows well met,' all alike or upon a footing.

*Halter*—a horse's night-cap; many will get a present of such if they *alter* not their conduct.



*Halfpence*—a tailor's wages for less than a whole day. 'Come come,' says the *flint* to his employer, when a *dung* enters the shop,—'Come, hand over the halfpence, I smell dung in your shop: hand over; I'm off.'

*Hammer* (ring)—when a man hits very hard, chiefly with a favourite hand, his blows are said to 'fall like those of a *sledge-hammer*.' Such boxers are *hammering* fighters, that do not *defend* their own *vitals*, cannot make sure of a blow, and are termed hammerers and *hammermen*. They are not *Pugilists*, which see, also *Millers*.

*Hammering* boxers—are great country loobies, who possess no one quality for the exercise but strength, the consciousness whereof gives them pluck. These *hammer* away for an hour or two, hearken not to the call of 'time,' and turn a deaf ear to 'enough,' always act most unfairly in other respects, and sometimes commit murder!—for which they deserve the halter.

*Handicap stakes*—certain horses being named beforehand, with their weights—for age and height, for inches, and for performances; on the day of running those who accept (or subscribe) meet, one of them makes a memorandum of the terms on which they shall run, and this is put into a cap with the sums subscribed. These sums (or stakes) are usually small—say ten to twenty-five guineas, with frequently a larger sum added:—except at Newmarket, where they usually reach to 100*l*. When the parties have read the articles, they signify assent or dissent by drawing a hand from their pocket, if *with money* they run, if *without*, they decline.

*Hang-dog*—a fellow whose looks betray the gallows. Such an one once accused is half-hung already.

*Hangman's wages*—thirteen-pence halfpenny, being the sum anciently paid to the jury convicting, viz. one penny each for eleven, and twopence-halfpenny to the foreman, who then found the rope. Totally different now-a-day.

*Harman*—a constable: *Harman-beck*, a beadle. *Harmans*, the stocks.

*Harp*—the arms of Ireland, placed on the reverse of their copper coin, whereby halfpence get that denomination.

*Harping*—on a certain topic, is that sort of recurrence which marks insane persons and fools, and usually turns on the cause of their ills. Wiseacres do the same occasionally, e. g. Mr. Vansittart is ever harping upon the income of

the state : Mr. Abernethy always harps upon the stomach and the blue pill remedy.

*Harridan* (old) a worn-out strumpet.

*Hart-royal*—one that has been hunted by a monarch, and got away. He is not a *hart* unless six years old.

*Hard-baked*—a dog when constipated is hard-baked.

*Hatchet*—he who lies roundly, ‘throws the hatchet.’

*Havidge, vel Havuge*—an assemblage or family of dishonest or doubtful characters. Thus, William Habberfield, Esq. and family, composed a pretty havidge in Willow-walk : this *alias* Slender Billy was hung at Newgate, and got lauded by Blackwood for not splitting upon his pal in the flimsey-screen trade : it was his own daughter.

*Haut-ton*—the highest orders of society, who see life ; they are so denominated by the *bon-ton* and *bon-genre*, and are all of high breeding and large fortune. Money alone does not confer the *haut-titre*, nor giving a ball in a fine house ; nor commanding a play, nor driving four-in-hand, but these together may constitute *haut-ton* with very little trouble.

*Hawks*—gamblers, who are particularly destructive of their victims ; pouncing upon them mercilessly, or following them from afar—as Pollet did Mr. S—— from Brighton to London and back.

*Head* (turf)—‘won by a head,’ or ‘half-a-head ;’ or indeed, ‘a neck,’ is by so much that one horse comes in before another. ‘Gave away his *head*,’ (ring)—said of a boxer, who to place a favourite body-blow, exposes his head as the sacrifice : e. g. Dutch Sam and Scroggins ; Nosworthy felt for the head of Sam as Turner did for Scroggins’s.

‘*Heaps of people*’—Cockney, for a crowd, or great numbers. ‘Struck all of a heap,’—flabbergasted, astonished, or confounded.

*Heat*—a race or run for a prize. One heat a-day while the horse is training, is good to bring him in order for running. ‘*The heat*’ is the first of a series, with short intervals, the horse which comes in being declared the winner of the heat. *Heats*—are repetitions of the same, and are called the first, second, and third, as the case may be. ‘The best in three heats,’ is mostly gone into disuse ; at Newmarket entirely. When run, one horse must win two heats to carry off the prize. ‘Dead heat,’ is when two winners come in nose to nose.

*Heave on*—push along. ‘A *heave* ;’ an endeavour to induce another to believe or to do something. ‘A dead *heave* ;’ a more flagrant attempt. *Heaver* ; the breast.

*Heavy*—heavy wet, or brown—porter.

*Hebrews*—Jews are so called from the language spoken, and they are treated as a distinct nation, though ’tis evident a Jew may be an Irishman or an Englishman. ‘You may as well talk Hebrew,’ said of jargon ; because the Hebrew (so called) *spoken* by the Jews is of the German dialectic ; the *character* of which also differs from that of the sacred, as both do from the Rabbinical.

*Heels*—in cocking ; artificial spurs, made of steel or of silver, fastened on to the natural, and cocks are then said to be ‘*heeled*.’

*Hell*—the receptacle of tailors’ clippings and cabbagings.

*Hell’s delights*—much mental pain. ‘I had *hell’s delights* all the while I was in quod, a-thinking about my old mother ; as for I know’d sh’d be in a b—— taking about my liberty.’ ‘Kicking up *hell’s delights*,’ a scolding, a quarrel, or domestic battle ; capsizing the crockery and upsetting the sticks. *Hell-pains*—

“The *pains of hell* shall be a delight,  
To the kick in the a—— I’ll give her.”

*Hell*—‘Gambling-houses are thus politely denominated, by reason of the colours *here* and in the *regiones infernales* being the same, (viz. red and black, or *rouge et noir*,) —barring the cinders.’ Vide *Fancy Gazette*, p. 424. The keepers are of the lowest dregs of society, but attaching to themselves some of better original character and education, to attract, entrap, and ruin the unwary, which they effect daily. Many combine together in cash, (see *Bank. Leg. Ducl.*) and this association acquire and spend and share large sums of money, and fee the police. They will fight too, with fists as well as pistols ; talk of their honour, and appear serious. Mostly situated in St. James’s parish, and many close to the palace-gates, they seem to upbraid the first authority in the land, with numerous cases of murder, shooting, *felo de se*, lunacy, melancholy, poverty, and starvation. Robbery is common—not merely by loaded dice, but forcibly taking from the person, and then a gentle jet down the stairs. *Hell*—hellish. ‘Go to hell vid ye,’ is the cutting reply to moralists who would *open* upon the mischiefs attend-

ant upon robbery, or the danger of cutting throats; and indeed, our opinion is, that a good sort of person might as well take a journey to that distant region, as expend his time in talking to fellows whose hearts are case-hardened in sin, for whose bodies the gallows groans, and the floggard-cart now waits in the portal. ‘I’ll go to hell if I do,’ is not binding, because the parties using it do not believe in a future state of rewards and punishments. ‘Hellish hot,’ and ‘hellish cold,’ are convertible terms, and well understood, however apparently dissonant. ‘A hell of a row,’ ‘a hellish breeze,’ ‘a hell-fire large bunch of onions,’ (i. e. watch-seals) are used.

‘*Hell-fire Dick*’—Owen, the Cambridge coachman.

*Help himself*—a turnpike-man who pockets the toll *helps himself*; but he, or any one, in prison, cannot *help it* or himself either. Many a hackneyman has *helped himself* to more than the coachmaster gets.

‘*Hemp* (the) is growing for the villain;’ he is deserving a halter and will get his deserts. *Hempen habeas*—a halter. ‘He’ll get over it by a *hempen habeas*.’ ‘*Hempen* widow;’ one whose husband has lost his life in a horse’s nightcap.

*Hen*—a woman, who hath *produced*.

“In Black-boy alley I’ve a ken,  
A tyke and fighting cock;  
A saucy tip-slang moon-eyed *hen*,  
Who is oft mill-doll at block.”

*Herring-pond*—the sea, the Atlantic; and he who is gone across it is said to be lagged, or gone a Botanizing. Fair Helen, when lamenting her connection with Paris, tells Hector,

“I wish to God we’d both been drowned,  
When first we cross’d the *herring-pond*.”

*High-toby*—gloak, a highway-robber, well mounted.

*High-flyers*—women of the town, in keeping, who job a coach, or keep a couple of saddle-horses at least.

*High-lows*—shoes which reach to the ancles: they have a thievish aspect, always worn at Haggerstone, but are esteemed on Tothil-down also—four miles off.

*High tide*—plenty of the possibles; whilst ‘low-water’ implies empty clies.

*Hittites*—boxers and ring-goers assembled.

*Hint*—one of those many indications upon the sly given by one party to another, that are to be found in this Vol. as

“Beef, beef!” to a thief. Says Paddy to Duggin, “Some body has stolen my shanavest, and by the Powers you have got it on; there’s a *hint* for you.”

‘*Hobbady-hoy*—twixt a man and a boy,’ said of a youth—15 to 20. See *Hop*, &c.

*Hobby-horse*—a man’s fancy for certain pursuits, is called his *hobby-horse*. Dressing and dancing are queer *hobby-horses*, both abasing the mind. See *Dandy*.

*Hob-nob*—Hobber-nob. Two persons pledging each other in a glass, *nob* to *nob*, are said to be *hob-nobbing*. *Hob* or *ob*, observe my *nob*, that is *obvious*.

“With a *hob-nob*, and a merry go-round,  
We’ll pull in ere reason fail;  
For the stoutest man in the kingdom found,  
Must knock under to humming ale.

*Hobson’s choice*—that or nothing. He is reported to have been a most abrupt shopkeeper.

*Hocus*, or *hocus-pocus*—conjuration or witchcraft, in common acceptation; but practised (adversely) upon those who undergo great exertions for large stakes, as horse-jockies, boxers, &c. A deleterious drug mixed with wine, &c. which enfeebles the person acted upon. Horses, too, are *hocussed*, at times: Dawson was hanged for *hocussing* Sailor, because it died.

*Hog*—a shilling. Half-a-hog—sixpence.

*Hogo*—a stink; from *haut-gout*, French, corrupted by the Cockneys; a stinking fog is *fogo*.

*Holla-balloo*—continuous noise, of *tongues*. ‘Cease your *holla-balloo*,’ said by a mother to her children. “A pretty *holla-balloo* in Type-court:” a falling out of the Irish and the farriers there. Derived from ‘Halloo’ or ‘Hail-o’ and ‘*bala*’ ignorant lingo, or corrupted language. Quere, ‘All-o, bawl-o.’

*Hollow*—fowls, served up at table, whether ducks, geese, partridges, &c. are described as ‘plenty of *the hollow*.’

*Holt*—a species of covert for otters, composed of osiers, reeds, or bulrushes, in clumps—thus Somerville:

“through reedy pools  
Rustling they work their way; no *holt* escapes  
Their curious search.”

*Home*—at playing the *nine chalks*, he who has got 7 or 8 of them is said to be at home, when the adverse party is far behind; whose score is then termed ‘the comb,’

which it much resembles. In like manner, cribbage-players are said to play the next deal 'at home,' when they may reasonably reckon upon winning—though nothing of the kind can be safely reckoned upon as certain. 'Gone home' is said of any one sent to a debtor's prison, but generally of him who's *speculations* may have long tended that way—some of which kind are never happy or easy when *from home*. 'I am going home;' said by some such swindler when about to take the benefit of the insolvent debtor's act, under circumstances of a dark-coloured nature. 'Home is home be it never so homely'—is a good phrase, used by persons after a fatiguing march, or who may have been entertained by the stiff affected grandeur of pompous friends. 'Gone home,' dead.

*Homme comme-il-faut*—a man as he ought to be: he must have 32 teeth, thick curly hair, and calves 6 inches diameter each; around both ankles *placed across* should measure the same. In easy circumstances, of the *bon-ton*.

*Honey-fall*—a piece of good fortune, quite unexpected—a present, a legacy, a sinecure.

*Honour*—'tis no where to be found, pure: those who have it most upon the tongue possessing least at heart; fervent and ready protestations are small security. Puppies, dandies—'declare 'pon honour' to w——s, and on other trifling occasions—how base! With Patlanders, 'I give you my honour,' is a pawn that is seldom redeemed. The saying, 'There is honour among thieves, but none among gamblers,' is very well antithetically spoken, but not true in fact: none are more disjointed than are those gangs, *inter se*, and upon this chord should our police regulations ever thrum.

'*Hood*—two faces under a'; to act two ways at once, acting fairly to opposite parties: an election squib has it thus:

May the man be d——d and never grow fat,  
Who carries two faces under one hat.

*Hook and snivvy*—practised by soldiers in quarters, when they obtain grub for *nix*, by connivance with the *slavey*; or her mistress—or, indeed, the pot-boys, and other waiters. A man who orders in a steak or joint for one, and makes it serve for two, is at *hook and snivvy*. So, two travellers in Essex, dining off a goose, one of them forked the carcase into the apron of a beggaress who plied at the window with her brats: 'We have *finished* the goose, waiter,

and you must charge it,' said one; 'Very well,' replied Thomas, 'but I am sorry you should eat the bones, for there is a buttock of beef coming in.'

*Hookey, Hookey Walker*—and '*with a hook*,' usually accompanied by a significant upliftment of the hand and crooking of the fore-finger, implying that what is said is a lie, or is to be taken contrary-wise. One tells a long-yarn-story that asks for the disbelief of his auditory; whereupon another cries out 'Hookey Walker!' having previously shewn *the sign* above described, or another more elaborate still, which may be looked upon as a counter-sign, viz. spread the fingers of both hands wide open, apply one thumb to the tip of the nose, and the other to the point of the little finger of the first hand—this signifies *a clincher*.

*History*: John Walker was an out-door clerk at Longman, Clementi, and Co.'s in Cheapside, where a great number of persons were employed, and 'old Jack,' who had a crooked or *hook nose*, occupied also the post of spy upon their aberrations (which were manifold). Of course, it was for the interests of the surveillants, to throw discredit upon all Jack's reports to the nobs of the firm, and numbers could attest that those reports were fabrications, however true; Jack was constantly out-voted, his evidence overlaid, and of course disbelieved, when his occupation ceased, but not so the fame of 'Hookey Walker.'

*Hoot-Balloot*—or Balloo. Irish for decrying an action, as 'murder (in Irish;)' the *hoot* may be made terrific, according to the energy and lungs of the *hooter*. He inflates his lungs to the utmost, then presses out the wind with all his might, as if he would rend the epiglottis: the teeth being nearly closed, the wind rattles all round the cavity of the mouth ere it escapes. He that has not heard the Irish *hoot*, has a pleasure to come: the hods-man who has not acquired the hoot in perfection, may be safely set down as a fellow of unfinished education. *Balloot*—to bawl-out, is nearly the same thing commixed with words, laments, or execrations—an Irish wedding, a funeral, and the production of a new paddy, is accompanied by the *Balloot*. See *Holla-Baloo*.

*Hop-merchant*—a dancing-master. See *Capers*.

*Hop*—a contra-dance of ordinary persons and promiscuous company is 'a hop,' and 'a penny-hop' from the price formerly paid for admission. 'Hop and Hey,' the 'hop

and-a-hey' manner most thorough-breds of the Cockneys walk, as if hung upon wires; it lasts some of them to the second grand climacteric, unless they *hop* into their graves 'ere then, upon which occasions the relatives *hop* after them to the cemetery, and *hop* into their fortunes. By corruption the last cited phrase is become 'Hobbadyhoy'—an evident abasement.

*Horney*—a nose; one that resounds in expectoration.

*Horse's night-cap*—a halter, in which many die, as many more will, unless they *alter* their conduct.

*Hoorah*—an exclamation or shout of many, and used in warfare, as in popular expressions of approbation. See *Whirr*.

*Hotel*—ironically used of a mean lodging-house, and extended to prisons—with *the keepers'* names prefixed.

*Hots*—provincial for coverings to cocks' heels.

*Hounds*—there are several breeds for various pursuits—as the *grey-hound*, or *long-dog*, for coursing; *stag-hounds*, tall, strong, and quick of scent, ravenous of the blood of their victim; *fox-hounds*, faster of foot, many-coloured, shorter of body and limb, they are less tractable than the last, requiring strict discipline; and if they once chop a hare, or stray lawlessly, may ever after be doubted. *Talbot* was the old name of the *stag-hound*; he should be 20 inches high at least, be liver-colour and white (as snow;) much of the former about the head, across the back or ribs, a *sheet* of white—nose fine and ductile. Crossed by the mastiff and mountain shepherd dog, *deep-flewed*, comes out the *blood-hound*, colour *fallow*; once lain on the trail of man, he is ever after a dangerous customer to meet with by that kind of man—as poachers, ragamuffins, blacks, &c. *Harriers* are small hounds, standing sixteen or eighteen inches high, with fine nose, and hunting low; the hare is their only chase.

*House*—'The house,' *The*—par excellence, the *House* of Commons—or H. C.; 'the other house,' is so termed for shortness, 'the lords'-*house*' being understood. The players, those diverting vagabonds, think of nothing less than parliament when '*the house*' is mentioned: with them it means Covent-garden or Drury-lane, or indeed any other theatre. 'A *full-house*,' and 'half-a-house,' indicate the state of the receipts or number of the audience.



*Hum*—a whispered lie, and he is a *humbug* who has recourse to the meanness; he wishes to be a *bug-a-boo*, or most exalted fool. A knowing sort of humbug is *Humgumptious*. See *Gumption*.

*Humble-cum-dumble*—jokers use this phrase; when they should say ‘your obedient humble servant,’ they adopt ‘your humble-cum-dumble;’ such men wind up a palavering letter with—‘I’m sir, yr. hum. ser.’—which may be true enough: they are too proud to use plainly a commonplace civil expression. One would expect better manners from people of learning; but neither Minerva, or her guests, can prevent the insolence of others’ familiarities:

Madam, says Phœbus, I’m your *humble*  
And most obedient *cum dumble*;  
By Vulcan’s horns I vow and swear,  
I little thought to find you here.

*Hum-box*—a pulpit. *Hums*; the congregation departing.

*Humbug*—‘to *hum*,’ to whisper, and ‘bug-a-boo’ abbreviated, ‘a precious *humbug*.’ E. g. Safety coaches were found to be a *humbug* when they upset; ‘a great *humbug*’ is the foreign loan trade in the city: and ‘a state *humbug*’ is the sinking-fund. *Humbug*—he who holds a long and senseless harangue is a *humbug*; or he who in public company has something of imaginary importance to communicate, in vociferated whispers, is *humbugging* his neighbour. A jack in office is a *humbug*, and so is doctor Eady when he is chalking the walls of the metropolis, as well as when he is not. A sleep or awake, Huntingdon was a serious *humbug*.

*Humbugging*—‘Who is to stand *humbugging* here all day?’ That ordinary persons should *humbug* the public ought to surprise no one; but when greater minds and abler pens than ordinary—[*teachers*] stoop to the meanness, what heart-alive does not lament it, even to the core? In his number of Aug. 31, 1822, the editor of the Literary Gazette *humbugged* his readers with the falsehood that he was about to start off on a shooting excursion, and would not *publish* during the month of September; but, whatever truth might be in the first intimation, [*we believe none*] none attended the latter. He had long before talked of having in his office, ‘a ton or more of rejected manuscripts—poetry;’ whereas his *office* is but a little *box*, without a stair, on the spot where Walter Stapyldon lost his life,

(1326) the admeasurement whereof is only (by estimate) 6 ft. long, 7 ft. high, 4 ft. deep, which the *shipping reader* is aware will scarcely measure a ton, including the editor, his publisher, news-boy, fittings-up, and stock in trade. Yet does he iterate the same notion, February 1, 1823, by announcing his intention of publishing these non-existent manuscripts in a forthcoming paper, to be entitled "The Refuge for the Destitute," which never will appear.

*Hummums*—two taverns in Covent-garden (the old and the new) with superior accommodations; so called probably from the 'hum' of many voices, chastened to a *buz*, and even this almost 'mum.' 'Hum,' (imperative) whisper, and 'be mum' or quite silent; of the same family as *slum*.

*Hunt-races*—meetings instituted by the members of certain hunts, who subscribe for plates—or add sums to stakes for farmers' horses, and run their own actual hunters.

*Hunters' stakes*—small sums, 3gs. 5gs. or 7gs. respectively.

*Hunter-weights*—11 stone at the least, but augmented according to circumstances, as to previous performances, consanguinity, or breed.

*Hustling*—forcible robbery, by two or more thieves seizing their victim round the body, or at the collar.

## J.

*Jack-o'-Dandy*—'Jack, (a common name for any body) of Dandy' manners; foolish, proud, and choleric as a turkey or *dindon* (the (n) being mute) whence by easy transition to dandy.

" Handy, spandy, *Jack o' Dandy*,  
Lov'd plum-cake and sugar-candy;  
He bought some at a grocer's shop,  
And well pleas'd went off with a hop—hop, hop.

*Vide* frontispiece to the Life of Giles Ginger-bread, wherein Jack is depicted hopping like a modern dandy.

*Jack-an-apes*—Jack with the tricks of *apes*.

*Jack and Jill*—the male snipe is called a Jack, and, of course, the hen is his jill—hence the phrase for pairing 'every jack has got his jill.' A pike is a jack when a male.

*Jack the Jew, or Jew-Jack*—an Israelite who acquires the nickery of *Jack*, is either a thief or a receiver of stolen goods—of the lowest order. No Jew parent would think of naming his child after the Baptist or the Evangelist

John; some other body, therefore, must have applied the opprobrium, and who but the *Slang-whangers*?

*Jack nasty-face*—a dirty fellow, seldom *seen*; but ‘going up Holborn-hill, the 2d day of October, a lady from St. Bartholomew’s took a lee-lurch, and threw a ground-summerset backwards, when all might plainly discern Jack *interlineavit*.’

*Jackey*—one of the many names of gin.

*Jacob*—a ladder, by reason of a celebrated dream. One being stolen from the tail of a donneken cart while *doing business* at midnight, it was talked about as a mean do, “to prig *the Jacob* from a donneken-drag?”

*Jargonic-writers*—those who adopt a style of their own, which is either not grammatical, affected, or vulgarly phraseological: ’tis a good North-American term, (naturalized here) for what we of the *old world* call “slang-whangery.” A ‘Western Luminary,’ has this *fine passage*—“Our river Exe, winding her serpentine course down her beautiful vallies, *was so dilated* by the rains, as, every here and there, to *extend her fin* over her banks. Seagulls, mingling with her swans, were seen floating, &c.” Another says—“A *Phillip* is about to be given to the book-selling trade, by the publication of a *Methodical Cyclo-pædia*.”—Vide *Globe*, Nov. 18. N. B. This *advertisement*, so luminously drawn up, is meant to be a pun upon *fillip*, which ‘the Trade’ did not experience, as none perceived the intended *wit*: said publisher also punned his own work in some (so called) Evangelical prints—styling it the “*Methodistical Cyclo-pædia*.” Blackwood revels in *Jargonie*, at times—like a drunken schoolmaster, who knows better, but has lost self-control. But above all persons who ever held a pen in the service of the public, none surpassed the *sporting editor* of the *Weekly Dispatch*; from numerous instances take the latest date, Dec. 15, 1822, page 8, col. 2. ‘*Had Shelton have been* a younger man, it *might have been* a different thing.’ [‘To be sure!’] “*Had Hudson have proved* the conqueror; it was said to *have been* the intention of his friends to *have backed* him against Gas.” Gas, however, was *dead!* and the sportful writer knew it—“but,” (says he) “he was as dead as a house to their endeavours.” For this same man again, see *Bul. Craven*. During the administration of Lord Castlereagh, *Irish-English* was introduced into state-

affairs: whereupon the Morning Chronicle observes, "With the *appointment* of Mr. Canning, the vernacular tongue will be restored to 'the Foreign Office,' the business of which long time has been carried on in a *jargon*, that must needs have puzzled the interpreters."

*Jark-it*—to run away, afar off—as out to sea, or *by water*; derived from 'I ark it'—or take water. See *Ark*.

*Jarvy*—a coach-driver, principally applied to Hackney-men. 'The fighting Jarvy'—was Bill Wood.

*Jaw*—a portion of the head, which being wagged up and down, causes modulation of the breath after it has escaped the action of the *glottis*; the sound is then called a *mere jaw*, as "hold your *jaw*;" whence the verb *to jaw-r*. 'Jaw r him vell, my dear.' 'Civil jaw,' high senseless talk, 'without harm being meant in all the wersal world.' 'Slack *jaw*;' not to the point; loose and disorderly.

*Jawbation*—a set-to of several. See *Clapper-claw*.

'*Jee-whoop!*'—called at draught-horses as command to proceed. 'It vont *Jee!*' is objected to an attempted deception,—that it will not succeed—'tis negatived.

*Jemmy* (bloody)—a sheep's head; so called from a great dealer in these delicious *morceaux*, Jemmy Lincomb, who lived near Scotland-yard, and who, from his occupation, would necessarily be bedaubed with blood. His customers mostly addressed him with 'B—— Jemmy, bring us a b——y head, and lend us von o' your b—— shlivers,—mine's at my uncle's.' *Jemmy*. 'Now, gemmen, there you are, in a pig's vhisper, if you vants it viping, vhy there's the bitch ye know.' And the legend adds, that a she-dog's shaggy back served for knife-cloth to his dainty guests. We never *saw it done*, though there was the canine means of cleanliness.

*Jerry-wags*—half-drunken, half-foolish fellows, mostly bumpkins, newly town-rigged, seeking for a spree. '*Jerry Wag shops*'—coffee shops, the resort of such wags.

*Jew-bail*—is 'queer bail,' which see. These come 'finely togg'd,' or 'flash the blunt to queer the corum.' A Jew with laced clothes, according to the fashion of the day, offering himself as bail before Judge Pratt, was questioned severely as to his responsibility, when the judge observed, 'Brother, I think he must pass—he'll *burn* for as much.'

*Jigger-dubber*—a jigger is a key, and with the adjunct dubber, means turnkey to a prison. 'The Jigger,' is a private still.

- Jill*—a woman mated; and *Jack* is the man. ‘A *gill* of max’—a quartern of gin. A *Jilt*—a she-deceiver.
- Illegitimates*—counterfeit sovereigns; and, similarly, forgeries of the gold coin—sovereigns and half-sovereigns, the latter being then ‘young illegitimates.’
- In-cog*—a man drunk is *incog*. See *Cog*.
- Infant*—not a child, but ironically applied to a very big person. ‘I know the beautiful savage you mean, he’s an *infant*.’ *Tom Rees*.
- In-foal*—See *Stinted*. *In-pup*—any bitch breeding. *In-cub*—a she-fox breeding.
- In it*—concerned in or making part of a gang, or lot.
- Inguns*—Cockney for *onions*: ‘Beef-steaks an’ *inguns* for dinner,’—in common garden.
- ‘*Inkle-weavers*, as thick as’—persons who are unaccountably friendly, are said to be as great, or as thick, or as kind, as *inkle-weavers*; sex no matter.

“ ——— *Juno* ———

“ She now puts on her best behaviours,  
And now they’re as kind as *inkle-weavers*.”

- Innings*—at play; as racquet, fives, cricket, or nine-pins; whichever party begins has *the innings* and the advantage. Cricket has but two *innings*, in the others the number of *innings* are indefinite.
- Jobbernoul*—the head, and a thick one, too.

“ ——— *At Troy* ———

“ Axylus then, an honest soul,  
Got a great knock o’ th’ *jobbernoul*.”

*John Bull*—the people of England, typified by a fat bull or ox. The name is assumed by any impudent-and-ignorant knave, who behaves astonishing rude, and then excuses his crimes under the plea that ‘he is plain *John Bull*.’ John’s chief characteristic is—great gullibility, which leaves him an easy prey to impostors, quacks, and parasites. Hearken to one of these—an American traveller: ‘England is truly the queen of isles, the empire and citadel of Neptune, and, at the same time, the Peru of Europe, the kingdom of Bacchus, the school of Epicurus, the academy of Venus, the country of Mars, the residence of Minerva, the bulwark of Holland, the castigator of France, the purgatory of the friends of tyranny, and, in a word, the paradise of liberty. Her fair sex are very handsome; valour is natural to the males. Their talents are as great

as those of any other people, perhaps greater. The English idiom has more energy,' &c. &c. Enough! enough!! Politicians improperly assume the name, when they presume to speak the voice of the country.

“What then? Whilst there's life, there is hope:

Though *John Bull* turn his back

On the talented pack,

You may still get *Pat Bull* from the Pope.”

*Sic in Poema.*

*Jollification*—being jolly, merry-making. The first three vowels change places strangely in some mouths, when the (c) is doubled, and the meaning too.

*Journeymen-parsons*—those who work by the job, and had recently a *house of call*, at the King's Head, near St. Paul's, now removed.

*Jordan*—an urinal, whether of pewter or earthen-ware.

*Irish wedding*—a necessary emptying of a bog-house, derived from the similarity of fogo at such celebrations. One with a black eye is said to have been ‘at an Irish wedding, where they give black eyes for bride-favours.’

*Ironing*—i. e. Irony; e. g. ‘Bill Noon, you are one of the best in all England, *for nollidje and for larning.*’ *Noon.* ‘Nay, nay, my Coney, now you're *ironing* me—all down the back.’ Blackwood was *ironing* when, speaking of Egan's boxing reports, he said, ‘the historian of the prize-ring excels in language, and his learning is conspicuous;’ many fools *took in* this, and much more, as meant straight forward; whereas that writer ‘*excels only in meagre threadbare language, and his want of common learning is conspicuous in every page:*’ Blackwood meant this. Irony confessed, or *modesty prepense*, is exemplified under *Modesty*; see it: also *Jargonic*.

*Irons*—‘in irons,’ with greaves on. ‘Heavy ironed,’ to denote the degree of guilt. ‘Thieving irons,’ the hands of rogues; and the forefinger should be as long as the middle one. With this purpose in view, they pull their forefingers daily and hourly, and let the nail grow long.

*Itchlander*—a Scotchman.

*Item*—a hint, wink, or sly notice. ‘It was I gave the *item* that the traps were a coming.’

*Judges*—there are a few more than the twelve whom the king nominates; many men appointing themselves: ‘Did you think you were a catching of flats? No, no; I can tell ye: I'm too good a judge.’ ‘You a judge! Why you look

more like a judge's customer by half.' 'He's a good judge of horseflesh, is Joe Robson.'

*Jumbo*—a clumsy or unwieldy fellow. 'Go it, my jumbo,' said to an ugly wallupping chap. Watermen to hackney-coaches, market-porters and others, who wear heavy patched-up habiliments are addressed with 'My Jumbo.' Derived distinctly from Mr. Park, who relates (*Travels in Africa*), that a scolding wife of a certain nation (of blacks) was corrected by a being huddled up and clumsily disguised, applying a tremendous birch to her bare —. He took for name 'Mumbo Jumbo,' but is shrewdly suspected (by us) of being the hen-pecked husband himself.

*Jumble-shops*—appearing much like pawnbrokers; where various incongruous articles are exhibited, and marked invariably at high prices.

*Jump*—the Black Jack tavern, in Portugal-street, was the *Jump*, into the projecting window whereof Ned Shuter *jumped* from a hackney-coach, and at its return jumped back again; upon which occasion the Jarvy mistook Ned for the devil, for he had in the meantime opened the coach and found it empty.

*Juniper*—the general name of gin.

## K.

*Kakker-booshah*—accidental excrementising, or adventitious accession of gastrodorsed compounds, digested and hastily excised.

*Kedger*—he is a beggar who does not ask for alms outright, but performs some trivial office, and expects a fee, or casts himself in the way of being offered one. 'To live upon the kedge,' is said of those who pester soft-hearted people with petitions containing exaggerated statements of distress. 'Kedger's coffee-house;' the daily resort of every kind of beggars. 'Kedger's hotel,' the same nightly. See *Dab*, *Caddee*.

*Keeping, in*—maintenance of a prostitute, who is foolishly supposed to be solely attached to her keeper; but men frequently receive the like support from high-flyer women. Sam Hayward was a most notable example of this, lately; but the π interfered. Homer, speaking of Venus, thus sings:

"Though her concerns I scorn to peep in,  
Yet Mars has had her long *in keeping*."

*Keeping it up*—Late hours and much boozing, night after night, is the way to do it.

*Kennel*—the residence of hounds, called ‘dog kennel,’ un-sportsmanlike :

“ First, let the *kennel* be the huntsman’s care,  
Upon some little eminence erect,  
And fronting to the ruddy dawn——”

*ken* is an abbreviation, and means lesser than kennel, and its brevity is descriptive of a place of mere refuge. ‘Roosting-ken,’ a lodging-house. ‘A bawdy ken,’ (pronounced *bodikin*,) a house of ill-fame, whether that be a regular bawdy-house, or merely a house of accommodation.

*Kennedy*—a stick of substance, a poker. “Run up, boys; Sherrabulah! Here’s mad Myke, with a *Kennedy* coming.” See *Dennis*, *Rabbit Pole*.

*Kicksees*—shoes, also highlows. ‘Why, you Jack Hurley, what have you got there? A. Thin kicksees to be sure, that I may bolt the better when I gets hold of any thing.’ ‘Jerry Avershaw, when he came within sight of the gallows, threw off his kicksees among the crowd,’ July 1795.

*Kicks*—breeches.

‘*Kick, boloc, and bite*’—Lancashire brutality, which they call *fighting*, but we ‘won’t have it at any price!’ They *kick* at any vital part; *boloc*, or ramp like a bullock; and when down, the brute uppermost *bites* off the ear, the thumb, or nose of the brute below. *Purr* and *boloc*, we apprehend to be synonymous. See *Purr*. ‘Tummy’s a Dickeys a Harry’s, where’s tou bin? t’ Bolton?’ ‘A. Eagh, marry lad, I’s e bin o’er and fought’n. I’s e got a piece o’n in ma pocket,’—producing the bloody thumb of his adversary.

*Ketch* (Jack)—the familiar of *John* applies to any one, of whose trade, character, or occupation, the speaker thinks lightly—or as not quite so respectable as his own. This gentleman is sometimes spoken of as an *esquire*, being very intimate (too much so) with the sheriffs, many of whom are knights, or may become so if they choose. We have heard him addressed as ‘mister’ and (oddly enough) with ‘my dear, O my dear dear John;’ *John*, in order that the supplicant might ingratiate himself with Mr. K. who was at the time paying his respects with much assiduity to the addresser’s bare back. ‘Sentence of death’ rattles upon the tympan of his listeners, like ‘roast-beef with the gravy in;’ ‘the pillory’ is to him an hour of exultation, and he



breaks-fast over the backs of a dozen or two customers with a smack and gusto not to be excelled. 'Cutting down the bodies' acts like a cosmetic; but he looks upon sentence of transportation as a tradesman looks upon a bad debt. 'Gallows Ketch (catch) ye,' is a wish not always intended to be realised, and we shrewdly suspect gave rise to the appellation. Jack has been spoken of truly as 'the *finisher* of the law.' The present *officer's* antecessor had sore eyes, which although inconvenient to him, added to his *gravity*, and seemed to tell how much interest he took in the business; he, however, became a monopolist of trades, tried an action thereon with his master's master, (Rex) and was cast in damages three months quod: his successor, Jemmy Botting, a native of Brighton, now lives there *re-tired*, limping his right leg—a paralytic. The present Mrs. K. also *does a little*: having found a watch in a Cloacinean receptacle, early in the year 22, she argued the matter in Worship-street, and put in a plea of *non assumpsit*. '*Precept and Example!*—In August, the son of Burrows, the *hangman* of Chester and the West circuits, was committed to Chester Castle, for stealing ducks; on the following day his father executed the convict Lewis Owen, at Caernarvon, for the atrocious highway-robbery near Llanrwst.'

*Kid*, *Kiddy*, and *Kidling*—implies youth; but an old ever-green chap may be dressed kiddily, i. e. knowingly, with his hat on one side, shirt-collar up on high, coat cut away in the skirts, or outside breast-pockets, a yellow, bird's-eye-blue, or Belcher fogle, circling his squeeze, and a chitterling shirt of great magnitude protruding on the sight, and wagging as its wearer walks. These compounded compose the kiddy; and if father and son *come it* in the same style, the latter is a *kidling*. People who imagine that *all* kids are thieves—carry the joke too far.

*Killed off*—those of a large party who may have taken *quantum suff.* to send them away from the table. Borrowed from a phrase used of our brave defenders by Mr. Windham, minister-at-war; he meant—'off from the books.'

*Kindled*—hares, and rabbits, going with young.

*King's English*—as 'tis written. 'To clip King's English,' to lisp, or cut it short; to 'murder it,' is quite as bad.

*King's plate*—King's hundred. 'His majesty's plate.'—A hundred pounds were given by Charles II. to be run for

at Newmarket, the best of three four-mile heats, B. C. carrying twelve stone. He afterwards extended the bonus to several other courses, and the number now amounts to twenty-three in Great Britain, and sixteen in Ireland. The stewards give a certificate of the race, and the master of the horse pays by an order on the treasury: there *the tellers* take their toll off, and the balance is then about ninety-five pounds. Heats are disused, horses of all ages now run for 'the king's hundred,' and weights as low as 8 st. 4 lb. are carried; at Edinburgh less.

*Kite-flying*—said of a truant husband, who makes away to the Jew's-harp-fields, or those of Rushy-green, to 'fly his kite' or *Kate*. In Ireland, 'flying the kite' is employed to describe 'raising the wind;' but many a fine thought exported hence, gets ingulphed in the mid-channel of St. George; and even Plunkett ill-explained, when he informed the chancellor (Redesdale) that 'in England the wind raised the kite, but in Ireland the kite raised the wind.'

*Knife it*—is a figure for 'to cut,' which see. '*Knife it,*' separate, divide, discontinue it, or go away.

*Knighthood*—about ninety pounds worth of vanity, which any person of tolerable address may obtain any court-day; and two neighbour-quacks received *the honour* in 1821—surreptitiously; but never having been gazetted as such, are thus benighted with 'the ebon wand of darkness' tangible. Consult *Quackery*,—Sir Ch. Alldiss and Sir Cooper Daniels. P. Pindar, describing a royal visit, (1790) says,

"Then did majesty, so polite,  
Ask Mr. Whitbread if he'd be a knight?  
'To which the brewer bowing made reply,  
No indeed, Sire, not I, I, I, I."

All sheriffs *going up* with petitions are so asked, but not all possess the sense of what is befitting their stations, like old Sam Whitbread.

*Knock-out*—an illegal auction. See *Rig*.

*Know*—an abbreviation of *knowledge*; a man's *know* is his judgment, and the means of coming to a safe conclusion on a given question. Know-me-all, generally preceded by 'Mister;' said of one who pretends to book-learning, and shows it off. He calls for the newspaper, and occasionally looks about him critically through the crevice betwixt it and his hat, for whom he may find tripping in grammar, geography, &c. If a Scot, he turns the conversation upon

metaphysics, oat-cake, and the fine land of Scotland. If an Irishman, he insists that the Crim Tartars live in the Crimea; argues that Indian ink, India glue, and India pickle, are synonymous; and swears that *the English is best spoken in the Ireland*.

## L.

*Lachryma Christi*—wine, much talked of by the haut-ton, as being drank in Italy: derived from monkish impiety.

*Lads of the village*—thieves of either kind, who congregate on certain spots.

*Lagged*—when ‘poor fellows’ are transported they are lagged.

‘*Latin for goose*’—a dram.

*Law*—the time allowed to a fox or deer to ‘get away’ is termed ‘give him *law*,’ i. e. about five minutes. But *law*, as applied to man, allows him no chance at all of ‘getting away’ from its clutches. In *ring* affairs, there is *no law* but fisticuffs; he who talks about recovering stakes or wagers by *caption* is a needle.

*Layre*—the lodging-place of deer or other quadrupeds of chase; also of beasts travelling the road to market or fair.

Spelt ‘*Lair*’ by Somerville:

“ Fierce from his *lair*, springs forth the speckled pard,  
Thirsting for blood, and eager to destroy.

Unharboured now the royal stag forsakes  
His wonted *lair*; he shakes his dappled sides,  
And tosses high his beamy head —

*Lead Towels*—pistols: nearly gone out of use, along with the practice of highway-robbery, except in the song of George Barnwell; where it says,

Make Nunky surrender his dibs,  
Rub his pate with a pair of *lead towels*,  
Or stick a knife into his ribs,  
I’ll warrant he’ll then show some bowels.  
Rum-ti-iddity-ti.

*Leary*—fly, or up to a thing or manœuvre.

*Legs*—i. e. blacklegs. The monosyllable is, however, most elegant, as it leaves something to be guessed at. They are well dressed, sometimes well educated, sharpers at gambling-houses or race-courses, &c.; but *legs* appear in private parties frequently, assuming much the surface of gentility. Animal courage they possess, nine pair having

fought duels in the year 1822, and they possess skill too, every one having missed *manslaughter*. "Oh, my leg!" is a hint to a discharged convict; and gave name probably to *the legs*.

*Leger (St.) Stakes*—are a payment of 25 guineas each, by the owners of 3-year olds, (horses and mares) to be run for over a course of about 2 miles, more or less; the winner takes or sweeps off all—whence 'sweepstakes.' Colts carry 8st. 2lbs; fillies 8st. They were begun at Doncaster in 1776, before which time, the fashion of running 3 yr-olds was limited; the application of names to the several stakes, as Derby, Craven, and St. Léger, began soon after then—*Legere* is French for light weights. In 1822, 73 horses were *named*, and 23 started.

*Let-loose*—that part of *the ring* at a bull-bait, where the dogs are slipped, or *let loose*. 'The let-loose,' or 'let-out,' of prison, occurs at three months, six months, &c. after the conclusion of each session respectively, about noon: the man who would see 'life in its varieties,' and at Newgate in particular, would do well to watch the movements of the discharged persons for an hour or two.

*Levanter*—one who does not pay his losses upon turf-bets but flies off, is a Levanter, and by comparison, *pari passu* on similar bets. Derived doubtlessly from the Levant wind in the Mediterranean, which coming on suddenly, detaches single ships from their squadron, and drives them the *lord* knows whither.

A *Lewis Cornaro*—any old water-drinker, or suspected.

*Lexicon*—bon-ton for a *dictionary*, even of the most ordinary kind, as Entick's; or 'reach me *Sam Janson's Lexicon*, vol. toe.'

*Liberal Education*—bon-ton; Latin and Greek, with an *opportunity* of bringing those to some account—but neglected. In the mouths of tradesmen and manufacturers, reading, writing, and arithmetic, equal to a 'National Schoolian,' and subscription to the village library, during his apprenticeship.

*Liberal Principles*—freedom from controul, human or divine; with proselytism by the press. Liberty-hall—to drink as you list.

*Lick* (a)—a hit, not returned; and a *licking*, a beating not resisted. Hence, 'I can't *fight*, but I von't be *licked*.' 'He got a sound *licking*;' he was beat like a child—no chance. 'I knows I shall be vell *licked* when I gets home.'

*Lick-spittle*—one who fawns or seeks another's favour in a dastardly manner, and would, if desired, *lick his spittle* like a dog. See *Toad-eater*.

*Life*—to live joyously, is 'life.' 'Seeing life,' is said of the boarding-school miss, when she is first introduced to a ball-room. 'Going up to town, to see a bit of life,' is a common expression with those who *come up* to visit the theatres, piazzas, and shows. 'Life in its varieties,' high and low life, but chiefly a softened expression for the latter. 'High life,' is properly—living among the great and titled ones. 'A bit of high life,' would be a visit to Almack's or the masquerade, and taking a stroll into—*a hell*. 'Low life'—Billingsgate is not so bad as it, though St. Giles's below stairs might do. White-cross street, of a Saturday night, is *low*, and so is Petticoat-lane of a Sunday morning, and Kent-street all day. 'Life and fun,' may be seen at fairs, but the term is mostly applicable to *street business*. Thus Dibdin's 'Jolly Dick the lamplighter:'

But father's not the likes of I  
For seeing 'life and fun,'  
For I strange tricks and fancies spy,  
Folks seldom show the sun.

Few people generalise their ideas so far as to visit *every variety* of life. The writer of these sheets has seen ALL, except being presented at court, and feeling the delights of a prison. No two pursuits can differ more than 'Life' in the several classes of society: with the *haut-ton*, routs, cards, and up-all-night, constitute '*life*;' whereas the cobbler's wife considers no higher enjoyment of *life* exists, than taking a drop of heavy-wet on a St. Monday with her dear Mr. Lapstone, while he plays at skittles and blows a cloud. He who is acquainted with the various cheats about town, is said to 'know *life*:' "Where do you *live*?" asks an old acquaintance. Ans. "I do not *live* now; I have left *life* and vegetate in the country."

'*Light, to strike a*'—to open an account, of the minor sort, generally applied to ale-house scores. 'Tis an invention of the working printers in their chapel.

*Light weight*—In affairs connected with *the ring*, persons of 11 stone and under are *light weights*, and if of *nine* or less, they receive the appellation of little-ones. A jockey of 9 st. is not considered a 'light weight:' boys of 6 st. 4 lb. being sometimes required, seldom less.

*Limbo*—any place to which one's *particulars* may be confined; so this explicatory volume may be considered the author's 'Limbo of Oddities.' 'Cast into *Limbo*'—sent to a prison.

A prison is a house of care,  
 A place where none can thrive,  
 A touchstone true to try a friend,  
 A grave for one alive.  
 Sometimes a place of right,  
 Sometimes a place of wrong,  
 Sometimes a place of rogues and thieves,  
 With honest men among. *Mynshull.*

*Line*—a string. A man is in *a line* when he is made the fool or butt of another; when of the entire company, he is 'in a string.' To be in *the line* was some time meant a dealer in forged bank-notes, but became obsolete by the re-issue of gold: those passers were also termed *smashers* (improperly), who retailed but a few, singly. 'In the line of life'—to live dishonestly; a w—— who does not rob, is not yet got into *the line* or manner of doing it—she is only in the *way of life*.

*Lingo*—'Damn his *lingo*,' said of a parson, or admonishing justice. 'What pretty *lingo* Tom Owen does patter surely,' in the ring.

'And my timbers, what *lingo* he'd coil and belay!  
 'Twas all just as one as high Dutch. *Dibdin.*

*Listener*—the ear. 'Gas now planted his favourite hit under the left *listener* of his antagonist, which sent him to *dorse*.' Vide *Fancy Gazette*.

*Literary pursuits*—subscription to a library and access to talking company; the production of a scrap or two occasionally in a favourite paper, busy intercourse (monthly) with a magazine, and the announcement of a volume once in ten years. Of such quacks and their admirers we find there are two classes, 'those who have erudition without genius, and those who have volubility without research;' we shall obtain second-hand sense from the one, and original nonsense from the other.

*Little Chancery*—a court of requests, or of conscience.

*Little-ease*—the name of a certain city-prison.

*Lob*—a shopkeeper's till. *Lob's-pound*—a prison, dark and drear.

*Lobster*—a soldier. By inversion a lobster is also called a *soldier*, when boiled, as is a red-herring.

*Logier*—a pocket-book, it is Jewish—Dutch.

*Longshore Lawyers*—are ‘Black Sharks,’ which see.

*Long-town*—London is so spoken of by the Irish.

*Love*—nothing: to fight for love, or play for it, is nought—no such thing in existence among *the legs*; hence the term.

*Low*—any unexpected sally from one of a party acting like gentlefolks, is denounced *low*: and he is ‘*low company*,’ who of a St. Monday, or during a Sunday ramble, should *come out* with sexual stuff—or infamous dirty allusions—Yet is not such conduct confined to dustmen and mere donneken dabblers, but pervades all highflyer society.

*Lud*—two species of *Lud*, differing *toto cælo* in their habits, are now before our *vif* imagination: the one may be spoken *to*, the other only spoken *of*; the one is *visible*, the other kind only *felt*, or are heard of occasionally, without being seen. The *first* kind may amount to about a dozen (a baker’s dozen) at any one time; of the second, as many hundreds or thousands go out at a time; *that* ‘town-bred,’ this kind ‘confined to the country.’ Yet are the fewer the best off in respect to gallows affairs, as these never ‘go to the drop,’ but commit the more numerous kind of *Luds* to the finishing care of John Ketch, the roper. The most populous take individually the name of *Ned*; among the *pars paucere* they had among them only one *Ned* (viz. Edward Ellenbro’ *dec.*) and he no one dared call *Ned*, except Will Hone, and even he called him ‘Lud’ for the most part: “My Lud! my Lud!! it is *I* that am to be tried, and not *you!!!*” The ‘three Luds in the Minories,’ so much written of by the Slang-whangers at one time, never did exist: but ‘the three Lords’ may be found there—once a sporting-house.

*Lumber* (live)—men and women over-loading a cart—no matter the age or condition. *Lumbered*—taken-up on suspicion, supposed in irons.

*Lumber-troop*—a society of jolly-ones, citizens of the middle rank, assuming military distinctions, as commander, colonel, captain, &c. with insignia, forms, and cannon.

*Lumpy*—heavy. “Here they are, lumping penn’orths,” of fruit at the stalls.

“I, *Lumpy* famed, Mendoza lick,  
I’m up to all and quite the kick.”

*Lurcher*—a thief-dog, trained by poachers, being got out of the worst of two or three species; e. g.—a mastiff and bull-

dog, then the fiercest of the produce upon a lawless stag-hound; let the gestation and litter be in the woods or glens, far from home. Also, the greyhound and tanned terrier cross. Law lurcher—a bum-bailiff.

*Lush*—drink of any sort—beer principally. Thus we have ‘Tom Cribb’s lush-crib.’ ‘Lush-out;’ a drinking bout. ‘Lushington,’ or ‘dealing with Lushington,’ taking too much drink.

## M.

*Ma’am*—abbreviated from Madam, a term of respect used in addressing ladies of respectability; but among fish-fags and prostitutes, ’tis taken ironically, considered as an insult, and resented accordingly. *Marm*, is but a further corruption of the first.

*Macaroni stakes*—those ridden by gentlemen, not jockies.

*Mace*—the broad-pointed instrument used for playing the *safe* game at billiards. The *mace-cove* is he who will cheat, take in, or swindle, as often as may be.

*Mad-cap*—a frisky wild lass, full of fun.

*Mag, magging*—monotonous endless talk; ‘Stow magging,’ cease talking. *Mag*—a halfpenny.

*Maiden-plate*—a racing prize, for which untried horses and mares alone are allowed to start; or, if any do start surreptitiously and win the race, the prize is withheld. These plates are generally *fifties*.

*Main* (a)—with dice-players, is the averages of the number to be thrown.

Then Ajax grasps his clumsy fist,  
And gives the box a devilish twist,  
Out pop the dice; cried Nestor—seven  
’S the *main*; a nick, by Jove! eleven.  
Another throw then Ajax tries:  
Now eight’s the *main*, sly Nestor cries;  
Resolv’d this jobbernoul to cozen,  
Roars out, another *nick!* a dozen.

*Main*—in cock-fighting; he who wins the advantage on a series of battles, wins *the main*.

‘*Malleting*—a horse.’ Two horse-dealers appear, the one as a buyer, the other assists the seller in making sale of his horse; they *try him*, and dispose of the animal to a fourth person, pocketing the proceeds, and sometimes fight which shall have it; when ‘honest men come to know who the rogues are.’ This last is a *malleting bout*, which differs a little from Hammering. Vide Old ‘*Fancy*,’ p. 98.



*Malt*—the chief ingredient of beer, has been used figuratively for the beer itself. “A shovel of malt,” is a pot of porter; and is a good expression of Tom Rees’s, as it reminds the person addressed not to forget the main article. ‘Malty;’ drunk, with beer, or drunkish any how, stupidly so.

*Mannikin*—i. e. a-kin to man; men’s manners in a boy renders him a *mannikin*, as ’tis written, or to ‘man-a-kin.’

“Mannikin, cannikin, good meat and drink,  
And true from the head to the shoe-tie.”

*Mark*—(ring). The pit of the stomach is termed ‘*the mark*,’ and ‘Broughton’s mark.’ It was Bill Warr’s favourite hit; also, had been Dick Humphries’s.

*Marriage Act*—of 1822; the laughing-stock of all sound moralists, the harbinger of illegal attachments, and the quarterly annoyance of the religiously disposed, when it was read instead of a sermon. On one such occasion, a pious Devonian addressed his dumpling-head congregation thus:

“I shall preach no sermon this morning, as you will see:  
But shall read what will tire both you and me.”

*Martingale*—at play, to double stakes constantly, until *luck* taking one turn only, repays the adventurer all.

*Massacree*—unlettered pronunciation for massacre.

*Match*—persons nearly of a size are said to ‘make a good match,’ (ring). Horses’ *match* consists in colour and size. A two-horses’ race, is a *match*, when specially agreed upon. The agreement for a man-fight, is ‘making a *match*.’ Young folks are said to ‘make a *match* of it,’ when they marry; they do the same when they do not *wed* frequently, but bring gyblets together, *sans ceremonie*.

*Match-makers*—old men and women there are, who having tasted wedlock-joys themselves, and their appetites failing, they prepare tit-bits for their young friends—male and female. ’Tis a droll occupation; and fails often of entire success. Jew-King opened a match-making office in Old Bond-street, about 1797.

*Maunders*—beggars using much lament.

*Maw-wallup*—compounded of maw, another name for the stomach, and *to wallup*, or eat up without discrimination, any preparation however incongruous, having the appear-

ance of victuals, but usually understood to be of the less solid kind, e. g.

Then here are nice sheeps' heads to suit each dainty *maw*,  
It's very true, says Will, but then there's too much jaw.

*Mawley, mawlies*—the hands; from *to mawl*, to beat. Pronounced by thorough-bred cockneys '*Maw'r les*,' and written by some fancy *jargonic-writers*—'*morleys*.' We have 'the *right mawley* of Jem Wines met Warton's *left mawley*, and smash'd it.'

*Max*—gin, originally of the best sort, abbreviated from *Maxime*; but now, any kind of 'the juniper' is *Max*, Old Tom, the Creature, Eye-water, or Jackey; all meaning 'Blue-ruin.'

*Maze*—a labyrinth properly—as '*maze-pond, Boro*,' the maze at Hampton-court, and that at Marlborough; '*mazed*,' mad; a labyrinth of ideas or notions, is a state of madness, and the word, though local, is good.

*Mazzard*—the face, or perhaps the whole head. 'Tis Irish, and mostly confined to Dublin. 'Toss up the coppers now Thady,' 'head or harp?' 'Harp!' cried Paddy, 'and down came three black mazzards.' 'Chop his mazzard,' a cut in the face. "There sits my dirty spalpleen, musha gra! with a pipe stuck in his nate *mazzard*, see!"

*Mealy-mouthed*—backwardness of speech; one who talks as if he held a spoonful of flour 'twixt his dining-room chairs.

*Meg*—'I am without a meg,' i. e. no money—not a half-penny in pocket. *Megging*—obtaining the *megs*, thus: two or more fellows, pretending to be utter strangers, conspire to cheat a third by laying wagers, or otherwise do him out of his bustle: provincial of Yorkshire. When employed on horse-flesh, it acquires the term Malletting.

*Melting*—a sound drubbing, all one way. A *melter* is he who punisheth, and the thing administered is a *melting*—a corruption of malletting.

*Men of Cash*—gamblers in luck:

"I'm up to all your knowing rigs,  
Ye biddies queer and flash;  
I'm company for scamps and prigs,  
Sometimes for *men of cash*!" H. LEMOIN.

*Merits*—high flash for the extreme of a thing, used negatively in general; as, 'Sir, you do not enter into the merits of—the wine, the joke,' &c.

*Mew*—the seat of a hare; her resort:

Now gently put her off; see how direct  
To her own *mew* she flies!      SOMERVILLE.

*Mid*—Jewish pronunciation for *with*; the Cockneys come it *vid*.

*Miles's boy*—‘Who told you? I thought no one knew.’  
Ans. ‘I had it from *Miles's boy*.’ In one of the suburbs of London, lived a tax-gatherer named *Miles*; who kept a boy, or man, walking about to discover people who might be taking flight without payment. This Janus-like mode of proceeding, however, is continued, and so is the saying, notwithstanding the *boy* must be long since dead of old age.

*Mill-doll*—a prison, that part of it which is appropriated to working, hemp-beating, treading the wheel, &c.

*Millers* (ring)—second-rate boxers, whose arms run round in rapid succession, not always falling very hard, or with determinate object; and they seldom win against equal strength in a scientific opponent—but by accident. Gas was a *miller*; the Hudsons *were* nothing else—but Josh. improves. Shelton is a reformed miller: Scroggins, an incorrigible one.

*Minikin*—small, little, “what a minikin mouth she has!”  
“His *store* contained every thing, from a minikin pin to a sheet-anchor.”

‘*Mischief*—in her eye;’ which must be black, sparkling, and with a little leer, for its owner to be so spoken of. ‘Randal’s fists now shivered as he squared at Martin, clearly meaning *mischief*.’ F. G.

*Misfits*—clothes which do not suit the wearer’s shape. Hence, ‘’tis a misfit,’ when a story, or some endeavour fails of its effect, then ‘it von’t *fit*.’

*Misfortunate*—properly miss-fortunate, used of women who may have missed their way in walking along the undulating paths of life; which are laid with the pebbles of vice, having one border composed of the briars of misrule, thistles of grief, and nettles of mishap, the other border being slightly fringed with the flowering myrtle and gaudy moss-rose, that sweeten the breeze that cools our anguish, and seduce the malaria of our repose.

*Mix giblets*—to intermarry—naturally or legally.

To *Mix* it up—to agree secretly how the parties shall make up a tale, or colour a transaction in order to cheat or de-

ceive another party, as in case of a justice-hearing, of a law-suit, or a *cross* in a boxing-match for money.

*Mizzle*—when any number of the light-fingered tribe congregate in the streets, they disperse incontinently different ways at the sight of a *trap* or two; they are then said to *mizzle*.

*Mock-auctions*—one of the baleful products of a generally bad trade; every species of cheat is practised at them: some are held more ostensibly *genuine*, but are nevertheless rank impostures. See *Barkers*.

*Modesty*—like other negative virtues, 'tis most insisted upon by those who have least of it. Wh—s swear by their *modesty*, and often declare 'tis *hurt* by expression of free thoughts, whence some have concluded the *modesty* they speak of is a *substance*, resembling probably an old hair trunk. Take an example of Scotch modesty from Blackwood's Scotch Mag.: "A loftier and a wiser people (than the Scotch) are not to be found *now* upon the earth, nor do the records of any such survive." Petrarch thought otherwise: he placed them the lowest save none: "Of all the barbarous nations, none is more cowardly and ignorant than the English, excepting only the *rascally Scotch*."

*Molls*—are the female companions of low thieves, at bed, board, and business.

*Monkey's allowance*—more kicks than half-pence.

*Monosyllable*—(the); feminine only, and described by Nat Bailey as *pudenda muliebris*. Of all the thousand monosyllables in our language, this *one* only is designated by the definite article—the monosyllable; therefore do some men call it 'the article,' 'my article,' and 'her article,' as the case may be. *Certes*, 'tis neither *yes* nor *no*, (those uprights and downrights of civil life)—but it lies something between the two when *first used*—never after.

*Monstrous*—excessive positive. A bon-ton reply renders it a superlative: 'a very pretty girl is that miss ——,' 'oh! my dear sir, monstrous pretty *little* creature inde-e-d.'

*Monster-ous large* would do better; but dandy cares not: he has it 'monstrous hot in the house, and devilish cold out:' 'I was *monstrously* affected,' he concludes; yes, *affected, monster-like*.

'*Moonlight*—wanderers;' or 'fly-by-night' persons, who cheat their landlords and run away by night; when 'tis illegal to detain the goods

- ‘*Moonshine, gilded*’—sham bills of exchange: ‘no effects.’  
 ‘*Mother Cary’s chickens*’—to fare alike and pay the same.  
 ‘*Mother of Masons*’—a toast—not among their *secrets* in lodge, whatever it be at home.

*Mot*—a young woman, desirable for a sweetheart. *Dimber Mot*—a pretty lass. *Mort or Mott*—a woman, wrapped up. *Mort* is death; and the term should imply that the speaker would love her till death. Again, a *pall* is called a *mort cloth*, in some parts of the country; and an Egyptian traveller (Dr. Richardson, the *wit*) speaking of the women of Cairo, when riding on asses and muffled up, (as is the custom) compares them to ‘a coffin mounted erect, covered with a *mort-cloth*.’

*Morrice-dancing*—it differs from the contra-dance, reel, and waltz, &c. inasmuch as men only perform the *morrice-dance*, having bells attached to the arms, knees, &c. “*Morrice off*”—an order to depart, meaning ‘dance off.’

At such a time,  
 While to wild melody fantastic dreams  
 Dance their gay *morrice* in the midmost air.

*Mouth* (a)—a silly fellow, one easily duped. ‘I’ve a *mouth* at the Mint, as brings me out plenty o’ gold blanks. See! here be two and thirty!’

*Move* (a)—a removal of public-house-keepers. ‘A precious *move*,’—or motion, to do something disadvantageous, as ’tis to lose a fire-side seat in winter. Land-rails, &c. are said to be ‘*moved*,’ when the sportsman disturbs them.

*Moulder*—a lumbering boxer, one who fights as if he were moulding clay. ‘Go along, *moulder*,’ i. e. fight on.

*Muck*—dirt; and money is derided as *muck*, when in possession of a miserly fellow, who is then a *muckworm*. Sometimes *mucks*; in Devon ‘*mucks-a-drowd*’ is dust, or *pilm*; in Yorkshire, ‘*muck-orts*’ are the leavings of a dinner, or ill-favoured scraps, and by easy transition—dirty female persons are the same. *Muck*, is used differently on the Malabar coast and islands: madmen running about the streets there, reckless of life, are denounced as ‘running a *muck*,’ and get hunted down like beasts of prey. Dryden evidently knew the country whence the word is derived, when, speaking of some Blackwood of his time, he says,

“Frontless and satire-proof he scours the streets,  
 And runs an *Indian muck* at all he meets.”

*Mud*—a stupid twaddling fellow. ‘And his name is mud!’ ejaculated upon the conclusion of a silly oration, or of a *leader* in the *Courier*.

*Mud-larks*—fellows who scratch about in gutters for horse-nails, and other fragments of *scrap-iron*; also women who go into the Thames, at low-water, to pick from the mud bits of coal, which are spilled from the barges along-shore.

*Muffin-faced*—one who has large protruding muscles on his phiz, which is pale withal, is ‘a muffin-faced son of a —;’ mostly cooks, idle gourmands, &c. who delight in fat, soups, and slip-slops, evolve mutton-faced.

*Mufflers*—gloves with wool stuffed upon the knuckles, for boxers to sparr withal, and not hurt each other too *much*: *claret* comes sometimes.

*Mug*—a man’s face. When applied to a woman it seems to imply that she has a masculine visage, or is ugly—God forgive us for so speaking of the female face divine! ‘Please send a crate-full of *ugly-mugs*,’ vide an order to the potteries for jugs or mugs which exhibit on their lips, or in their entire form, the greatest distortions of the human face. These were recently much in vogue, and were intended, no doubt, to alarm the drunkard when he should have descended so far into his cups as to see blue devils in the air.

*Mulligatawney*—soup, made of unborn calves’ meat (vulgo *slips*) and still-born *fœtæ*, in imitation of the Chinese ‘*chow, chow*,’ or stewed puppy-dogs.

*Mulligrubs*—sickness, intestinal or nervous, or of tardy circulation. Hector suggested that if he went not to the battle, the Trojan dames would

“Cry, ‘Bless us! what is come to Hector,  
He used to maul the Grecian scrubs:  
Pray, has he got the *mulligrubs*?’”

*Muns*—the mouth; but sometimes (improperly) extended to the whole face; though this may, probably, be allowed when the portal of sustenance extends far over the countenance. Derived from *mange*, (indic. of *manger*, French) the difficulty is soon solved; and is better than *mug*, because this latter is a more comprehensive name for the whole set of features. Vide *Bath Cries on a Good Friday*:

“One a penny, two a penny, hot cross buns,  
If you have no daughters give them to your sons:  
If you have no sons, stuff them in your own *muns*.”

Whereas the man who has not capacious *muns* might stick those buns in patches upon his mug, and so become *muffin-faced*.

*Mutton*—a woman. Also, 'laced *mutton*.' 'Mutton-monger,' a follower of females.

*Muzzler* (ring)—a blow, slanting upwards, placed on the upper lip or tip of the nose; the latter is most effectually conducive towards victory of any blow whatever,—'tis a puzzler too.

'*My a*— in a *band-box*'—it is so indeed, when a lame story and a lying one is stiffened up with pompous nothings. 'M'ars in her band-box' is another version of the same: 'tis said that Jupiter having dispatched Mercury to seek after Venus and Mars, who absented themselves from Olympus, the messenger-thief found them——, and returned the foregoing account of his mission.

*My lord*—any one with a hump on his back. Bad nurses cause these humps; let *the lords* curse them all their lives. Presiding judges are addressed as *Me-lud*.

*Myrtle*—men used formerly to walk about with bits of myrtle stuck between their teeth, knowingly. Jerry Avershaw had a bit in his mouth as he took his last sad airing at Kennington-common. The address 'Ah, my myrtle,' is rather gone out of use since that black affair; Jerry having thereupon dangled at Wimbledon several moons afterwards. Ned Brown, the younger, a costermonger, is the present 'sprig of myrtle.' Ned is *a tulip* too. Jack Ketch (circa 1790) wore a *sprig* of myrtle in his business hours.

## N.

*Nabs*—a coxcomical fellow is spoken of as 'his *nabs*.' 'Myself and his *nabs* here, grub at Dolly's to-day.' *Queer Nabs*--shabby genteel.

*Nabb'd*—the arrest of any one who has been long sought after, whence perhaps 'nippered' for criminals.

*Nail*—a cheat, who runs into debt without intending to pay, is *a nail*; and he who lays sharpening wagers, or tosses up unfairly, is a *dead nail*. The man is *nailed* who is laid hands upon.

'*Namby-Pamby*—verse, ill-composed, unmeaning.

*Nantz*—'right Nantz,' brandy. 'Cool Nantz,' the same.

'*Nancy, ask my*'—a very vulgar recommendation, seeing that it is a mute.

*Nap*, *Nap* it—to get the worst of a contest—‘at fistycuffs’ is understood. ‘To *nap toco* for yam,’ to get more beating than is given.

*Nashed*—gone, or run away.

*Natives*—silly people, generally; the untravelled population of any town, wrapt up in incipient simplicity are *natives*.

*Native cavalry*—the unbroke horses of countrymen, when they resort to races, fairs, fights, &c.

*Natty*—neat, tidy, spruce, going to a fair, or hop—of either sex.

*Near-side*—of a horse or other cattle, the *left-side*, by which horsemen mount. Postillions ride on the *near horse* in England—the Russians drive on the *off-horse*. The left kidney being *nearer* the heart than the right one, is called ‘*the near*,’ the melt interposing between it and the ribs.

*Neck and crop*—‘turn him out *neck and crop*,’ is to push one forth all of a heap, *down some steps* or stairs being understood, so that the patient may pitch upon his neck (or head.) ‘to wash the *Neck*,’—to swallow liquids.

*Neddy*—sometimes ‘ass-neger,’ other names for jackass—the living emblem of patience and long suffering.

*Newcome*, *Johnny*—any man recently arrived.

*Newgate*—a house of entertainment for rogues of every description, detained for trial at the Old Bailey, London and Middlesex sessions,—or for ultimate transportation. The name has itself been transported to, and naturalised in, Dublin, as also in Manchester, where the sessions-house is modernized into *New Bailey*. The old building so appelled, stood across the entrance to Newgate-street; and probably had its name from the circumstance of its having been the newest of all the gates that then choked up the accesses to the metropolis. See ‘*Start*.’ ‘Newgate seize me if I do, there now!’ is an asseveration of the most binding nature, when both parties may be following the same course of life. ‘As black as Newgate,’ is said of a street lady’s lowering countenance, or of her muslin-dress, when either is changed from the natural serene. ‘Newgate drop,’ see ‘*Drop*.’ ‘Debtors’ door o’ Newgate,’ is still used in the London cries of last dying speeches; but it no longer exists—that stain upon our laws, of confining within the same walls, felons and unavoidable misfortunates, being taken away, by incarcerating offenders of the latter description in the ‘At home,’ of Whitecross-street. See ‘*Home*.’



‘Newgate-steps,’ figurative for a low or thievish origin. Before 1780, these steps, ascending to the chief door, were large and much frequented by rogues and w——s connected with the inmates of that place: some might be said to have received their education there, if not their *birth*: such a thing has happened:—

“ At Newgate-steps Jack Chance was found,  
They brought him up near St. Giles’s pound;  
He soon was taught to swear and fight,  
And every thing but read or write;  
He could a purse or gold watch bring,  
And swaggering Jack was just the thing.”

*Newmarket*—a place for racing and coursing, having the finest turf of any extant. ‘Newmarket; best two in three,’ as a phrase is erroneous; races are not decided there by the best in three, as prevails elsewhere. See ‘*Close rub, King’s Plate, Round Betting, Turf.*’

*Nibble* (v.)—stealing or cheating for trifles is *nibbling*. ‘I only nibbled half-a-bull for my regulars.’ ‘There, now I feel you *nibbling* ;’ said by thieves when they are teaching each other to pick pockets.

*Nick*—old Nick; the evil being, who interposes *finally* in the *nick* of time between a resolve and its performance. ’Tis a softened expression for d——l; always masculine. Thus, a *nicked* horse carries his tail *devilish* handsome after he has had a *nick* or gash in the leaders, and the cure is complete; a mare should not be *nicked*; it would appear so! *Nick-names* are derived from old Nick. *Nickeries* are the same applied to actions and *things*, or *quid pro quo*. So many names have been bestowed upon the great enemy of mankind, that we are much disposed to believe *Nick* was added to all the rest to denote the fiend upon whom all nickery had been exhausted, and therefore he ‘*the nick* of all *nicknames*.’ The story of St. Nicholas having flogged him, and thus, under his own hand, conferred his *familiar Nick* upon old *Nick*—we reject as apocryphal. ‘You are arrived in the *nick* of time,’ is addressed to one who comes ‘in the critical minute.’ ‘To *nick*,’ is a verb, derived from the noun, and means ‘to cheat’—of money, of chattels, or of life.

*Nim* (v.)—to pick out, ‘*nim* a wipe or reader.’

*Nimrod*—any sportsman fond of hunting.

“ From the shades could *Nimrod*, that hunter of old,  
 Be permitted to view our domain;  
 Our horses, our hounds, and huntsmen so bold,  
 He'd wish to pass life o'er again,  
 So he would.”

*Nincum Noodle*—see *Noodle*. *Nincum* is a contraction of *no income*, i. e. not enough, or poverty. *Nincum-poop*, a term of derision, applied by a young lass to her lover, who presses not his suit with vigour enough.

*Nine winks*—a few minutes' of sleep in the day, assuming to be for the space of time which would be occupied in winking the eye nine times. After he is roused, *the dozer* prepares to take 'nine corns more' of tobacco, and 'nine whiffs' at his pipe. 'Nine tailors make a man; and four journeymen with an apprentice make half a man.' Sam Foote dining with the Court of Assistants at Merchant-Taylors' Hall, took leave of them at a late hour, with 'Gentlemen, I wish you *both* a good night.' There were just eighteen.

*Ninny-hammer*—one who speaks without sufficient strength of intellect: *nina*, small, weak.

*Nippered*—caught, taken up. 'What d'ye think? My eyes, if Bill Soames warn't *nippered* only for a *fogle* little better than a wipe;' he was thereupon transported, 1823. *Nippered*, or *Kneppered*—is derived from *kneppers*, the knees, which are hampered or *hempered*, when the rogue is either tied a-horseback, or has got on the greaves. Diomedes being wounded, called to his coachman,—

“ —Hark ye, sirrah,  
 Come here, and lug me out this arrow;  
 And then the bully on his bare  
*Kneppers* knelt down and roar'd a prayer.”

Not only the Greeks but the Trojans used it in the same sense:—

“ I go to bid our grandames all,  
 And old maids on their *kneppers* fall!  
 The prayers they mumble will, no doubt,  
 Help us to thrash the Greeks this bout.”

*Nix*—nothing. '*Nix deberr*,' no my friend. Borrowed of the Russians who lay in the Medway, 1810. '*Nix my dol*,'—nothing at all.

*Nob*—the head. A head man, or chief person, is also '*a nob*.' 'The *nobs*' house at Westminster,' the H. C. and

Lords house. ‘The *nobs*’ *nob* ;’ George IV.—none better. Used also in ring-affairs: ‘Josh. paid his respects pretty plentifully to the Yokel’s *nob*,’ vide *Fancy Gazette*. ‘His *nob* was pinked all over,’ i. e. marked in sundry places. It differs from *swell*, inasmuch as the latter makes a show of his finery; whereas *the nob* relying upon intrinsic worth, or bona-fide property, or intellectual ability, is clad in plainness.

‘*Nobody*—is in every body’s house.’ When any article be missing, *nobody* can tell where ’tis; and when the housemaid proves *enceinte*, ‘*nobody* did it,’ until she has consulted ‘how to work the oracle.’

*Nolens Volens*—by force, against the will of the persons practised upon.

*Nonconformist*—a discontented person, who will think and act differently from all others.

*Nonplush*—non plus; no more, no farther, not to be exceeded: used liberally—‘I was struck all of a *nonplush*.’

*Noodle*—a fool, who may have been suckled too long; or a seven months’ child, who has been catlapped all his lifetime. A secretary-of-state who may be a noodle, does things by halves, or else acts with a vigour beyond the law; a tradesman-noodle never soars beyond his counter, nor rides farther than Rotten-row or Mile-end. Very few females are *noodles*. ‘The house of noodles,’ the upper nob’s house at Palace-yard, Westminster.

*Nose*—the verb signifies to pry into and worm out the secrets (generally dishonest) of another; he who performs this disgraceful office assuming to be co-rogue with the person *nosed*. In France, these are employed by the Police, sent into prisons as if committed there, and afterwards appear as evidence against the felons:—those noses are termed ‘*chien-mouton*,’ dog-sheep, i. e. wolf in sheep’s-clothing. When Coleridge and his friend Lamb retired from politics, they frequently engaged in literary disputes, like radicals; and when he apostatized he found among the Tory archives of espionage, an account of a conversation held by the twain respecting *Spinosa*, the philosopher; but which their *nose* construed into *spy-nosey*, and he imagining himself to be meant, wrote to his employers that he was blown upon, and wished for his recall; vide *Biog. Lit.* by S. T. C—-e.

‘*Nothing*—to speak of;’ scarcely worth notice. ‘*Nothing* is as good as it; any thing [whatever] is better!’ Pray

George, what is Robert about there?' A. 'Nothing, Sir.'

Q. 'And what are you doing?' A. 'Helping Robert, Sir.'

*Novice*—one not initiated in the affairs of town; a new or untried boxer, is a novice: all inexperienced persons are *novices*, until they peruse this Volume.

*Nous*—uppishness; 'to be up,' is to be *nous*; but this latter is chiefly confined to the gambling-houses—hells.

*No. 9*—Fleet-market; the Fleet prison. "You'll find him always at home, at No. 9."

*Nutty*—sweet, amatory; bestowed by bucks upon buxom landladies, and spruce bar-maids.

*Nymetting*—[West-country.] See *Crinkum-crankum*, of which it is the participle. Mary Tracey is the woman on the black ram in the Spectator: Eustace Budgell did wrong, geographically, in leading posterity to believe those Nymet-towns lay any where but in Devonshire. Mary, probably, was Budgell's own ancestor, though we cannot *trace* the fact.

## O.

*Oak stakes*—same as the Derby, (which see,) except that these are for fillies only, carrying 8 st. 4 lbs. and were begun in 1779.

*Obstacle* (the)—it stands in St. George's Fields, and commemorates the 'No. 45' men, and is written 'obelisk.' Old Calvert, when he began the *rot-gut* trade, grinded his malt by *horse-power*, and being in the habit of riding out one of these rotatory animals, when 'the pair of 'em' arrived at this monument to liberty, 'My horse,' said the brewer, 'vent round and round the obstacle till he vas tired, and me too.'

*Odds*—those chances in wagering which give the advantage to either side; are *the odds* in favour of that side: two playing at billiards, the odds are against him who drinks most *liqueurs*; a tall man and strong has the advantage (and the *odds*) of a small weak one: in either case, some degree of skill would reduce the odds. It is worthy of remark, that in man-fights, and all decisions left to the honour of low-bred fellows—'the odds-men' do not win so often as they lose; and that those who may be town-residents—connected with *the chaffers*, are invariably estimated at from 20 to 33 per cent. too high. When

turf-wagers are laid upon races approaching (for stakes) odds lie against any given horse *winning*, in the ratio of the number of horses to start against the number laid upon; so that 30 horses being entered to run, 'tis 30 to 1 against any given one winning; unless as generally happened, some part of the lot come from a bad or equivocal stock, and then the odds may rise up to 20 to 1, 10 to 1, or even 5 to 1 upon the favourite, as it frequently does before starting. See *Round Betting*.

*Off*—run away. 'I'm off,'—'I am going;' also 'O double f,' or 'offish,' or 'off the ramparts,' all signify that the speaker is about to take leave of absence; the latter, that he will do so at all hazards. So we have 'turned off,'—hung; and 'a turned-off mistress,'—a discarded strumpet. 'It's all *off* betwixt us,' i. e. the wager or the argument is null. 'Now they are off,' said of horse-racing, on those courses where the jockeys are cheatingly permitted to make three, four, five, or more *false starts*. See *Start*. 'I'm off with my sweet set-to,' said by a frolicsome Ma'am, when she sallies forth seeking whom she may *devour*. 'Off she goes,' announces the beginning of a contra-dance, during the delightful days of Bartholomew-tide: a certain dance of six figures was thus entitled late in the last century. 'Off-and-on,' with intervals. 'Be off,'—a command not to be mistaken nor resisted; 'tis terse, and includes an understood threat if you do not.

*Office* (the)—intelligence, or information of any kind being conveyed to one, is to 'give him the office.' 'It was I gave the coves *the office* that the traps were a searching for us.' To perform a service for another, is to 'do the office for him.'

*Ogles*—the eyes. 'Queer ogled;' squinting. 'Rum oglen,' (query, 'ogled-one?') bright, piercing eyes.

'*Oh my leg!*'—thrown off before one recently liberated from goal, as a rebuff for his misfortunes. The wearers of greaves afterwards obtain a certain loll in their gait, as if they missed the ballast of their fetters; so do our seamen ashore feel in vain for the *hæel* of the vessel, and acquire the roll of the sea, in the same manner as ploughmen and gardeners imagine their shoes still clogged with earth.

*Oils* (stud)—a commixture of two destructive spirits and one oil, used by ignorant farriers upon several discordant occasions, always highly destructive, and never required in any case. 'The Oils,' or *Iles*, ought to be expunged.

*Old lady*—a common address to those out of condition. The ‘old lady of Threadneedle-street,’—the bank of England.

*Old Tom*—he is of the feminine gender in most other nations than this: ’tis a cask or barrel, containing strong gin, and thence by a natural transition from the thing *containing* to that *contained*—the liquor itself.

*Old woman*—a term of reproach to men who think and act sillily—as old women do. Most fellows talk of their wives, as ‘my old woman’ at home, though younger probably than the speaker.

*Oliver*—the moon; when *up*, he is ‘in town.’

*Omnium*—the whole; applied to the funds. See *Scrip*.

*Omnium gatherum*—a mixture of all sorts: mixed company; all the varieties of life at one view.

*One-two* (ring)—when both hands are applied to the antagonist quickly, he is said to have ‘napt one—two’—three, sometimes; a saying created at Bristol and brought up to London.

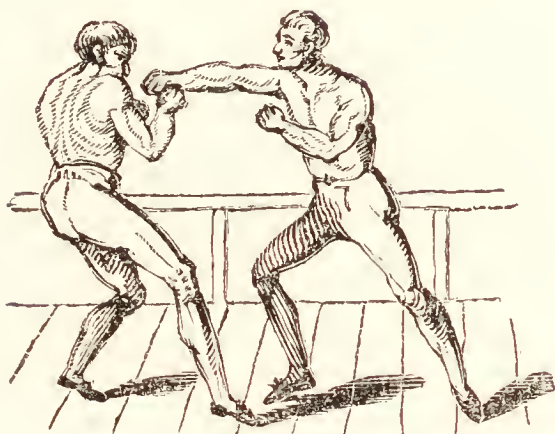
‘*One day*’—is said of a circumstance the precise chronology of which signifies little. ‘Old May, he died *one day*,’—no matter when to a nicety.

*Onions*—seals. ‘My eye, what a bunch of onions is there! Joey, my kid, let’s make a grab.’ ‘Amateurs who wear onions to their tattlers should come to fights with a stiff stick a-piece.’ *Fancy Gazette*. They were formerly worn fastened to a ribband, and tied about the wrist; and a similar custom prevailed with miniatures, for in *The Newer*, No. 8, Jan. 21, 1663-4, we find advertised as lost, “a gold enamelled bracelet, with a small blue picture case at the end of it.”

*O. P. and P. S.*—in theatricals, prompter’s side—and opposite prompter’s side; directions as to the entry and exit of the players. Thence, those initials were transferred by Joe Finch to certain dinners, and at length to his public-house in Russell-court. *The O. P. row*’—a riot of many weeks duration at the theatres against N. P. or new prices (1809.)

*Opaque*—an intelligent improvement upon ‘Flat,’ as regards the state of the speaker’s understanding. Egg-shells are *opaque*.

*Open* (to)—upon any one; a volley of abuse. See *Bellows*. When hounds *quest* for the chase, they *open* upon finding it; and if the voice be recognised as coming from a good



*One-Two*, in Ring Sports; when both fists are applied to the antagonist's nob quickly, he is said to have 'napt one-two—three, sometimes. The saying was created at Bristol and brought up to London: those blows usually alight upon the upper-works, and if 'the one two' be oft repeated, they call it 'tapping,' the last blow being put in at the giver's *best*, and constitutes a *floorer*. This is precisely the case here represented, between Belcher and Bourke, at Hurley bottom, Nov. 25, 1801: "in the 13th round (as Capt. Topham relates,) the former repeated his blows so fast and so effectually, that the butcher's gig got bothered, and Jem dropped him all of a heap, by a final right-hander on the throat-apple." See *Floorer—Grassed*.





hound, the hunters cheer on and declare his name aloud, and he replies ‘deeper and deeper still’—  
So Somerville:

’Twas *Bellman* that *open’d*, so sure the fox dies.

But when an unaccredited *babbler* opens without coming upon scent, he gets flogged for his impertinence;

‘ the vain babbler shun,  
Ever loquacious, ever in the wrong.  
His foolish offspring shall offend thy ears  
With false alarms, and loud impertinence.’

*Oracle*—(working the). Men who understand how to over-reach others, or to manage money concerns marvellously, are said to “work the oracle well.” The same is said of the insolvent, who cheats his creditors; as well as he who practises round betting, or edges off his bets, advantageously.

‘*Over the water*’—in the king’s-bench prison.

‘ Poll could not cross the water.’ *Holman.*

*Ounce*—so much *silver* is understood, or five shillings—same as bull; “I’ll bet ye an *ounce* of it.”

*Out of town*—out of cash: locked up for debt.

*Out-and-outer*—he who engages in any matter, and sticks to it like a trump, is an *out-and-outer*. Ned Turner was long time ‘nothing but an *out-and-outer*.’ (ring).

## P.

*Pack* (the)—assembled hounds, are *the pack, par excellence*.

— Each straggling hound  
Strains o’er the lawn to reach the distant *pack*;  
’Tis triumph all and joy.

Similarly we say a *pack* of cards, and a *pack* of scoundrels; whence the verb *to pack* a jury, and *pack off!* i. e. “fly, like hounds.” The latter well-marked phrase, however, has been sadly corrupted in the mouths of the vulgar, who “*pike-it,*” instead.

So, I *rikes-it* off to sea:  
And, says I to sweet-heart Poll,  
If ever I comes back,  
We’ll laugh, and sing *tol de rol lol*;  
If not—remember Jack.

*Pad* (the)—highway-robbery, forcibly. *Foot-pads*—dismounted highwaymen. *Pads*—are also street-robbers.

*Paddock*—a small park, without its clumps, plantations, water, or vistas—a large plain field, about a mile long, and as wide as the house and homestead. Also, an inclosure for coursing-matches.

*Paddy*—the familiar of Patrick; common to all Ireland is *Paddy Bull*. ‘A Paddy-row,’ more jackets off than blows struck, where sticks supply the place of fists. A *Patlander*—any Irishman.

*Pal*—a companion on a tour, or in any small expedition, as robbery, fornication, &c.; either *masc.* or *fem.* but mostly the former. Derived from *Palfrey*—a lady’s curvetting horse; and she being timid, would be attended by a running servitor, or palfrey-man, who by abbreviation became her *pal*, if he and the horse were not the *pals*.

*Palaver*—soothing talk, generally of the high-flown kind, by a travelled swindler, or a gin-bibber, half seas over, who means to show off. ‘Of Sunday mornings numerous *palavers* are held at every corner of St. Giles’s, in Kent-street, and Petticoat-lane rookeries, usually at the ends of courts where the parties ordinarily go to roost. Whenever it happens that two palavering parties wish to be cock of the walk, they come to blows, which produce a Paddy-row.’

*Pam*—at loo, the knave of clubs takes the ace of trumps.

*Pandemonium*—learned gamblers use this word for a gaming-house, instead of ‘hell;’ whither the reader is desired to go, in search of farther intelligence.

*Panny*—a small house, or low apartment; a dwelling-shed, or gipsy *building* without stairs.

*Panum*—bread. ‘Mat de dem div, me Middery?’ asks the gipsy child. Ans. Nonarem panum; i. e. ‘What did they give you, mammy?’ Ans. ‘nothing but bread.’

*Parenthesis* (a)—it is this thing, itself ( ); and when a man’s nose, or any prominent part of him, may get irrevocably between the thing—he is in a bad way: some few novices have died of it.

*Park*—an inclosed space, having game; an immense field with plantations: individual exclusive property, and the third in degree after forest (1) and chase (2), warren being the fourth and last of ‘free-chase’ divisions. The *Park* is also the rules or privileged circuit round the king’s-bench or fleet. ‘The park is well stocked,’ when many prisoners have obtained the rules.

*Parlour*—may be a room as well as some other thing. Mrs. Fubbs's *front parlour* is no part of any building; yet have we got 'sky-*parlour*,' for the attic garret.'

“ My lodging is in Leather-lane,  
In a *parlour* that's next to the *sky*;  
It admits both the wind and the rain,  
But the rain and the wind I defy.”

she who is said to 'let out her parlour and *lie backward*,' cannot be supposed to repose with her face downwards.

*Parry*—(ring) to prevent blows descending on the body, whereupon the receiver should *return* with the same hand.

See *Stop, Guard, Counter-hit*.

*Patrician order*—the nobility.

*Passion*—*bon-ton*—a taste for any given pursuit. 'Our Fred. has a great passion for grey horses;' another has 'a passion for skating,' and a third, a '*passion* for full frills, pudding cravats, and plaited pantallions,' whilst 'Maria drives slowly along Rotan-row, that she may indulge her passion for quizzing the men-calves in the Mall.'

*Patter*—small-talk and flashy. Derived from the French *patois*, or vulgar long-shore dialect; it comes to us, navally, per sea, our tars using it for persuasive language. Thus our incomparable Dibdin the elder:

“ Go *patter* to lubbers and swabs do you see  
About danger and fear and the like—”

Beggars are said to '*patter well*,' when they deliver a good moving tale. So hawkers of small wares use it; 'a good *patterer*,' and '*no patterer*,' showing the degree of qualification a man may possess in praising off his goods. 'Tom Kinnersley was the very best *book-patterer* in all England;' but 'Jemmy Speers, now, is the best von for *pattering* off his brushes.' Tom Tag and Bob Sanders are rival *patterers in rostra*; the Bathotic chaos of book-learning. The *Patter* is also Trial at the Old Bailey: speaking of a discharged culprit, the song-smith says,

‘ He stood the *patter*,  
But that's no matter,  
A man may be dried who has been in the water ——'  
He a pardon receiv'd from a gracious king,  
And swaggering Jack was just the thing.

*Pay-away*—(ring); when one man gets disabled, by a stunning blow or otherwise, the other '*sarves* him out,' fast and quick, by paying away at his jolly-nob, ribs, and bread-basket.

*Peck and boose*—meat and drink. See *Boosey*.

A saucy rolling blade am I,  
My name is Donkey-Dick,  
Through London streets my wares I cry,  
Up *peck and boose* to pick.

*Peckham* (going to)—dinner. 'All holiday at *Peckham*'—no appetite. 'No *Peckham* for Ben, he's been to *Clapham*,' i. e. is indisposed, in a certain way. *Peckish*—hungry.

To *Peg* a horse—to drive a bit of wood between the hoof and shoe on one foot, to superinduce lameness, when he is already lame of the corresponding leg: *punishable barbarity*.

*Pen, ink, and paper*—a piece of chalk and of board, on which to keep a milk-score, or the *nine chalks* of low gamblers.

*Peristaltic persuaders*—Dr. Kitchener's relief balls for gourmands, much in request every 10th November, and at every cabinet dinner—where they swallow "cheese parings and candle-ends"—the nasty rogues. Abernethy's 'blue pill,' or "R. Pil. Hydrargyri Gr. iij de diem in diem. J. A. *Chirurg.*"

*Person*—young women are designated as 'young persons wanting situations.' Bill Noon addressed the more dandified part of his *customers* (male) with 'how is your small *person* to-day?' See '*Carnival body*,' of Rees.

*Peter*—a box or portmanteau. *Petermen*—those who follow coaches and waggons to cut off packages.

*Philistines*—sheriffs' officers and their followers; revenue-officers; the press-gang, and police-officers.

*Physicking*—winning a man's blunt at cards, or other wagers, is 'giving him a physicking.' 'The physicking system' was put in force at the Doncaster St. Leger, 1822; and in the + battles between Josh. Hudson and the Caulker, as well as at Lashbroke and Parrish's *ditto*.

'*Piazzas*, to walk the'—is the first indication of a girl's turning loose upon the wide world: a-while 'tis all sunshine, but briars and brambles soon spring up. See '*Flesh-market*.' To *Pick* in wrestling—provincial of the North, to throw a man.

*Piece*—a soldier calls his musket his *piece*, and so he calls his trull; but high-flyers are so termed—behind their backs. Agamemnon, in the council of war, said, speaking of Chryseis:

From this dear loving wench I'll part,  
 The only comfort of my heart;  
 But since I must resign for Greece,  
 I shall expect as good *a piece*.

*Pig*—a man charged with being one is supposed to have dirty piggish habits: some selfish fellows of fortune bear about the title all their lives. 'Pig's whisper;' is briefness itself, 'tis a grunt. What would you have of a pig but a grunt? To buy 'a pig in a poke,' or bag; a blind bargain, without taking a sight of *the thing* bought. 'Cold pig;' goods returned upon tradesmen's hands instead of money, is an unsavoury thing, and so is *cold pig*. 'A learned pig,' is he who repeats often and with display, the same Latin distich, or employs metaphysical arguments. A man who talks mathematically and knows no more of science 'than an *unshaved pig*,' is in a poor way: the remark is offensive; but if he be so *piggish* as not to know this beforehand, he deserves no other treatment. 'To stuff a fat pig in the tail,' to give unnecessarily. Thus Peter Pindar (John Wolcot)

" And then for why, the folk do rail;  
 To stuff an old fat pig i' th' tail,—  
 Old gripus of Long-Leat."

*Pigeon*—see *Flight*. 'Pigeon-fancier,' a breeder—as Lord Torrington. Some, however, *fancy* the killing of *pigeons*, as the Ashton club in Oxfordshire, and the Midgham, Surrey, pigeonites. To 'pigeon the news,' is to send information by the carrier-pigeon. So fellows who ran or rode with news surreptitiously obtained, received the name of pigeons, from their occupation. 'Pigeon,' and '*blue pigeon*,' is another name for lead. 'To *fly the pigeon*,' to steal lead. 'A pigeon' may also be *a man*, and is generally a young one, who parts with his blunt freely at gambling, and is rooked; older persons also stay and get plucked sometimes, until they have not a feather to fly with; this is the case with 'the greatest captain of the age,' as well as with 'the royal commander-in-chief,' i. e. the Messrs. *Marshals*. Such men, after the plucking, become *bald-coots*.

*Pimple*—the head of man or woman. Such a tumour-like *nomen* shows how low the speaker's opinion is of the thing spoken of. See *Canister*, *Nob*.

*Pink*—one above the common run of mankind in his manful

exertions, is a *pink*. “Such a *pink* at skittles is Jem Bunn, he is *the pink* of all Bow;” i. e. the best player at skittles in the town of Bow. ‘My bitch beat the best among them to-night; she is *the pink* of the pit so far.’ ‘Now, be a *pink* for once,’ said to a combatant to keep up his spirits. ‘I felt myself suddenly *pinked* all over, like the man in the almanack; no blow of finishing importance to be sure, but all conducing toward victory:’ vide Jack Furby’s account of his battle with Belcher. ‘Meddle with my affairs and I’ll *pink* your eye out;’ a commonplace rebuff. ‘In this round the baker’s eye shewed *pinky*.’ The wearing of pinks in the mouth or coat button-hole was formerly much practised: if one man pulled out another’s pink from coat or mouth, a fight was the consequence.

*Pin-drop*—the negative is understood: ‘let not a pin drop,’ while a song is going on, or some favourite speaker is trying to make himself understood.

*Pins*—the legs. ‘Get up on your *pins*, and speak out.’

*Pip*—an Irishman, in his extacies, interlard his expressions with a number of drolleries—all carrying something of their meaning in the sound, and many drawn from the Celtic, though seeming like Tom fooleries to the *low English*:

“With a hey, *pip*, and a drimendoo, *whack!*  
Small brains in the hat where my head chanc’d to be,  
And sure to my coat I had only one back.” *Coleman.*

Sing whack! dilly-doolly, sing *pip*. *Moneys.*

*Piss-quick*—gin and water; *hot* acts the quickest.

—Agen—A Welchman’s pun upon a prize-fight reporter’s reports. Vide [Old] Fancy, No. 15, p. 368. Cowards, terror-struck persons, and *departing subjects*, contract the fundus of their bladders, when so affected, by way of ‘*Vale, Vale, benedicite,*’ and so deluge their inexpressibles: the sphincter does not always relax upon such occasions, but the contrary. Patroclus adviseth Achilles, thus:

“Let’s leave this mighty man of pleasure,  
To kiss his doxies at his leisure:  
When Hector comes, we’ll then be mist;  
When Hector comes, he’ll be be-p——t.”

The *Pit*—means the *area* in which dogs are pitted against each other, and is extended to the whole building generally, as, the Duck-lane pit, the Tufton-street, and (to

complete the enumeration) the Harper-street pit—Jem Rolfe's pit, in Tottenham-court-road—Harlequin Billy's and Jack Goodlad's, both in West-street, city—or Jack Nailham's, in the Mint. Tim Smith's pit nigh the latter place is nearly extinguished, 1822: the Paddington pit, not now frequented. Sometimes the company assembled are called 'the pit:' *e. g.* "I'll bet *the pit* all round as my dog stays the vallation of a quartern of an hour;" in imitation of the language of the playhouse—" *the pit* with one voice damn'd the whole performance." Not only dog-fights, but bears and badgers are baited at those places, and these latter are also *drawn*; together with other animal sports occasionally, as baiting the monkey, killing rats, &c. Cockpit is nearly the same. See *Cock*.

'*Pitch*, and toss-up'—a game played with money, thus: a jack being placed at a distance, often at fifteen yards, the parties *pitch* their coin at it, and he whose money is nearest takes up all the pieces, shakes and throws them up, when as many as come *heads* uppermost fall to his share; the next person near the jack does the same, and so on until the blunt is all divided. To 'pitch the bar,' is throwing a heavy iron to great distances; so 'pitching the ring,' or horse-shoes, is heavy play, very becoming in blacksmiths. 'Pitch him to the devil,' though never perhaps executed to the full extent, is sufficiently indicative of the speaker's wish, and might cost a man his life before he could get half-way to the *presence* just named. 'Pitch it into him,' strike him bodily without notice. See *Belly-go-firster*. 'Pitching his gammon,' telling fibs with strong assumption of veraciousness.

*Placed*—turf; the horses that come in, so that the judge can assign to them the order in which they appear. 'Not placed,' is of course the contrary. See *Distance*.

*Plate*—turf; a piece of plate, or the amount in money—50*l.* being called 'silver,' 80*l.* or 100*l.* 'gold,' to be run for on conditions specified; and they are either 'king's plate,' 'maiden-plate,' or the plate given by certain persons; as 'ladies plate,' 'members' plate.'

*Plated-butter*—that which has a good article outside; in the middle, lard and scrapings.

*Play*—gambling of any sort, but chiefly understood of hazard, rouge-et-noir, and la roulette.

*Pleasure*—What is it? One believes it to lie in bustle, noise,

and strife,—a bull-bait, a boxing-match, or worse than either, a stormy debate in the hon. H. C.; another seeks solitude and the muses, converses with antiquity, and reclines on the tranquil couch of *bienseance*. A third seeks the hind, or follows the fox; his neighbour takes pleasure in watching the minnow-bite, and tugging at the pike; whilst his wife murders private character, cuts up rural happiness, and consigns disbelievers to *the flames*. Those are inveterate habits, and last some of them to the grave; other *pleasures* there are which cure themselves, and run off (like *syphilis*) leaving the patient dilapidated: the gamester becomes poor in pocket as in soul, the debauchee weak in the loins, the drunkard nauseates wine or goes mad.

*Plebs*—a tonish designation of the lower orders; coming from ‘plebeians’ among the Romans.

“ I mount on my box, my elbows I square;  
I handle my reins, the *plebs* they all stare.”

*Plumb*—in the city, proper—a hundred thousand *legitimates*.

*Poaching*—hunting or shooting other men’s game; formerly called fowling, snaring, stalking, and practised at will!

‘*Pogey-aqua*’—long-shore for—make the grog strong. Probably derived from *Poco aqua*, Spanish for *little of the water*.

*Poney*—a little horse, (stud) and also wagers of twenty-five guineas, (turf) the one being derived from the other. *Poene* is a Latin word for pain, or painfulness, and all the little wild horses being mal-formed, so as to give one an idea that they walk in pain, (or *Poëne*) thence comes poney. Dr. Johnson knew no more of a poney or of a horse, than a horse knew of him. ‘Post the *poney*’—put down money.

*Pontic*—accounts which are not intended to be paid, are ‘upon tick,’ abbreviated—short in the sound, long in the term, lasting some to extreme old age, and beyond, even *post mortem*.

*Poor-creatures*—potatoes. Cockney mark of despication for the very best of all edible roots: high-treason against the prince of esculents.

*Popp’d*—put into pawn: ‘I’ll *pop* my tog for a *bull* to drink upon.’ ‘*Popp’d* out of the way,’ of the bailiffs. ‘*Popp’d* off,’ ran away. Some persons are easily offended at trifles; they are then said to be ‘*popp’d*,’ or to take *tiff*. ‘To *pop*,’ to fire a shot. A *Popper*—a gun—pistols are *the poppers*.



**Porter**—beer, so called by reason of this class of workmen carrying off large quantities of their favourite beverage. Made of brown or high-dried malt and coarse hops; the yeast on the surface is *beat in* with new *birch-brooms*, and the beer subsequently ‘fined down.’ See *Beer, Chemistry Intire*, (in *Addenda*.)

**Possibles**—money. ’Tis wholly impossible to live without; every thing is *possible* with him who has it.

**Post**—(turf.) ‘Wrong side of the post,’ meaning—of the *winning-post*, having betted upon the losing *side*. ‘Post the poney,’ or ‘post down the cole,’ put down the money.

**Post-obits**—bonds given by spendthrift heirs, and expectants positively, at ruinous rates; to be paid *post-mortem* of some old dad or nunky, with chances of survivorship.

**Pot**—‘gone to *pot*,’ dead. ‘Put in the *pot*,’ is said of a man who is let into a certain loss—of a wager, of his liberty, or life. ‘I shall put on the *pot* at the July meeting,’ signifies that the speaker will bet very high, (at races) or up to thousands. ‘Pot 8-o’s,’ the name of a race-horse, meaning 80,000*l.* or guineas. Lord Abingdon once declared ‘I will put on the *pot* to-day,’ and he did so with a vengeance—his groom, Jack Oakly, put *him* in the *pot*.

**Potatoe-trap**—the mouth. ‘Shut your potatoe-trap.’ ‘She’s got the use of her potatoe-trap,’—a scold. A wide mouth has been described as ‘a beautiful potatoe-trap.’

**Pots and pans**—to make, of his property; a man must knock it about and spend all freely—then beg.

**Poverty-basket**—a wicker cradle: allusion untrue. A *Malthusian* doctrine.

**Pound it**—to lay *pounds* in a wager, or to increase such from shillings to pounds; to post the blunt, to im-*pound* it.

**Prads**—are riding-horses of any description, ponies included, but a doubt exists as to considering the jackass as a *prad*; because the word is evidently derived from *prado*, *Espagnol* for a gravelled *walk*, (the inside of a fortification,) whence comes the verb *to walk*; and as no Neddy can *walk*, or do any thing else in style, he is no *prad*.

**Premium**—a gift, profit, or advance upon the cost price of a thing, as a house of trade—a loan to the government, &c. ’Tis understood, though not expressed, usually in the latter case: ‘How is omnium?’ *A.* ‘Doing at 1½,’ i. e. 1*l.* 10*s.* premium per cent.

**Price**—a man’s’—the amount for which he may be brought

to act dishonourably. '*Not at any price,*'—an absolute negation put upon an inadmissible proposition. 'I won't *take in* your story *at any price.*' 'He shall not make one of our party—no, *not at any price.*' So radical Hunt, 'I will not dine in a malt-house in November, *at any price.*'

*Prickers*, yeomen—whippers-in of the royal hunt; so called because they carried rods with a prick or nail at the end, in order to prick up lazy or lagging hounds, before whips came into fashion. Formerly a pricker's-plate (50*l.*) was run for annually, at Ascot; 'tis now converted into a sweepstakes, called '*the Winkfield,*' from *the lodge* so named, and royal kennel there. 'Pricking a hare'—running her down by her track on the snow. About four or five miles chase will bring the pricker upon puss.

*Prig*—its present meaning is *a thief*; in a more confined sense pickpockets are prigs; so also those who would rob shop-windows, coaches, and the like, may be considered as priggishly inclined. Thus we have the burden of a song, 'And a prigging we will go.' Formerly, however, a fornicator was called 'a prig,' being a mere corruption of another word, differing from it only in the last letter.

*Prime*—chief, well togg'd, any thing performed capitally. 'He's all *prime,*' or 'a *prime one* for that.' 'That's a *prime hit.*'

*Prodigious!*—*bon-ton*; but *not prodigious* elsewhere. See *Monstrous.*

*Produce*—the young of any given horse or mare is its produce, whether colts or fillies; but, in a wider sense of the word, would imply any of that get, however old. Thus, Haphazard's produce won forty-one prizes in the season 1821. '*Produce stakes,*' are those engagements which are entered into as soon as the mares may be *in-foal*, to run *the produce* when yearlings, or two or three year-olds, as the agreement may be—but very injudiciously made. *Post produce*, is the same, but agreed upon soon after *covering*, and three mares are mentioned, but one product only is brought to the post.

*Property*—goods, a man's wife, his horse, &c. are claimed as 'my property.' 'To make a property of a man,' is to extract money from him.

*Public-house lawyers*—those who frequent such to pick up business, or to set friends by the ears.

*Puff* [ring]—'in the last round Jemmy had received a hit

on the left ogle which now *puffed it up*.' A *puff* of the breath is the eloquent reply of many, (particularly Welchmen) to a laboured attempt at imposing upon them lingually. 'To puff off,' is to praise inordinately an article intended for sale, or the character of any one: the greater the cheater the more puffing it requires; a good fire stands in no need of the bellows. 'Sir Henry Halford insisted upon the patient's continuing the arsenical preparation until his face became *puffed*,'—at a consultation of M. D.'s.

*Pugilism*—the art and practice of manual defence. Derived from *pugiles* the fists, and *pugnandum* fighting. Straight hitting from the shoulder; to parry and counter-hit; to *throw* the adversary when *in*, to *get out* from his clutches, or drop from his grasp out of a chancery-suit—are characteristics of the Bristol, or native school of pugilism.

*Pulled*—had up for crime before the magistrate.

*Pully-hawley*—abbreviated from 'pull-away, haul-away,'—apparently the action and cheering at finishing a first-rate cable. In ring affairs, two novices getting hold of each other, *pully-hawley* for the throw.

*Pullet*—in common life, a female barn-door fowl, which has not yet produced eggs. Young women are so denominated, occasionally; and sometimes we have 'virgin-pullet, who though often trod has never *laid*.'

*Pulling the long bow*—lying; derived from the surprising feats told of the Irish archers (see *Addenda*) formerly. Those sharp-shooters made nothing of killing at five miles off, or so, a mile or two being (literally) *no object* upon such occasions.

*Punch*—brandy and rum, equal quantities, added to as much hot-water, sweetened with loaf-sugar; the juice of lemons and limes should be previously mixed in, and some of the sugar rubbed on the outside of the lemons. Derived from *punish*, as it does the heads of all sapsulls.

“ ——— The chiefs

“ Can *punish* every sneaking knave,  
And with good *punch* reward the brave.”

*Puns*—the lowest species of wit; in which, however, many of the greatest wits have indulged. Jonathan Swift was the most incorrigible punster since James I.; but before the mighty Sam Johnson, pun dared not show his nose. Throughout Cockaigne they are punsters to a man, or indeed, to a woman. Of one of these, it was lately said, 'As

long as he can clinch a word, or raise a laugh, he does not care how old, or how bad, his pun is : he will call any one singing in a garret 'an *attic warbler*.' He calls a friend an *unit-harian*, because he has but one hair on his head. He addresses a shoemaker, 'O sovereign of the willing *sole*.' If you are a Templar, he hopes you may turn your gas into *Coke*. He is indefatigable in chasing down his pun. He reads only to find out resemblances, and listens only to bring in his pun. His brain is full of 'eggs of bon-mots and specks of repartees.' If a person is in a dilemma, and asks what steps should be taken, he recommends the library steps. If he is asked to ring the bell, he, with great solemnity, puts a ring on the finger of some pretty girl. If one objects to him that his coat is too short, he replies 'it will be long enough before he gets another.' A gentleman offered his friend a pinch of snuff out of his box, which he said he much regarded, having been in his family a *hundred* years : his friend thanking him, replied, 'I am not in the habit of taking snuff, but as a curiosity must have a pinch out of your *cent'ry* box'

To *Punt*—to put down money for the play at rouge et noir, or la roulette—games that by their names show their origin. See *Grab-coup*, *Martingale*, *Rook*.

*Purr* (ring)—the rushing-in, Lancashire fashion, with the head against opponent's guts: inefficacious. See *Rush*.

*Puss*—a cat; also applied to a hare. 'Ma'am *Puss*, a pert lass, bar-maid at a tavern; or one suspected of loose practices, with a saucy tongue, is a Ma'am *Puss*.'

*Put in the hole*—among thieves, he who is left out in sharing the booty—or regulars—is said to be 'put in the hole.'

*Put-up*—is when a thief is instructed where he may rob, safely and to advantage—'tis then 'a put-up robbery,'—generally a *crack*. So, when one rogue splits upon another, this is also 'a put-up.'

*Putty*—a name for a painter. 'Poor Putty!' *Grimaldi*.

*Pye*—nobbing with the ferula upon boys, and with the thimble upon the heads of girls. *Pye*, in a printing-office, is not fit to eat: 'tis type tumbled all of a heap.

## Q.

*Quacks*—humbugs.

*Quackery*—the bane of British welfare; pretence far beyond

the reality, (or at total variance with it) that exists in every ramification of society, and (worse than all) is believed of nearly all. Political *quackery*—‘taxation no oppression, and the six acts a blessing’. Moral *quacks*—the bible associations, and vice-suppressionists. Religious *quacks*—the theosophists of the three-legged stool. Lastly, *Medical quacks*—These are, 1st. *All* who puff themselves off in print, or super-induce others to perform the like dirty work for them. 2nd. *All* who prescribe one grand specific in various and opposite cases. 3rd. *All* who have taken up *the profession* needily, without previous education. 4th. *All* who decry others’ practice without shewing reasons at every step. *Reece* is the most allowable of the fourth class, but he belongs to the second also, as is proved by his *Colchicum Autumnale*; his — and other *Nostrumocopoejas*. ’Tis strange! but true, that *Eady* follows closely said M.D.; only hearken to the barber of Dean-street: ‘There are not a few at this time making a great noise in the world—who are speculative monsters in human shape.’ Good; and when the *doctor* finds himself foiled—with a pox to him! he applies to a *surgeon* regular for farther advice. [Let *Nesbit* speak out.] He quotes *Horace* and cites *Greek* to prove his (second-hand) learning—the impostor! Yet is he more bearable than that other plural barber, *Daniels*, (*cum aliis* *Monro*, *Cooper*, and *Co.*—one of whom is a black man, another a hairy man,) who got himself *knighted* surreptitiously. Next *Halford* and *arsenic*, *Abernethy* and *Pil. hydrargyri*, ‘*Cash*, *Calomel*, *Currey*,’ always in a hurry, to what class besides the second do these belong? ‘*Sir Astley* and his many friends’ are consigned by the same token to the first.

*Quarry*—in hawking, a bird pursued by a hawk is his *quarry*.

*Quean*—a flaunting woman of loose morals, if not of practices.

“ Here’s to the maid of bashful fifteen,  
Likewise to the widow of fifty,  
Here’s to the wild and extravagant *quean*,  
And also to her who is thrifty.”

*Queer*—not right, not good. ‘*Queer* in his attic,’ mad. ‘A *queer* story,’ ‘*Queer* money,’ counterfeit. ‘Vell, I *queered* the beak,’—told the magistrate a falsified tale.

*Queer-bail*—same as *Jew-bail*. Fallacious security for a debt; deceptive, *queer* in court as in pocket: perjury

does it. See *Stag-bail*. A *Queer*-looking chap—one who squints, has the features awry, or indeed the limbs. So the poet tells,

How Sands, in sense and person *queer*,  
Jump'd from a patriot to a peer,  
No mortal yet knows why——

*Queer'em*—the gallows or drop. *Queer-rums*—literally 'bad good,' or rubbing smooth and rough; confounding talk.

'*Queer-street*, to live in,'—to be badly off as to income.

*Quest* (to)—dogs seeking up and down for scent.

*Quid*—a guinea. *Quid-nunc*—a political quack of the alehouse.

“Ye *quid-nuncs* so queer, who through politics trudge it,  
And pin all your faith on the minister's budget.”

*Quid pro quo*—one thing for another.

*Quiz* (to)—to notice sarcastically, to grin at one, is to *quiz* him; he is then *quizzed* by *the quiz*. *Quoz*—a *quiz* upon the public, when it was formerly chalked all about town.

*Quod*—imprisonment. 'Gone to quod,' [*quoad hoc*] imprisoned.

*Quota*—vulgo 'kotey,' share or dividend of a reckoning, or of booty, plunder, &c.

*Quotations*—from Shakespeare and others, are fashionable among the semi-learned, half-taught wittlings, and demi-brained writers, of the present day; especially those of the fancy, ring, and spree-going recreations, but seldom in point, without explanation. See *Spout-Billy*.

## R.

*Rabbit-pole*—the *point d'appui* of an Irishman's valour, when he is opposed to Dennis and Kennedy: 'here, Judy, bring out the *rabbit-pole*; I'll soon make dem smell mutton from lamb.'

'*Racket* --to stand the,' when one of a set stands forward to bear all the blame.

*Radical*—politically speaking, one who would erase the present constitution root and branch; most bitter against the whigs, because their object is to amend, and not destroy; thus characterized:—Cobbett for *matter*, Hunt for *manner*, Wooller for *volubility*, Leigh Hunt for *quantity*, Cartwright for *simplicity*, Bentham for *pertinacity*, and Phillips for *Bonapartery*. Professed radicals have no

fixed principles, nor any notions in common, but levelling ones, and to these they adhere not in private. He is a *radical* (radix) who is turbulent in company, and kicks up a rumpus in the club-room; in this respect 'Vot a riddekal is that there Jim Jinnivay, surelye!'

*Rag*—the tongue is a red *rag*. 'To *rag*' a person, is to scold him or her plainly; but to *bala-rag* him, (vulgo, bully-rag) is to use such balatronic words and phrases as render this book necessary. 'Jack Carter, being in that state when he neither can or will hold his tongue, let loose his *bully-rag* at Oliver.' '*Rag, tag, and bobtail*;' a crew of worthless rips. *Ragamuffin*, one who may carry flesh but not clothes. *Rag-fair*, any frippery of left-off clothes, and Rosemary-lane in particular. *The rag*, is paper-money—from the materials (rags) used in paper-making.

*Rake*—the instrument with which the groom at a *hell* draws the money of the losers towards himself. See *Grab-coup*.

*Ramp* (to)—to steal forcibly from the person. *Ramping*—participle of *to ramp*, is thus performed: a person in the company, who has money in his pocket that it is desirable to come at, but who sits too close, and is buttoned up too tight, to admit of their attempts, is induced to join in a bit of lark, by others being shoved against him; else, pipes or other missiles are shied at each other with the same intention; sometimes they all get up and dance about, when the object is attained by shoving and pulling about the victim until he is unbuttoned and robbed. Probably the word is a corruption of 'romping,' and 'singing rum-ti-iddy-ti-ido.' *Ramping-mad*—uproariously drunk.

*Ram*—one who *butts* the old ewes and wedder-lambs of the village; for which reason, widows, copyholders of the *Nymet towns*, did penance on the back of a ram, black.

*Rantum Scantum*—a mutual blow-up with hard names.

"Jove and his queen have had their quantum  
Of jaw, and such like *rantum scantum*."

*Rascal*—rascally crew; all fallow deer and stags emasculate, are rascals; and are shunned by perfect *deer of antler*, unless while these are shed, and being renovated. Term applied to *mankind* also, as opera-singers, sopranos, &c.

*Raising the wind*—spendthrifts are frequently at a loss for funds,—they then borrow upon the security of their own stiff, upon bonds, post-obits, reversions, goods, &c. &c. these are so many ways of 'raising the wind.' The most

mortifying, and generally *dernier ressort*, is selling the prad from under one. See *Kite-flying*.

*Rate* (to)—to scold, to chide and beat, as the huntsman does his hounds, when they lag, are thrown out, or otherwise offend.

*Ratiocination*—(among the learned.) Ex. gr. ‘Is the news true, doctor?’ A. ‘Why, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, agreeably to all I ever have heard, seen, or read of, and as far as I am a judge, I don’t know.’

*Rattling*—an usage of parliament: when the minister for the time being is likely to be out-voted and ousted, place-hunting members stroll into the lobby, as if griped; and, when they return, forget their bow and their previous places, and *turn upon the right*, as if by accident; or walk up-stairs, and there lie, *in petto*, until the division is called for.

*Rattler*—a coach. *Rattling* cove, the coachman.

*Raw*—Johnny Raw; one who is unused to the ways of town, or a fool *ab initio*.

*R. C.*—Round course, and the second in length at Newmarket, so called by infra-distinction, since most courses are round or ovolo-wise; it measures three miles and three quarters, good. *R. M.*—rowley-mile, is one yard longer than its denomination.

*Reader*—a pocket-book. *The ready*—cash in hand.

*Recheat* (chase)—a blast upon the horn to call or keep the hunters together. There are eight sorts (at least) each indicating the business in hand. See *Tantaron*.

*Referees*—persons to whom is referred any dispute to be settled, amicably, to prevent law-suits; there are always *two*—one on each side: when the subject is referred by both sides to one person only—he is then *the umpire* between the persons referring. This is the legal sense, and common sense, of the two words; but both are shamefully perverted in *ring-affairs*, owing to the utter stultification of the reporters on those affairs. See the glowing blunders of the Dispatch for Nov. 17, 1822, p. 8, col. 2, lines 33-36.

‘*Refreshed* nature overmuch’—boozy, reeling drunk.

*Regulars*—or quota. Thieves generally divide their ill-gotten pelf, mutually, a few shillings being doled out to Jack, Tom, Dick, and Harry. ‘I shall expect my *regulars*,’ or share in the booty, is said by one thief to another who is going out upon the scamp. Nothing can be more irregu-



larly distributed than these *regulars*, some among them being regularly 'put in the hole.'

*Rent*—to collect the, is to obtain money upon the highway. 'Rent collectors,' are robbers of *money* only. Thus, 'we have collected *the rent*,' cannot be misunderstood for *goods*, however valuable. See *Blunt*.

*Reporters*—some three or four hundred persons, boys and men, who are employed, 1st. In collecting scraps of intelligence for the newspapers, as to fires, accidents, and coroners' inquests. 2nd. Another set procure the initial examinations of culprits at the police-offices, (who are sometimes the clerks in those offices,) also, of trotting-matches aquatic excursions, &c. 3rd. Gentlemen of learning, with habits of industry, take *short notes* of debates in parliament, of law proceedings, and judgments in civil law. These invariably write better stuff than is spoken: the former exaggerate invariably, in order to make their articles *read well*. See *Two-pence a line*.

*Republic of letters*—the post-office.

*Resurrection-men*—those who raise the dead—bodies of our church-yards.

*Return-blow* (ring)—one having planted a hit, the other within a *colon-pause*, returns with the like hand.

*Revoke*—at cards, when one refuseth to play to suite, though holding that suite, is to revoke—feminine, mostly. To *Renigue*—is the same, from *niguer*, to deny or refuse, again.

*Reward* (kennel)—dog's or hound's supper; also the blood and entrails of the objects of chase, hot and hot. On one occasion a '*suitable reward*' being offered for the restoration of a lost five-pound note, Tom Rees defined it to mean a kick as hard as the rewarder was *able*, upon the third person in a *suit* of clothes.

*Rhino*—coined money, though extended to paper.

"Jack gave all his *rhino* to lessen their woe,  
And steer them from poverty's rock."

*Ribbons*—reins for guiding horses; four-in-hand.

*Riddlesworth stakes* (the)—are the largest in England, being for 200gs. each, positive; sixteen having entered for the first class (colts) in 1821, and eighteen (fillies) for the second class, next day. They are run at Newmarket Craven meeting, are of nine or ten years standing, and carry—fillies 8 st. 2 lbs. colts 8 st. 4 lbs. adding 3 lb. each for parent-winners.

*Ride* (v.)—a thing every one can do, in some way or other;

few *well*. Grooms ride better than esquires, rough riders than captains, stable-boys than horse-dealers.

“ Now, Sirs, close your heels and sit back ;  
Oh, pray drop your hands and don't pull !  
If this be call'd *riding*, good lack !  
What can we expect from John Bull ! ! ”

*Riding to hounds*—seldom done by novices, who generally go over as much ground again as the *old hands*, or get thrown out. Keep the hounds in view to the last, and when the chase takes a circle, or any segment thereof, ride inside it, or diametrically across towards the chase's favourite gorse or cover.

*Rig*—he who has ‘ the rig run upon him,’ has to undergo a great number of false imputations. One may run his rig, however, impersonally, or upon all of the company without much offence. ‘ To rig,’ to dress out anew. ‘ *The rig* ;’ in auction sales, the dealers agree not to bid against each other, buy low, and afterwards re-sell the same, by a mimick auction—called ‘ knock out.’

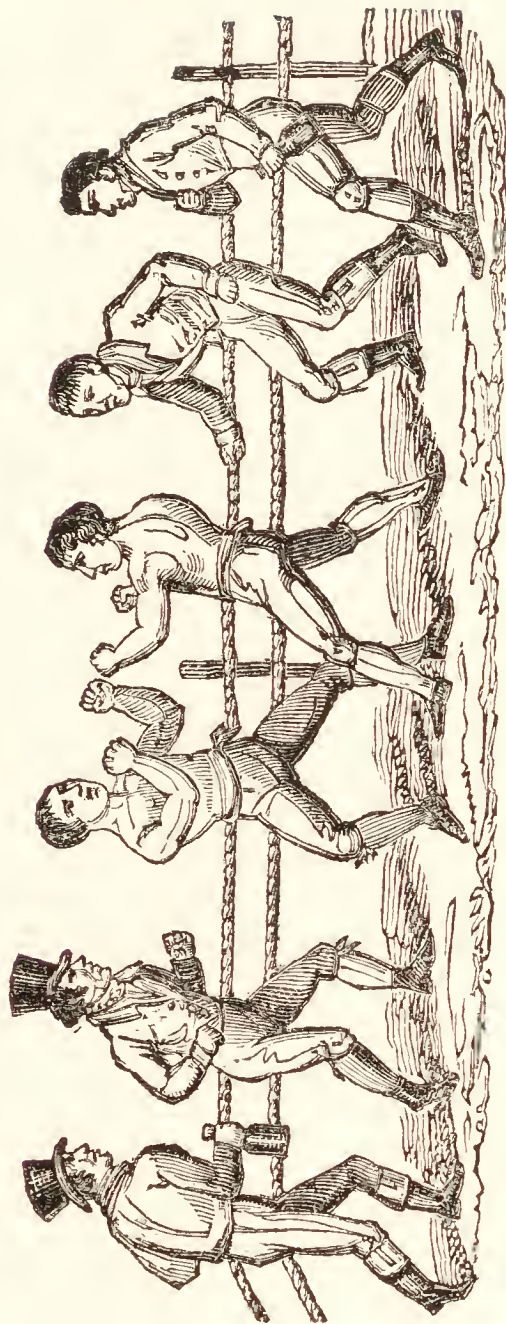
*Ring*—Huntsmen are said to *make a ring*, when they cast about a wood or gorse. ‘ *Ring-walks*,’ the rounds in which springs were set for the stag.

The *Ring*—the roped space within which pugilists display their science or their hardihood: usually about 24 feet each way, and by an easy transition, applied to those who look on, or take delight in the manly, peaceful contests there exhibited. “ I leave it to the ring.” “ Not a voice was heard all round the ring.” They are divided into *amateurs* (persons of property) and ‘ the men,’ or boxers, part of whom only are *pugilists*. The word is derived from a certain circular space inclosed with rails in Hyde park, by command of George II. having a large oak in the middle; the area is now planted with young limes and the railing is decayed; going strait up from Grosvenor-gate, *the ring* lies about 550 steps into the park. “ A ring, a ring ! ” ‘ Call a ring,’ is the necessary preliminary to a regular fight. In America, a justice of the peace being fatigued with the wordy disputes of his applicants, called ‘ a ring,’ at which the constables, barristers, and other applicants assisted—and saw *fair play*.

*Ring-dropping*—is practised occasionally by fellows who pretend to chop upon a *gold ring*, and confer half the property upon a by-stander, in order to *sell* him the other half—'tis *brass-faced* cheatery.

## THE RING.

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*The Ring*, is the roped space within which pugilists and boxers display their science or their hardihood. It is usually 24 feet each way, though liable to alteration. These two men, attended by seconds and bottle-holders are within a roped space on the turf. The mode of setting to is that of Abra. Belasco and Jack Martin, the latter standing *square*, the former drawing up the right mawley for a hit—if possible. Ould Joe Norton and Tom Owen, in their lilly shallows, show they have the sun in their eyes, the others (Belcher and Jones) having won the *toss*.



‘*Ring the changes*’—changing of good money for bad, by hackney-coachmen, Jews in the streets, &c.

*Riot*—is an uproar and misdoing by several; *five* according to the old law, but modernly they are *enacted* ‘riotous’ though decorous! The law of common sense says *No*; and with common parlance must soon put the *law* in abeyance. In Ireland, a single person may make a *riot*, if he or she have good lungs: says Murdoch Delaney to Jenny O’Donelly—

‘ I pray you be quiet,  
And breed no more *riot*,  
But kiss me———”

In the business of the chase, when stag-hounds run among the herd, they are said to ‘run *riot*.’ Then, all whips to work, or the pack is spoiled in ten minutes.

*Ripe*—drunk. First cousin to mellow.

‘*R. N.*—Mornings 12 to 4: evenings 7 to 12 at—Pall-Mall.’ Cards so inscribed are handed about as invitations to rouge et noire in the *hells* about St. James’s. Some are distributed from Cleveland-row, others from Jermyn-street, Bennet-street, &c.

‘*Rogues in grain*’—corn-factors and jobbers.

*Roley-poley*—Running down Greenwich-park hills, and its consequent tumble and roll to the bottom, when the parties embrace, is one way of making love among the young folks of Cockney-shire. A newly introduced French game, which they call ‘*une, deux, cinque,*’ has been Anglicised into *rolep-poley*, from the tumbling about of the ball, which is many-sided; each flat surface is marked with black, red, or blue spots, and the colour which remains uppermost when the ball rests, is successful for those of the players who may have put down their money upon that particular colour on the table: the monies down upon the other two colours are then lost by the players who have chosen them, to the *roulette*-keeper or groom, he covering the stakes when black wins, paying double when ’tis red, and five times when blue. Of course, the number of blue spots are but a fifth that of the black, and the red twice as many. When these proportions are faithfully observed, the play is two to one against the punters.

*Roll*—in the gait; *rolling*-sailor. See ‘*Oh my Leg!*’

My mammy sent me to the well,  
To get some water for my tea,  
My foot it slipp’d and in I fell,  
The *rolling* sailor too of me.

*Rolls*—dough-baked small bread, eaten by low-bred cockneys for the most part, and *come out* for delivery at eight o'clock A. M. “Ah, Mister Gallus (gallows) I tell ye vhat, I shall see you *come out*, along vid de roles one of these here mornings,”—eight being also the hour of hanging malefactors. By a poor pun, ‘Master of the *Rolls*’—is any baker, ‘if he can box any.’ Jack Martin is the actual M. R.

*Rookery*—courts and alleys with a full population, are aptly termed *rookeries*, from the manner of assembling, the croakings, and dark colour of the two sets of inhabitants—with several other veri-similitudes.

*Rooks*—those fellows about gambling-houses who are employed in plucking well-fledged pigeons. They are of every quality, from the thorough-paced *gent* down to the marker, and may be engaged either in actual play, in acting the confederate, in procuring loans, in forcible robbery, in breaking the pigeon’s neck down-stairs, or, finally, fighting him with pistols, by way of finish.

*Roost*—bed. ‘Gone to roost, is Doughy;’ the baker is abed.

*Rotan*—a carriage of any sort, originally meaning the cart only. Hence—‘*Rotan-row*,’ the ride in Hyde-park, now mis-spelt *Rotten-row*:

‘*Rotten-row*, my Sunday ride;  
Tottledom, hey! Tumbledown, ho!  
Poney eighteen-pence aside,  
Windgall, glanderum, ho.

*Rot-gut*—swipes of the third running off the wort, or porter after being doctored by the publican. Jemmy Lee had a saying of the three runnings—that the first was ‘merry-go-down,’ the second, ‘must-be-swallowed,’ but the third is ‘rot-gut.’

*Round-about*—female thief’s pocket, which encircles her body and reaches down to the knees, with two apertures; it will stand a common search undetected; a watch, spoons, or money, sliding round from side to side; and if the wearer be bulky, much larger articles pass undiscovered.

*Round-about*—the tread-mill recently invented for the employment of convicts in prison, is thus denominated by them. ‘About she goes,’ said when at work. This invention of Mr. Cubit’s, we find anticipated by Sam. Butler, who having endeavoured to describe a turnspit—from hearsay probably—missed his mark, and hit off the contrivance of 1821, to a *tee*:

“ Just as a dog, that turns a spit,  
 Bestirs himself, and plies his feet  
 To climb the wheel; but all in vain,  
 His own weight brings him down again;  
 And still he's in the self-same place  
 Where at his setting out he was.”

*Round-betting*—(Turf.) Those who bet *upon* or *against* several horses that are entered for any given stakes, are said to ‘bet round.’ A *taker* in revising his betting-book, should sit down coolly and estimate his losses upon each individual horse of his *taking*, supposing *it* should be the winner, and he may make a *safe thing* of his entire series; but the best game is to give the odds upon a series of ten horses (a few more or less) rejecting *the favourite*, which seldom wins, particularly the Doncaster St. Leger, because there several riders usually combine to ‘shut him out’ from *the start*. The results of this mode of betting are found uniformly successful, under the management of a keen sportsman—such as was the inventor, Mr. Robert Wardell; nor indeed could he well fail, seeing that when the sportsman lays his bets 10 to 1 against any one horse, and gives the same odds on ten horses *round*, he not only restores the balance of his entire bets upon the ten horses named, but takes his chance that some few of these may be withdrawn; as well as that some five, six, seven, or more horses besides the remanet of those ten *named*, may start, and one of those ‘outside horses’ carry off the stakes. To gentlemen who would push to extremities their inquiries respecting the ‘Doctrine of Chances,’ the information may be acceptable, that Mr. Thomas Simpson has written a Treatise on the “Nature and Laws of Chance,” and our celebrated Dr. Hutton some *curious* observations on this abstract science. A celebrated German (Jacob Bernouilli) has written, in Latin, “De Arte Conjectandi;” and Condorcet, a Frenchman, has produced a small Tract on the same interesting subject.

*Roulette*—(La). See *Roley-poley*, *Grab*, *Punt*.

*Rounds*—(ring.) When boxers set-to, they fight till down, and that is a *round*; the next *round* begins not until *half-a-minute*, at least, has expired. Any deviation, attended with fatal consequences, is an act constituting manslaughter, on the part of the assistants. The *Round* of *bons vivans*. Some men make a series of calls every day at certain boozing-houses, which constitute their *rounds*

respectively. The most celebrated of these were formerly the *Jump*, the *Go*, and the *Finish*: at the first, supper and wine, the second, max or punch, with an intervening call over at a Mrs. Fubbs's; lastly, ale and more grog—cups of coffee and home, or ——

*Row* (a)—When people congregate in the streets, and hold a bother or fight a little pell-mellish, 'tis *a row*; so, if a man and his wife quarrel, though she may not scratch his smeller, nor tear out his ogles, 'tis equally *a row*, though wanting those finishing requisites of a bl——y row. To *row* in the boat—to partake in the adventure, as robbery, gambling, &c.

*Row* (the)—the birth-place of literature, where dwell some forty or fifty wet-nurses of rhetoric, who when they begin to breed themselves (seldom though it be) always leave the spot. Geographically speaking, 'tis situated near St. Paul's, and the last day of every month, they run up and down like Bedlamites—this is the monthly *row*.

*Rowland* (a) *for an Oliver*—to give a man as good as he brings; a confounding repartee in speech or in writing. 'Tis 'tit for tat,' in low life:

Who knows but Menelaus may,  
On this, or hap some other day  
Get, though he make such fuss and stir,  
'A Rowland for his Oliver.'

*Rubicund*—a red face, mostly *masculinam genus*.

*Rule of thumb*—the performing a scientific operation, without knowing aught of science—merely by *tact*—in fact, *no rule at all*.

*Ruffles*—hand-irons or wrist manacles.

*Rum*—any thing large, good, strong, is 'a *rum-one*;' a '*rum-beak*,' a mild justice of the peace; *rum-ogles*, big eyes. '*Rum-clank*,' a large silver tankard. It is the opposite of *queer*. *Rum*—besides the extract of sugar-cane, it means 'out-of-the-way,' comical, as when a man is funnily drunk. 'Come it rum'—to talk oddly.

*Rum-one*—a hit which 'settles the hash,' is described as 'such a rum-one!' pron. *rum-mun*. A set of 'the *rum-ones*' meet at the Blue-posts, Haymarket: we have *tried them on*, and they merit the title they have taken.

*Rump*—a certain part of the body, and thence the part of *any body* (remaining) behind, is deemed *the rump*. 'The long (sitting) parliament' wore away, leaving few members



behind—these were ‘the rump (of that) parliament;’ and were likened by Butler to the rump of Taliocothus, whose sitting-place remained on his seat, when he was so rudely tweaked off, as ’tis said.

*Rump and dozen*—a wager oftener proposed than accepted; and, when settled, not so soon adjusted. Before *argument* stood instead of fact, ‘either way’ did for ‘either party,’ and ‘settle it as you like,’ was the order of the day, nothing being meant beyond a rump of beef [cut into steaks] and a dozen of wine; now, however, the words ‘for all the party present’ being added, a sip nor a scrap would fall to the lot of one half, but for the *munificence of the loser*: he sometimes gives the devil-and-all of a dinner and wine, and flabbergasts the whole company by ringing the bell for *more*.

*Rumping*—showing the rump of one to the person to be *rumped*: ’tis *the cut visible*, and an invention we owe to Carlton-house. It’s master, having occasion to show his displeasure, looks well at *the subject* to be rumped, and when the latter approaches near *the person*, he perceives the sitting part most prominent. This mode of enacting a painful but necessary duty, is described as very tasteful and elegant; it is moreover far preferable to his papa’s method, which showed itself thus—‘Robinson you are a scoundrel’—‘Cunningham, you are a villain’—and the first mentioned hung, the second drowned for it.

*Rum-ti-tum*—a bull with horns tipped to be baited. Thus we have ‘Pritchard’s rum-ti-tum,’ and ‘Jem Rolfe’s rum-ti-tum’—will be out for the spree on Monday.’

*Run*—the track of a hare, or the line of march she adopts in going to feed (at nights) is her *run*; at her return in the morning, she will walk backward a short space, and leap into her seat in order to elude pursuit, home. A *Run*—a fox-chase, &c. is described as a fine *run*, a long *run*, &c. and so is coursing, as so many *runs*.

*Rush*—(ring;) when a milling-cove runs in at his opponent, hitting away hard and sharp, his head is more or less low. (See *Purr*). Such must be received by sharp right and left nobbers, continuing to retreat; and tis fair and safe to tumble over the ropes, or drop, as if from the blows.

*Russian hotel*—the Bear tavern or public-house, whether bruin be white, brown, or black.

## S.

*Sack it*—to appropriate things to oneself, put them into the pocket or *sac*. ‘Bill Richmond *sacked* the purse at Doncaster (1822) which two men were to contend for.’ ‘Got the *sack*’—a discharge from a regiment or employment.

*Salmagundy*—a mixture of scraps—dressed up highly to deceive the taste or palate, mental and physical.

*Sand-boy*—all rags and all happiness; the urchins who drive the sand-laden neddies through our streets, are envied by the capon-eating turtle-loving epicures of these cities. ‘As jolly as a sand-boy,’ designates a merry fellow who has tasted a drop.

*Sapskull*—one whose *softness* retains not the news of the day, nor the art of spelling always alike.

*Sandwich* (a)—an apology for treating the stomach—cold meat between bread and butter.

*Sarvice, sarve out*—(ring); see pay-away, which being done effectually, is a *sarvice*, i. e. of some service towards victory.

*Satchell-a—sed fellow*—a satchell is a bag, and some chaps put on certain habiliments in a very bag-like manner. For ‘fellow,’ they sometimes substitute the appellation, ‘son of a whore.’

*Satisfaction*—to demand of any man *satisfaction*, is an invitation to fight. See *Duel, Fight*.

*Satrap*s—a radical sarcasm on ministers of state, in allusion to the governors among the eastern nations.

*Saturday-night*—is ‘kept up’ throughout the London district, with ruinous *regularity* by the heedless and the dissolute—by women and children as well as men. No wonder if the family separate drunk for the night, nor that this brings them to water-drinking next day, nor that they feel compunctious throbbings against the ribs; (see *Blue-devils*) this is the moral of the following stanzas:

Last Saturday-night I lost my wife;  
Where do you think I found her?—  
At Aldgate-pump, scratching her rump,  
And the devil was dancing round her.

*Say*—‘I have *no say* in the business;’ no power, one way or the other. ‘’Tis true upon my *say-so*’—a species of affirmation. ‘What Sir William is *trying to say* in the

*House* night after night, no one knows'—*Echo*, 'nor himself either.'

*Scamp*—to go upon the scamp, scamping tricks. A general term for thieves who confine not their abilities to one kind of game. Beggars, who would turn their hands to any thing occasionally, without inquiring in whom the thing vested, are said to 'go upon the scamp.' Fellows who pilfer in markets, from stalls or orchards, who snatch off hats, cheat publicans out of liquor, or toss up cheatingly—commit scamping tricks.

*Scape*—or skip; said to a painter who is supposed to neglect his brush.

*Scarce*—'my time is up, I shall make myself *scarce*.'

*Schliver*—pron. *Shliver*; a clasp-knife of some length, not meant to lie inoffensively, when the owner is grabb'd.

*Sconce* (a)—'she 's got a pretty little *sconce*,' said of a girl, a she-ass, or other animal. 'I'll crack your *sconce* if you shy this vay, master Bill Villis; I'll that in von minnit.'

To *Sconce*—to discontinue, surcease. 'Sconce his diet, give less victuals. 'Sconce the reckoning,' to go no farther in debt, but bolt.

*Score*—an ale-house reckoning, which is kept in chalk-scores. 'Score it up high landlord,' is said by one who would not have it rubbed out *by accident*; when the personage has scored thence down as low as most men's shoulders, he 'goes no farther for fear of accidents.' 'Set off *at score*,' a road phrase for a horse gone off full tilt, perhaps at 20 miles an hour; sometimes applied to racers, to pedestrians, &c.

*Scot*—a butcher's designation of a fractious man, the small Scots oxen coming to their doom with little resignation to fate: indeed, all animals try harder to retain life than man.

*Scratch*—a wig, natural, resembling the wearer's own shocky locks, guess.

" Spruce was the barber's shop;  
Wigs decorated every block,  
From *Scratch* to Tyburn-top."

The last mentioned, however, is becoming obsolete.

*Scratch*—(ring). 'Not a scratch,' the skin not broke *in sight*. 'The scratch,' is a mark made in the middle of a stage, room, or ring, in which men may be fighting, and up to which, as to a centre, the men are to be brought at the commencement of each round; if one cannot come

to this mark' (real or supposed, for 'tis not always distinct) in *time*, he is pronounced the loser. 'Fight them at the scratch,' [*pit*] means to bring the dogs up at short intervals and set them on again, when they *see* each other, and he who has fight in him continues the turmoil; him without it, runs away.

*Screens*—*vel* screeves; forged notes of the Bank of England.

*Scrip*—on the stock exchange; a written engagement for a loan to government, on which 10 per cent. is commonly paid down and remainder at intervals; soon, however, it becomes *omnium*, when the bargain has been calculated upon two or more species of property, with bonus, and the contractors transfer *omnium*, or *the whole* interest of their bargain to others.

*Scrub*—a shabby fellow whose conduct *suits* his appearance.

One who pays not his whack at the tavern.

*Scrub's Coffee-house*—Reed's saloop-shop in Fleet-street, was the resort of second-rate gents: there is now a very respectable room, *au dedans*; the scrubs being restricted to the front slum. Great numbers of such *shops* sprung up about the year 1812, when the duty on coffee had been reduced. See *Coffee-shops*.

*Scuddick*—is used negatively; 'not a scuddick'—not any brads, not a whinn, empty clies. 'Every *scuddick* gone; she gets not a *scuddick* from me,' does not amend the matter by repetition.

*Scut*—the tail of a coney or hare. To *scud*, to run, or sneak off, (among rogues) like those animals.

*Sea-crabs*—sailors. See *Flannel*.

*Seal*—the marks by which the recesses of the otter are found—his *goose-foot*, &c. being similar to *foiling* in stags, &c.

Ah! on that yielding sag-bed, see, once more  
His *seal* I view.

*Seedy*—shabby dress, without money. *Seedy-cove*—thread-bare, dirty, unshaven, or ragged.

*Segar*—tobacco-leaves rolled up, tubular-wise; so called after *Sir William Segar*, garter principal king at arms.

*Set out*—(a) which may be 'a *pretty set-out*,' or a *charming* one, a *handsome*, or a *rum set-out*—of chaise and horse; 'tis also applied to a side-board, decked out, or a dinner table, *set out*.

*Setter*—any dog whatever (chiefly the land spaniel) which

has been educated *to set*, or make a dead point, at coming near to his game.

*Seven-penn'orth*—transportation for seven years.

*Shades* (the)—at London-bridge are under Fishmongers' hall. Sound wine out of *the wood*, reasonable and tolerably good, are characteristics of this establishment. The *Shades* at Spring-gardens, is a subterranean ale-shop.

*Shake-bag match*—in cocking; the fighting adventitiously, or guessing at weights and pairing, while the fowls are still in their respective bags. 'A *Shake-bag* fellow,' if he be no pick-pocket, is at least a seedy cove.

*Shamrock*—trefoil, or rank grass of three leaves, employed by St. Patrick in demonstrating the doctrine of the *Trinity* to the earliest converts in Ireland; before which time the country was so infested with bad spirits, that it was called 'the devil's own island.'

'*Shanks's mare*—to ride on;' to go a-foot.

*Sharp, Sharper*—a man may look about him *sharply* without being a *sharper*. This latter is a leg, a wagering-kiddy, a swindler.

*Shave*—to *shave* a man, is to obtain his money, honestly or not so, as the case may be. 'I have been close shaved,' would signify emptied clies. *Shaver*—one who cuts close. 'Holloa, you *shaver*;' addressed to a sharp-looking fellow. 'He's a *shaver*;' said of one who charges high for his goods.

*Sheriff*—See *Ketch* (*Jack*.)

*Shindy*—a riot. 'To kick up a shindy,' or general row, resembles very much an Irish paddy-row, and is derived from *shins*, no doubt, which suffer many a loose kick: 'a pretty shindy in St. Giles's,' and 'there was such a gallows shindy at West-end fair!'

'*Shiver*—his fist' (ring;) when a boxer means mischief and 'nothing else,' he shakes his hand, and generally let's fly with it. This happens early in the battle, usually; but 'tis a symptom of gayness that leaves a man, as the contest approaches towards 'finis.'

*Shopping*—among women, going about from shop to shop, buying little articles perhaps, perhaps not, but always pulling about great quantities of goods.

*Shot*—a public-house reckoning. 'Landlord, what's the *shot*?' is the signal that some of the party are going to mizzle; the remainder commence *de novo*, and these 'boys

of the second reckoning' look upon themselves as the choicest of men. One of these dying one day, bequeathed his property among those of the 'old boys' who should remain to the second shot or reckoning, on the evening of his funeral. Till that moment arrived the executors concealed the circumstance; the will was then read, and they lighted their pipes once more, and filled glasses again.

*Shouldering*—to take up a load on the shoulder, or back; but among stage-coachmen, *to shoulder*, is to take up passengers on own account, without consulting the proprietors.

*Shy*—to be *shy* of a person or neighbourhood; to avoid such. *To shy* at any one—to throw missiles at him, as stones, tobacco-pipes, oyster-shells, &c.

*Sight* (a)—a great quantity. 'What a precious sight of old women!' 'You seldom see such a sight o' pigeons.'

*Sinner*—public-house keepers (publicans) are sinners.

*Skin-flint*—one who would perform that operation, were it possible.

*Skittish*—mares in-heat caper about, and appear shy; they are then said to be skittish. The term is applied to horses, too, when they are full of corn and frisky. So is a lass *skittish* when she cuts capers before the men, or indeed behind them, as when she slaps the buckskin inexpressibles of a post-chaise boy, or nods from her chamber-window at passers-by: both are *broad hints*.

'*Skool! a skool!*'—the cry all along the southern coast when the herrings appear first for the season. We had it from the Bergen fishermen; in English 'tis *shoal*. Herrings swim with their heads turned S. S. W. and drift *tail-in*, or sideways, to those inlets which *stand* differently.

*Sky-parlour*—the attic story. See *Parlour*.

*Slab*—a mile-stone. 'The rum-ti-tum turns out for the spree to-morrow near the nine-mile slab:' i. e. A bull-baiting at the place indicated.

'*Slam-bang* shops'—places where gourmands of the fourth rate regale; so called, probably, from the mal-adroit manner of serving up the viands to their customers, or the 'slam-banging' of the doors, plates, and tools.

*Slang*—language, words, phrases, invented by doctors and boxers, lawyers, thieves, sportsmen and whores, necessarily or purposely to convey their meaning secretly to each other; but all which (and much more) is here exposed to

the uninitiated, and illustrated for the use of adepts. Specimens of several kinds not hitherto expounded follow. 1st. *Court slang*. ‘We observe by the court circular, that since the duke’s return from a *certain excursion*, his Royal Highness’s visits to a great personage have been often repeated.’ 2nd. *Learned slang*. ‘A woman meeting a learned doctor in a certain square, asked him where she might find a shopkeeper whom she named, whereupon the doctor gave the following directions:—‘Move your pedestrian digits along the diagonal of this rectangle, in a line perpendicular to the earth’s equator, till you arrive at the junction of the two sides. Diverge then to the dexter, at right angles—*Perge* for about fifty paces in that quadrangle, and you will have ocular demonstration of him, standing in an orifice made in an edifice for the purpose of illumination.’” 3rd. The *slang* of *periodical literature*. ‘There are a set of *blockheads* who pretend to think that the sale of Byron’s works has been *knocked down*,’ &c. &c. ‘But this is mere *humbug*. The public curiosity is always stimulated to an astonishing degree, by *clever blackguardism*; and a book of *real wickedness*, and *real talent*, although it may not always be exhibited in the boudoir, is pretty sure to find its way into every house that has any pretensions to be ‘*comme-il-faut*.’” Blackwood’s Mag. for Jan. 1823. Doubtless the writer sat facing a mirror, and drew the likeness unconsciously: *murder will out*. See *Ebony*, *Jarconic*, *Modesty*. 4th. *Slang of the Daily*. ‘The addresses presented to the king at Edinburgh would have done honour to the land of *blarney*, and present some fine specimens of the *flummery* style. 5th. The radicals have a *slang* of their own—so says the Quarterly Review, No. 55, p. 213: ‘All that the revolutionist has had to do has been to assume the name of the whigs, to tread in their footsteps, and to translate into his own *slang* what they expressed in more decent phraseology.’ See *Cockney Slang*.

*Slang-whangers*—fellows who pretend to talk superiorly fine English at the expence of grammar, logic, and rhetoric. Likewise, those who having access to the press, would introduce, neck and heels, slang phrases inappropriate to their subjects, or words that possess no recommendation but freshness and impertinence: even naïveté of expression, which is sometimes attained by such adoptions, seldom excuseth the invention. When borrowed from

foreigners, who may be *in the dark* as to the things spoken of, 'tis seldom bearable; as, when the *French* is brought to bear upon the ring, the chase, or the turf, of all which Monsieur is utterly ignorant (see '*a la*,' in Addenda); or when barbarous languages, (as Welch, Irish, Scotch,) are employed in elegant literature. For example: Blackwood uses '*anent*' for about, concerning, (and many other such) which never can be naturalized here; he also says, at p. 790, No. for Jan. 1823, 'Sidney Smith turned the laugh against the *bishop* [of Peterborough] most triumphantly and *saffawingly*.' This word is derived from nothing on earth: see *Gaff*. The *slang whangery* of commercial correspondence is equally to be reprobated with the *meagre style*; both, however, have their advantages and disadvantages,—the one evincing the gentleman and scholar, yet placeth his correspondents at too great a distance; the other shews the plodding cit, who not unfrequently kept copies of letters full of set phrases ready penned, which served several occasions—and they got laughed at; but the foreigner had little more to do than scent out the drift of the writers, and the translation was already finished. But Dr. Birch ('*Aristarchus*,' p. 142,) gives a curious illustration of *meagre slangery*, in the power of the monosyllabic verb '*to get*:' he says, 'all events from the birth of time may be detailed in the English language without the use of a single verb, the omnipotent *get* excepted:' 'I *got* on horseback within ten minutes after I *got* your letter. When I *got* to Canterbury, I *got* a chaise for town; but I had *got* wet through before I *got* to Canterbury, and I *got* such a cold as I shall not be able to *get* rid of in a hurry. I *got* to the Treasury about three; but first of all I *got* shaved and drest. As soon as I *got* back to my inn, I *got* my supper, and getting sleepy, shortly after *got* to bed: it was not long before I *got* asleep. When I *got* up in the morning, I *got* my breakfast, and then *got* myself drest, that I might *get* out in time to *get* an answer from the treasury.'

*Slap*—a hit, with the open hand, usually. 'A slap in the face,' may, however, be a tart reply, abashing to the receiver; as, '*You an honest man! Yes, I know you are, Johnny; as for you, you got discharged from Clerkenwell only this here precious morning.*'

*Slap-bang*—a blow from each hand. See *One-two*.



*Slap-up*—used for ‘bang-up.’ ’Tis *northern*.

*Slashing fighter*—he who throws about his arms without judgment, but heavily.

*Slavey*—a servant of all-work at a little bodikin : ‘A bob to the ken, a bender for the *slavey*, Marm Puss, *nix*.’

*Sleek and slum shop*—a public-house or tavern where ‘single men and their wives resort :’ Fountain, Key, Bath-hotel, Haddock’s ; also, at one oyster-shop, one coffee-shop, one eating-house, one female-servants’-office, one lodging-house,—or more.

*Slot*—(in stag-hunting,) the tract of any deer, including the scent, foot-marks, and sewelling, or tearing the brambles.

*Slum*—loose, ridiculous talk, is ‘*all slum*.’ ‘None of your *slum*,’ is said by a girl to a blarneying chap who would soothe her unintelligibly. The gipsy *language*, or cant, is *slum* ; so would it fare with slang, if not well and distinctly applied to its proper objects. Dutch Sam excelled in *slummery*, beyond any man of his day or since : e. g. ‘Willus youvus givibus glasso ginibus.’ ‘A *Slum*,’ is also the room in which persons meet who talk in that style ; thus we may have ‘the little *slum*,’ or ‘the great *slum* ;’ ‘a dirty *slum*,’ or ‘a pretty *slum* ;’ ‘the back *slum*,’ and ‘a *slum* in front.’ Derived from *slumber*, to sleep ; the molls and coves ‘napping nine winks’ at those places, and then their discourse is slumberous, [slummily] as if they still slept and dreamt, and delivered their drowsy oracles.

‘*Sly*—upon the,’ secretly.

*Smashed*—broken, as glass or other brittle materials. An oath comes to us out of Staffordshire, &c. : ‘I’m smash’d if I do-a.’ In the *ring* we hear ‘Barlow got smash’d in the very first round.’ ‘Jack Ford smash’d his fist upon Weston’s hard sconce.’ *F. Gaz.* *Smashers*—passers of bad money were so called, during the pest of the old smooth coin. The term was soon extended to bad notes of the Bank of England ; and their occupation was called ‘smashing,’ from the resemblance each bore the other in morals. See *Ringing*.

*Smeller*—the nose is a man’s *smeller*, (and a woman’s too,) and a blow upon either is a *smeller* also.

*Smell-powder*—a duellist, whether a good shot or not.

*Smoke* (to)—to fathom a secret, to come out with a lot of such against a man to his face.

*Snacks*—shares in an adventure, as a wager, a *find*, or *trea-*

- sure-trove*, also in a dinner or luncheon. These latter, when the supply is small, have each the term *snack*; to 'take a *snack* of a *tit-bit*,' is one mouthful.
- Snavel*—to steal, by snatching, probably, or concealing any small property by piece-meal.
- '*Sneak*—to go upon the,' to walk about, undefinedly, to see what may be picked up, and what houses stand exposed to the next evening's depredation.
- Sneeze*—the nose; and a hit upon it is also a *sneezzer*, when the patient sniffs the claret. 'A handsome girl with a few thousands tacked to her ——, is not to be *sneezed at*.'
- Snigger*—ill-suppressed laughter. Provincial for fun in a cottage, or at the farmer's fire-side, when dame is in the way.
- Snip, Sniplouse*—a tailor's shears work with a clicketting *snip*; this explains the first word; and, for the second, they, no doubt, were furnished with an insect a-piece to *snip*, when, like other mechanics, they wore powder and pomatum in the louse-gorse.
- '*Snitch*—to turn,' to lodge information, to betray.
- Snob's-cat* (like a)—full of p— and tantarums.
- Snoozing-ken*—a lodging-house. To *snooze*, to sleep, a-bed or sitting up.
- Snotter*—a ragged, dirty kerchief. See *Wipe*. When Monsieur Lalorente stole the zodiac from the church at Denderah, he hoisted his *white snotter* at the main-top-g'ant of his ark, and the English authorities on the Nile recognized it for the real Bourbon flag—by the nasal signs impressed thereon.
- Snuffy*—drunk, with a nasal delivery. *Snuffy*—drunk in the feminine application, and applied but seldom to puling fellows.
- Soap-suds*—gin and water, hot, with lemon and *lump* sugar.
- Society* (the)—the vice-society, or vice-suppression society. Annual subscriptions put into the hands of a lawyer, to defray the expences of entering abortive actions, which ruin the defendant by their exorbitancy—though no *guilt* be proven or proveable.
- Socketting*—is alluded to under '*Burning shame*.'
- Soft one, or soft cove*—a fool easily imposed upon. *Soft is your horn*—you make a mistake. An Irishman in his cups, thought he saw a bull, but upon taking him by the horn, Paddy found it was a Jack-ass's ears; '*soft is your horn, honey*,' cried he.

*Soldier*—a dried, or *red* herring; also a boiled *lobster*.

*Son of a gun*—a soldier's bastard.

*Sow*—an appellation due to Jewish ingenuity; it is cast opprobriously without discrimination at any full-grown lady of the apple-stall, or old clothes' shop. See *Cow*.

*Sparr* (to)—fighting demonstrated: lessons in the art. Game chickens are said *to sparr*, when they fight for the mastery, which it is desirable one or the other should obtain soon, to prevent everlasting rows in *the walk*. Pugilists learn the art of personal defence, with gloves on, that are stuffed upon the knuckles; this is *sparring*; if they would learn the mode of attack, let them begin early the actual set-to. Dr. Johnson spelt the word with one (r) only; but, saving his prescience, he knew nothing at all about sparring, he being but a *single-fight* man, having once floored Tom Osborn, the bibliopolian. His 'spar' is a long fir pole, used on board ships; and a fine piece of fun it would have been to see the old gent riding like a bear astride one of these up Streatham-hill where was his den. He gives no etymology, but simply says, "Spar, v. n. *to fight* with prelusive strokes." Whereas, every cocker and pugilist knows right well, that 'tis any thing but fighting: it comes from the verb *to spare*, which in the gerund takes an additional [r], and keeps it when we return to the infinitive again; for the earliest use of the word, which is in Froissart's Chronicles, the distinction was drawn to a great nicety: he says, 'The Englishmen on one parte, and the Scottes on the other, be goode men of warre; for when they doe mete, there is a hard fighte, without sparynge.'

*Speak-softly-shop*—the house of a smuggler.

*Spec*—speculation, abbreviated. 'To join a *bank*' in a hell, is to 'go upon the *spec*.'

*Spice-islands*—any filthy stinking neighbourhood.

*Spice of luck*—to win a small stake, or small share in a lottery prize. From '*espece de bonne fortune*,' French.

*Spiflicate* (v. a.)—to spiflicate a thief is to spill him, or betray the subject of his roguery. A man is deserving of spiflication who cannot hold his tongue, but will speak to harm a fellow-mortal, whose opinions are of that primitive kind which maintains the doctrine that all goods belong to all men.

*Spill* (to)—to capsize, overturn, or betray a person. One who is suspended at the drop is spilled completely.

*Spinsters*—unmarried women: the greater part do spin, but not *thread*. This is one of the *fictiones leges* that are still retained in our law proceedings in the face of fact. It seems that, among our industrious and frugal forefathers, it was a maxim that a young woman should never be married until she had spun herself a set of body, bed, and table-linen. From this custom, all unmarried women were and are termed spinsters.

*Spittoon*—an utensil mostly used in public-houses for the reception of smokers' expectorations.

*Split-fig*—any or every grocer. See *Count*.

*Spoon, spooney*—a natural fool is no *spooney*; but he who acts sillily, too junior for his years, is a *spoon*; and if one suffers imposition, he is (according to the Hebrews,) 'so help ma lifes, a great pig *spooney*.' Horn *spoons*, by their ineffectiveness on *warm* occasions, are finely admonitory to soup-eaters.

*Spout*—to make a speech. 'To *spout Billy*,' (v.) to recite passages out of Shakespeare, in a pompous mouthing manner. Many there are, who go about from club to club, and from Free and Easy to midnight, 'spouting Billy,' to gaping mechanics, ground-rent bricklayers, and lucky-escape shop-clerks. A *spout*, is a contrivance in pawn-brokers' shops to keep up communication with the store-rooms, by passing up and down the *things* required. 'Put it up *the spout*'—pawn the articles. 'Knight of the *spout*,' a pawnbroker, or his man. 'Tom is up the *spout*'—he is imprisoned,—at the hospital,—or otherwise reduced in life.

*Spree* (a)—fun, lark. A bullock-hunt, a battle of women, or any quarrel of blows; 'a bit of a spree in the streets,' is also knocking down persons and robbing them;—which terminates in 'crossing the herring-pond,' or worser.

*Squad pie*—(prov. Devon.) Seasoned meat-pie, which has apples and onions; and though seemingly droll upon paper, it smacks well on the palate.

*Square*—to 'walk round Grosvenor-square,' or any other, is a very common expression in Cockaigne, though any carpenter could demonstrate its utter impossibility. *To square*, (ring) to present the fists for attack or defence. 'Square your elbows,' in driving four-in-hand:

*Stakes*—money put down to be contended for at a horse-race, boxing-match, &c.

*Stag, Staggard*—red deer, male, of full size, is called a stag usually, but the latter term is limited to the fourth year: though *hart* in the sixth year, yet most do still call him stag. Queer bail are ‘stag:’ those men who being hired at a guinea or two per oath, to swear they are worth vast sums, stand about the judges’ chambers in term-time, giving out cards of address, which are commonly their whole stock in trade. Never a shirt on; the cravat *standing responsible* for that superfluity in the habiliments of a stag. ‘To stag’ a thief, to look on, and spoil his sport: ‘What’s that cove a staggung there for? Down him, Billy.’ A young game cock—is a *stag*.

*Stamps*—the legs, and *stampers*, are shoes of the stout kind; ‘kicksees’ being lighter ones.

*Stand* (turf)—a house for accommodating the spectators at horse-races. ‘*Stand up to him*’—(ring); do not flinch from the blows. To *Stand*, is also the position of pointers when they perceive their game.

“ My pointers *stand* :

How beautiful they look! with outstretch’d tails,  
With heads immoveable, and eyes fast fixed,  
One fore-leg raised and bent, the other firm  
Advancing forward pressing on the ground.”

*Start* (the)—Newgate is thus termed, *par excellence*. But every felon-prison would be equally a *start*, with an expletive word or two, as ‘a country start,’ a county goal; ‘the b——y start’ (House of Correction); ‘the west country start;’ (Tothill-fields) &c. *Start* at a horse-race, is the setting out of the horses; a matter that is very ill conducted in Yorkshire: we should start with surprise if the Doncaster St. Leger were run for till half-a-dozen false starts had bothered the best and most anxious of the colts and fillies.

‘*Stash*—the matter,’ or ‘he *stash’d* it altogether,’ set it at rest, made it to cease. ‘*Stash* the glim’—to put out lights, or to place an extinguisher on the candle.

*Steamer*—a pipe. ‘Keep up *the steam* or steamer,’ to smoke indefatigably. To ‘blow a cloud,’ and to ‘burn tobacco,’ are the same but with less pertinacity.

*Stick* (a)—a fellow clumsy at any profession—as ‘a *stick* of an artist,’ should not be an *exhibitioner*.

*Sticks*—household goods. ‘The tax-gatherer sold Tom’s *sticks*,’ i. e. sold his furniture. ‘I lost all my *sticks* by that ’ere fire at Stepney.’

*Stiff*—promissory notes and bills of exchange receive this familiar appellation, when suspicion may hang about the certainty of their being honourably paid—though not always so. 'Tis used in contradistinction to flimsy—a bank-note. Probably, a bond for money may be considered stiff. *Stiff-dealer*—a dealer in stiff; a pseudo-merchant, or trader in moonshine paper. In the ring, 'tis called 'a *stiff* fight' when the men stand up well to each other, giving and taking.

*Stinger*—a sharp and rapid hit, generally understood to be placed upon the 'upper works,' is described as—'My eyes, what a *stinger*!'

*Stinted*—a mare which has received a horse is said to be *stinted* to him; as pregnancy advances, she is then considered *in-foal*.

*Stir*—bestir, move, be in action. 'I will not *stir* for the king,' i. e. on no account. 'I von't *stir* a peg,' i. e. not a leg, which is a *peg*. 'I wish as I may never *stir* if I do.' 'Stir 'em up;' said to one who would set folks together by the ears; and 'stir 'em up with a long pole, as the fellow does with the beestes,' alludes to the bellowings of these latter. *Stereo*. abbreviated from *stereotype*; one of the cheap-and-nasty manufactures in this country, the pages being usually left incorrect and blunderous, in pursuance of the saving plan which first suggested *casting* them in stereo. Originally done by Glasgow Foulis.

*Stone*—horseman's weight, 14lbs. and is so understood generally. Butcher's-meat, bacon, and cheese (in London,) are sold by 8lb. stones.

*Stone-jug*—a prison. Giltspur-street Compter is most commonly considered as *the jug*, in which 'poor fellows' get *bottled* in the intervals of their examinations.

*Stoop*—the attack of a hawk when he drops from on high, and strikes his game.

"Then mark the swift hawk, see him now make his *stoop*.

Ah! down goes the game; call him in then, la leup! la leup!"

*Stot*—an ox which never can have progeny, and the term has been applied by *Ebony* to writers of the milk-and-water genus.

*Stow*, *stow it*, and *stowmarket*—are synonymous for *to cease*; and 'stow-magging' for hold your tongue, is but an amplification of the first word, which is of nautical origin.

'*Straw*—fighting in,' is when game chicken have woollen

or leather fastened upon their spurs, to fight for the mastery. 'Man of straw'—a bill-acceptor, without property—'no assets.'

*Strike hands*—bargains in Smithfield are confirmed by the striking of hands—the palms together. So in the provinces.

*String*—of horses. Dealers fasten the halter of one horse to the halter and tail of another, and so on to the amount of sixteen, twenty, or more, and either is *a string*. 'Several strings of good horses entered Smithfield to-day.' 'Got him in *a string*,' is when a man is made to believe one thing, several others follow as matter of course—mostly lies; this is to be in a string, or line. See *Line*.

*Stuff*—money. 'Hand over the *stuff*,' give the money. See *Blunt, Bustle*. 'All *stuff* and nonsense,' designates ridiculous or deceitful talk. If meant to harm another, then 'tis bl—y *stuff*.' 'She hearkened to his *stuff*, and got ruined by him, the willian!' Bawdry is *stuff*, that's certain.

*Sucker*—young whales are so termed; and sometimes come into shoal water, on the S. and E. parts of England. 'Tis fine sport. *Sucker*—a baby, or older children that stick by their mothers. *Sucking barristers*—those who are without briefs: still in the childhood of the profession.

*Sukey*—a tea-kettle. 'Put over the Sukey,' set the tea-kettle on the fire; or, 'Molly put the kettle on, we'll all have tea.'

*Supernaculum*—any article of consumption unusually good—as, a superior pinch of snuff [*viz.* Macouba, or Prince's mixture,] 'a drop of brandy like a nosegay,' or 'port vintage, 1816.'

*Suspicious*—has been slang-whangered beyond all *suspicion*. If a *suspectful* person sees a poor man, he declares him a '*suspicious* character;' though the dinnerless poor devil *suspecteth* nothing less than starvation must be his lot.

'*Surveyor* of the pavements'—a pilloried person, who fills that high office for an hour.

*Swag* (the)—store of money. '*The swag* lies up-stairs, in a chest of drawers. 'A fireman once found *the swag* amid the flames.' 'Rum *swag*'—a good deal of it.

'*Swans* (his) are all geese'—said of one who brags inordinately. It was said (or sung) of the French people:

"They may talk of their wonders as long as they please,  
By Saint Patrick their *swans* are all nothing but *geese*."

*Sweet* (to be)—to talk kind, conciliating, to the other sex.

*Sweepstakes*—are the subscription of three or more, which only one of the parties can *sweep off*, or carry away, by winning the race:—the joint stakes being put down by several subscribers to be run for, the horse first coming in wins all. The Oaks, nor the Derby, are ‘sweepstakes,’ the second horse in both cases, having 100*l*.

*Swell*—a man highly dressed, in white upper tog and lilly shallow, (for example,) is *a swell*, however circumstanced in pocket; but to keep up the name he must lay out his blunt freely; bet, and swear ‘damme, Sir.’ If he does not fight, at least he ought to know *how*, and take lessons—or give them. No fighting man by profession can be *a swell*; he is *a tulip*, if he dresses thereafter, and looks swellish:—’tis esteemed the first grade towards Corinthianism, which he never can reach by any possibility whatever. No man who ever performed any duty or service for hire (except doctors, lawyers, parsons, and statesmen) can possibly be a real swell, certainly not a Gentleman, most indubitably not a Corinthian. Try back, reader, under those heads of information.

*Swindler*—one who orders to a neighbouring-house a pot of ale and change for a guinea, and *mizzles* with either, is a low *swindler*; he who takes furnished lodgings and orders in fine goods, with which he *bolts*, is a genteel swindler; but the wholesale dealer is he, or they, who open warehouse or office, assume the airs of tradesmen, and order goods from manufacturers and others, which are sold at a loss, but not paid for—*after the first lot*.

*Swop, swap*—to exchange goods or chattels. Horse-dealers practise much this species of bargain.

## T.

*Take in*—a cheat, when the ostensible and the real are expensively dissimilar. *Taking in*—cheating or dupery. Also, on the Stock Exchange, the pawning of scrip to the persons ‘taking it in,’ until a future day named, with liberty to sell then, unless redeemed. Formerly, this transaction was termed ‘*the Rescounters*,’ it is ruinous to the pledger when a fall takes place of five per cent. or more. ‘*Take it as you like*,’—be offended or not, just as you choose. ‘*Take it out of that*,’ accompanied by showing



the elbow, and patting it: now fight away. ‘I cannot *take it in*’—not swallow a lie. To ‘*take it out* of him’—to beat one enough to counterbalance his offence. A good scolding effects the same purpose, occasionally. ‘Och, the mordering Jews! Ah—h—gh—k!’ exclaimed a Munster lady of the apple-stall, ‘I al-vays *takes it out* of dem:’ *why*, my dear? ‘why don’t you know how ill they used the poor cratur as com’d to us?’ She allowed nothing for the lapse of 1822 years.

*Tag-rag*—fellows ill-drest, in parties, are the *tag-rag* part of a crowd; so named by the kiddies, tulips, and swells of the procession, because their clothes (or *rags*) are but just *tacked* or stitched together. ‘Tag-rag and bobtail’—the latter are females, and a *bob* is the extreme value of each *tail*.

*Talbot*—the original of our present race of hounds; he is said to have been *white* about the time of the Norman kings; but, more recently, black and white, with *tan* over the eyes. His nose very good, voice sonorous but mellow; large long ears, deep flewed: pace tardy but lasting. So called from the Talbot family, who had the keeping of the king’s hounds. This variety hath merged into the stag-hound, fox-hound, harrier, and blood-hound.

“The deep-flewed *hound*, strong, heavy, slow, but sure,  
Whose ears down-hanging from his thick round head,  
Shall sweep the morning dew; whose clanging voice  
Awake the mountain-écho in her cell,  
And shake the forest.” [See *Hound*.

*Tally-man*—he who sells his goods to be satisfied by instalments, as 1s., 2s. 6d., or 5s. per week or month: at each payment a split stick, kept by either party, is put together, and a notch being cut in both at once, they must then *tally* or agree. Though profitable, it is a mean mode of doing business, notwithstanding government manage their exchequer-issues by the same wooden tally.

*Tandem*—one horse before another in a single horse-chaise is *one too much* in length, i. e. *Tandem*.

*Tantivy*—as a word, is an invitation to the field.

“While health gives new charms to the sports of the field,  
*Tantivy*, my boys! let’s away.”

Likewise an answer to all cavil, and to all objections:

'Cries Jane, " dear John, avoid the snare  
That lurks in yonder field!"

Yoicks! *Tantivy*, soho!

" Ah, John," cries Jane, " if life's your care,  
Of *Tantivy*, O beware!"

Properly, certain notes upon the horn, called *ton-tavon*, thus marked—*ton* 〇, *tavon* ö; very frequently employed in the recheat, and upon the deaths of animals. See *Tontaron*.

*Tapp'd* (ring)—'tapp'd his claret,' gave a bloody nose. 'Tapp'd on the shoulder,' arrested on a civil process—'had for a hundred.'

*Tap-tub* (the)—Morning Advertiser; so surnamed after the *tubs* placed under the *taps* of each proprietor—whether licensed victualler, or gin-spinner; because that print catcheth the drippings of yesterday's news, and disheth it up anew.

'*Tare-and-tret*, my boy,' (city *bon-ton* for)—a Rowland for an Oliver, no matter the juxtaposition of the two matters. To give as good as is brought.

*Tartar*—an adept in any game is *a tartar* at it. To 'catch a Tartar'—to encounter one who is superiorly gifted, and get done.

*Tattler*—a watch. 'Why, Doughty drew a gold tattler, and got but two *p'nd* ten of the fence for it; so my regulars is ten bob—I'll split else.'

*Tatts*—dice. The saying 'tit for tat,' as good as is brought, means literally, a horse for a tooth—dice being made of teeth. So, if one knock another's tooth out, he must give his horse in compensation.

*Team*—a flight of wild ducks.

*Teaster*—a sixpence, which is also *tizzy*, &c. Teaster is the most classical name for sixpence we have got, and is also the most ancient. Derived from *teste*, the head (French); and the (s) having been dropped nearly two centuries (now *tête*) the word must be so old at the very least.

*Tea turn-out*—a seedy kind of invitation to 'take tea,' and as soon as over the party break up. 'Tea and cards,' includes *a sandwich* at least, if not a supper—*hot* in the city.

*Teazer*—a hit on some queer point, as on the tip of the nose. Also, 1st. A summons to little chancery. 2nd. A talking fellow who haunts another. 3rd. An old horse belonging

to a breeding-stud—‘ though devoid of *fun* himself, he is the cause of it in others.’

‘ *Tee*—done to a,’ meat roasted to a turn, or T.

*Tee-totum*—a juvenile instrument of *play*, and marked P. T.

H. N. ; being spun round for the stakes, the player who brought P, put down a stake ; he who had N, neither put down or took up ; H won half the money down ; T takes *all*, or *totum*.

*Teeth*—the masticatores have been called ‘ dining-room chairs,’ ‘ grinders,’ &c. ‘ ’Tis of no use to show your teeth, unless you can [venture to] bite ;’ persons need not show their anger if they are powerless. ‘ In spite of your *teeth* ;’ notwithstanding all your threats and endeavours : ’tis a canine notion. ‘ Nothing is certain in this life ; not even that you will swallow the meat upon your plate ; nor that after its descent into the *cavum corporis*, it may not offend or be offended, and return in spite of your teeth.’  
Vide *Fancy*.

*Telling the law*—(in cocking ;) counting forty deliberately, with a semicolon pause—thus : one ; two ; three ; &c. this occurs when the cocks leave off fighting through fatigue ; at the word “ forty,” the setters-to pit them anew, beak to beak. See *Told-out*.

*Thief*—a name never assumed, but applied by others ; and when used, he of whom ’tis spoken calls it *beef*. Sly ones and peculators inveigh with most asperity against the small-scale public ones, as these do bawl out ‘ stop beef !’ when pursued ;—both seeking to avoid detection. See *Honour*.

*Thick-head*—he whose understanding is deeply entrenched against instruction behind great lumps of fat.

*Thimble*—a watch. *Thimble*—laid hold of.

*Thing* (res, rem, re)—is applied to *every thing* of every kind. ‘ A *thing* of a man,’ is he who has not much sense or spunk in him ; and a mere *thing* in her hands (whatever he may be in her arms,) is the man who suffers a woman to rule the roost. ‘ A *thing* of a horse,’ should be rode by a scapegrace runagate only ; such a horse as can neither walk, trot, or gallop, but makes up for those deficiencies by the accession of broken knees and a staring coat, is a *thing*. Buggies, curricles, chaise-carts, gigs, and tandems, when altered, amended, re-mended, and patched, are *things*, and nothing else. ‘ A *thing*,’ is an animal of doubt-

ful gender, i. e. *no-thing*. 'Tis a sad *thing* for a gentleman to be *quodded*, who has hitherto been 'quite the *thing*;' as per exemple.

“ My name's Tippy-bob,  
I've a watch in each fob,  
View me round on each side and the top;  
I know I'm *the thing*,  
And I wish I may swing,  
If I arn't now a nice natty crop.”

'*The things*,' in the *eye* of a matron, (or in her eyes if she have more than one,) are the articles of housekeeping: such have 'a pretty little *thing*,' occasionally, of a baby; and, 'tis 'such a *thing*!' to keep it quiet at night,' when papa is rocky; and 'a horrid *thing*,' when 'tis tumbled out of bed. Gamblers call cards or *dice* 'the *things*,' in softened tones; and so are fetters 'comical *things*.' *Tippy-bob*, aforesaid, might be '*every thing*' in the eye of some pretty woman, if his egotism and self-love did not conspire to render him a *no-thing* at all sort of a chap. A man's actions, or one single act of his life, may render him *a thing* to the end of his days in the opinion of all—even of a horse, or of dogs; for, what would a kennel of hungry hounds think of a whipper-in walking into their dining-room, without a whip. What thought the calendrer's nag, when Mr. Gilpin (that sage horseman) stooped down and seized the beast round the neck? Why,

“ His horse who never in that sort  
Had treated been before,  
What *thing* upon his back had got  
Did wonder more and more.”

A poor, weak, but pretending mortal, is a *thing*, whether his defect be of mind or body. 'You fight! Why you are *a thing*.' 'Never was exhibited, perhaps, so *thing-like* a mind as this young lawyer's.' Vide *Fancy*. *Thing* (on the road)—a poor drag, poorly horsed. According to Cobbett, '*the thing*' political, is the corruption of the state working out a reform of the state. 'All that sort of *thing*,'—bon-ton, a common kind of addenda to any dandy-speech.

*Thing-um-bob*—thing-um-bee, and thing-a-merry, names of things, or thing-like persons, not worthy of being more distinguishedly marked. Mostly used by females: the first was applied to the man who would stand only *a bob* for the *thing* under treaty.

*Thought* (a)—a single operation of the mind. 'Who would

have *thought* it?' when something uncommon takes place. Yet, 'I *thought* it would happen so,' says the silly part of the creation, who cannot foresee a shower of rain, nor reckon upon a minnow-bite. 'The *thinking* nation,' is the English; and persons capable of great *thoughts* and accurate, are the *thinking* part of the nation; the remainder being the *soft* part, or, "those whose brains are thin and pulpy, of a consistency lying between water-gruel and stir-about"—as Mr. Abernethy has it.

*Three times three*—shouting in exultation, greeting after the British fashion, some patron, the donor of a feast, the king, &c. Three is the mystical number; firm as a tripod in mechanics, and its triplicate implies something more; but those who greet with *four times four*, because George IV. is the person greeted, are noodles of the fourth class—weak in cause and effect.

*Through-stitch*—a tailor's expression for finishing any thing once begun.

"To go *through-stitch* won't be amiss,  
Said Buck, then gave miss Doe a kiss;  
But l——d! his wife popp'd in on this,  
And caught them cooing——"

Your fox-hunters are the beings for going *through-stitch*.

"We drove him many a mile;  
O'er hedge and ditch we got *through stitch*,  
And hit off many a foil."

*Throw* (ring)—when boxers are tired at 'in-fighting,' they struggle to get each other down, and the *throw* is sometimes rendered so hard as to win the battle, especially when an adroit tumble upon the opponent's *wind* is added thereto. See *Fall, Floorer, &c.* A *throw* over the knee, is effected similarly to a cross-buttock, but is not half so effectual, unless the thrower punisheth as the adversary is going down.

*Throwing-off*—talk about any one in his presence, always adversely, and generally in the third person. 'They that don't like Cold Bath-fields, vhy, let them try Horsemonger-lane.' *Reply.* 'Vell, I'm sure! ha'n't he forgot the *start*! My mother vos no b—— to bring forth puppies, howsomdever, as goes mid dere own ——.' *Rejoinder.* 'My father wer'n't lagged for being a ——; our old man lives down in Whitechapel now, and yarns his five-and-twenty quid a-week.'

To *Throw-off* the hounds—to uncouple and set them to *quest* for the object of chase :

Here, on this verdant spot,  
Where flowers autumnal spring, and the rank mead  
Affords the wandering hares a rich repast,  
*Throw off* thy ready pack.

*Thrums*—threepence, used by low bidders, at low auctions.

*Tick*—credit in small quantities; usually *scored* up with chalk, (called *ink* ironically,) which being done with a sound resembling ‘tick, tick, tick,’ gives the appellation. ‘Going to *tick*,’ ‘*tick* it up,’ ‘my *tick* is out,’ ‘no more *tick*.’ Vide *Pontic*, and see what it amounts to.

*Ticker*—a watch. A *tick-tack*—derived from the ticking of a watch; ’tis the shortest space of time.—‘done in a tick-tack.’

*Tiddyvated*—i. e. made tidy, or neat; derived from *Nitida*, neat, tidy, spruce, genteel, prim, gay. Used by barbers and friseurs for a drest head formerly; but now confined to lasses and dandies who may have emerged from a recent state of filth, after adonising their persons an hour or two.

‘*Tie up* in the wind’ (ring)—a blow on the mark will do it for any one. ‘*Tie yourself up*’—to bind oneself negatively; either not to *play*, to *fight*, to *lay bets*, &c. for a certain period, usually to the end of time; but seldom kept. ‘My opinion is, Tom Cribb may safely *tie-up* from this time.’ Vide *Soares’s speech*. ‘A certain hell-keeper *tied himself up* before the magistrates, never to touch a card, or handle a rake again, during his natural life.’ Vide *Police Report*. But what are oaths or bonds to him, or any of his kind?

*Tiff*—‘a tiff,’ is to take offence at small cause, or none at all; these are sulky hounds and proud ones.

*Tilbury*—a sixpence, which has, moreover, several other names, as tizzy, bender, fiddler’s money, teaster.

*Time of day*—very oppositely applied at various points: the pass-word for civilly accosting another, at one place; a knock-down-blow at another. In *the island* (Wight) every good joke is ‘the time o’ day.’

*Times*—‘’tis all owing to *the times*,’ said a mechanic to his wife, as an apology for getting drunk; wishing to make the state of politics answerable for his aberrations. *The Times* paper might, also, have some share in his sottishness, by reason of its lengthy columns and close paragraphs requiring much orthographising, and numerous drowthy expositions.

*Tiny*—small, little. Mostly applied to mankind; as, a *tiny* chick—*tiny* mort, but used also of a small ken, and ‘a *tiny* drop of gin,’ when the cove can only muster a penny towards a quartern of three outs.

Pray, butcher, please to moderate the rancour of your tongue,

Why flash those sparks of fury from your eyes?

Remember I'm a *tiny man* and you are very strong,

A taylor why should you despise.

*Tinney*—a conflagration of houses—a *fire*; derived from *Tinnitus*—the *ringing* of the town-bell (*tocsin*) when such accidents do happen; practised every where but in London. Each ‘*call to a tinney*,’ is 5s. for every fireman.

‘*To Tip*’—to give; a noun as well as verb. ‘*To tip*,’ is to pay. ‘How much is *the tip*?’ What is the payment? as, the fare of a coach, toll at a turnpike, &c. ‘Come, come, tip the *bustle*,’ said by a highwayman when he would rob the traveller. ‘*Tip* us none of your jaw.’—‘There’s *the tip*, Marm, now send in the max.’ ‘*The tip*’ at skittles and Dutch-pin playing, when the player plays from his ball after having bowled, or close up to the frame, called ‘bowl and tip.’ ‘*Tip* the wink,’ a hint. ‘*Tip* him a good deal of the blarney.’ Tipytwitchett, a senseless elf. ‘I tip’d him the double,’ ran away. ‘*Tip* us your daddle,’ or thieving-irons, to shake hands.

*Tits*—horses, mostly applied to those in stage-coaches. Derived from the latin *titubo*, to trip, stumble, and stagger; the *tits* of our day should be lame a little, if not foot-fundered ‘past all condemnation’ (as *Dan* has it); they cannot otherwise be *titubans*, nor perform a stage *titubanter*. *Titt-up*—a canter, scarcely made out.

*Tit-bits*—favourite cuts of meats preferred by epicures. In *town* they choose ‘a bit of *the brown*:’ turn up a shoulder of mutton, and the lean corner which comes next the neck is ‘the cuckold’s *tit-bit*:’ ’tis soft and juicy. Term applied to live females also.

*Toad-eaters*—sycophants, who would swallow poison and declare it delicious, to please their patrons. Jamie Boswell was *toad-eater* to Sam Johnson. Turtle feasters were appelled *toad-eaters* by David Garrick:

Who knows, says he,

For want of turtle he might soon eat me:

So I left *toad-eater*.

Rich persons, without heirs, attract myriads of toad-eaters.

*Toby-lay*—robbery in road or street. *Low toby-lay*—foot-pad robbery. See *High-toby*.

*To-by*—‘To be or not to be?’ (Shakspeare) means, shall the proposal take place? as, more wine; or spoken hypothetically—‘is this to be a drunken night, or no?’ ‘On the *High-toby*’—high fellows who spend much money, but care little how ‘tis got,’ generally gamblers.

*Toco for Yam*—Yams are food for negroes in the West-Indies, (resembling potatoes) and if, instead of receiving his proper ration of these, Blackee gets a whip (*toco*) about his back, why ‘he has caught *toco*’ instead of yam.

*Toddy*—spirits and water, hot with sugar.

*Tog*—clothes; derived from *toga*, the official gown or upper garment worn by the Roman *nobs*, and our own *gownsmen*.

*Toggery*—dress, generally. ‘White upper *tog*’—the great coat, white. ‘Well-*togg’d*’; so dressed, *a-la-mode*.

*Togamans*—a gown or cloak, for either sex.

*Told-out*—in the language of the cock-pit; when a cock has refused fighting ten several times, counting *ten* deliberately between each set-to and refusal, he loseth the battle—and generally gets scragg’d by his enraged owner. So, when a gambler is unblunted, he is said to be *told out*; and so is the debauchee when he can’t *come again*, and the drunkard, when the burnt-up power of secretion brings about schirrous liver, adhesion of the pleura, and disordered respiration, with hectic.—Mrs. Mary Ann Clarke was *told out*, when she was turned-up by the faded ever-green. See *Telling the law*.

*Tontaron*—pron. *Tantaran* by the red-stag hunters of the West country, and frequently without the final (n). Either gives pretty nearly the sound of a huntsman’s notes on his horn, which being variously modified, convey his wishes and intelligence to the hearers; it is a corruption of *ton-tavon*, the repetition of the last syllable—‘*tavon, tavon, tavon*’—quickly, being the call away; a change this which hath been effected within a century past by the warblers, for sake of the liquid (r):

But vain is *his* speed—  
They faster proceed,  
In hopes to o’ertake him anon;  
While echo around  
With the horn and the hound,  
Responsive replies Taron-ton.

They have gone farther (see *Tantivy*) and made an addi-



tion also—viz. after three repetitions of ‘tontara, tontara, tontara,’ they add a ‘ton-tay;’ their *tay* being of the same length as *tone*, which terminated almost every *re-cheat*. *Tara* would seem the feminine of *taron*, when used substantively; probably the lady and lord of the mansion in which the hunters caroused:

For, no joys can compare  
To hunting of the hare;

Sing *Tara*,”

*Echo*, in *mezzo voce*—“and Tontaron.”

“Sing *Tara*”—*Echo*, “and Tontaron,”

*Both voices aloud*,

“Sing *Tara*, my brave boys, and Tontaron.”

The *tara*, however, may have been older than *taron*, or *tavon*, in some parts of the empire of G. B.: among the Celts of Ireland, *Tara* was the baronial castle, or seat; and the large hall was, in like manner, *Tara*, where the lord or petty king, gave audience, settled disputes, awarded justice (in *aula regia*) caroused his retainers after hunting, and heard music:

The harp that once through *Tara*'s halls

The soul of music shed,

Now hangs as mute on *Tara*'s walls

As if that soul had fled.

Here, of course, the horn was heard in every variety of modulation, with its ‘ton, ton, ton, tara; tontara, tontara—tone.’ Rory, king of Connaught, and Brian B’ru, had their assemblages of chiefs, called *Tara*—a council, or parliament. Tom Moore sings—

No more to *chiefs* and *ladies* bright

The harp of *Tara* swells,

The chord alone that breaks at night

Its tale of ruin tells.

*Tools*—house-breaking implements, or otherwise.

*Too much*—of one thing is good for nothing,’ is understandable; but Paddy has turned the latter word into ‘something,’ by which he means a ‘grate big bating.’

*Topper* (a)—ring; a flush hit high on the upper works; applied also, to a blow with a stick on the head; so ‘give him a topper for luck, and another for me.’

*Topping*—the upper covering; and a *topper* is a hat, the head sometimes, and the roof of a house always. ‘Topping wit’ is Attical, and ‘a topping number’ at a printing-office, is that quantity which the printer takes off to his own cheek, surreptitiously.

*Tories*—a political party, originally attached to the exiled family, and the principle of governing single-handed, or corruptly: intolerant of sectarians, lovers of tythes and bell-ringing, of pageants, and pluralities—ubiquity itself.

“Come all ye *tory citizens*,  
Ye radicals and whigs;  
Join all your famous companies,  
And merry be as grigs.”

Supposed to be a corruption of ‘*tow-row*,’ a soldier of the guards or grenadiers—of whom, in Marlborough’s time, a song was sung with this burden:

Sing Tow, row, row, row, row, row,  
The British grenadiers;

*Tot*—the whole; from *totius* (Latin). By amplification ’tis said, ‘I’ll take the whole *tot*.’ Mr. *Hook* says,

“There’s Hume, with his *tots* and his *vots*  
Gaffer Grey —”

*Tout*—(v.) to watch. *Touting*—is eying the women generally, or spoiling an amour, platonically. ’Tis extended to ‘staggering,’ also.

*Town*—London is ‘*Town*,’ without *the article*, and is in fact, *three towns*, viz. London (the city proper) Westminster, and the borough of Southwark, or *Tripoli*—without taking in to estimate the out-lying parishes. This is the district for seeing life in its varieties, as the present work attests. A man ‘in town,’ is in cash—‘out of town,’ without blunt.

*Trade*. Swindlers of goods, inquire about ‘the state of trade to-day?’ very much like regular paying persons. ‘What trade are you doing?’ ‘I have a prospect of *doing something*, or have a *thing* in hand,’ is the slangery of this species of rogue. *Free-trade*—smuggling; and so is *Fair-trade*. Thus called from that space, which was marked out in war-time, by the French in certain ports, for our smugglers’ resort and purchase of *contraband* goods, and called *la foire*, or fair-ground.

*Trail*—(chase;) scent laid upon the ground. A dead hare being dragged along leaves *trail* for harriers. The scent of the living hare is likewise *trail*. *Oleum Origanum* (vulgo, oil of rignum) makes a good artificial scent, or drag—and is good for entering young hounds.

If some staunch hound with his authentic voice  
Avow the recent trail, the jostling tribe  
Attend his call.

*Training*—animals that are pretty much exposed to excesses in their manner of living, require to be put in training when they are about to take strong exercise. Men, horses, and dogs are *trained* before fighting or running. Bleeding (if feverish) purging, and sweating, get rid of the surplus which overcharges the system, and impair its functions. Generous, but not heating food is to follow; no flatulent drink; all being given at regular intervals. Regular exercise, running *a heat* every morning, and a *breathing* in the evening, rubbing down the body and limbs much—the horse with the hand and wisps of hay, the man with cloths. The latter must fight his *trainer* at noon, twice at least, with the gloves; the former must be *tried* against other horses, and if the *actual race* is to be in the *north country*, he must be taught ‘the false starts,’ usual to those parts. N. B. Little sleep and much moderation; *even training may be carried to excess*. The good effects of training are soon visible on the cuticle; horses showing a fine *coat*, men fair skin without scorbutic spots, having thrown off the hair which those spots engender. Hard living, and a cold country, ’tis known, produce hair upon the body, which pugilists lose by training. One of Blackwood’s people (No. 72. p. 87.) says he was ‘covered with the long hair that boys come home with at the Christmas holidays, from a Yorkshire cheap academy.’

*Trained-off*—weakness of body, inefficient athletic: an animal without sufficient stamina to bear hard training, gets worse for the above——prescribed mode of living and *trains off*.

*Training upwards*—is done, when the subject is already too low in habit, by means of nutritious diet: avoid bleeding and sweating; let the exercise be little, steady, and congenial. The fighting men stand in need of *training up*, as often as they do the contrary.

*Tramp*—(the); travelling a-foot. ‘I’ll tramp it for trade’—‘Out upon the tramp.’ Said of mechanics who go from town to town for employment.

*Transmogrify*—to alter, to change. A *Transmogrifier*; one who so changeth the *works* and the *cases* of watches, that the real owners cannot recognise their property.

*Traps*—hired constables; probably an abbreviation of *to intrap*, to ensnare. See *Nose*.

To *Travel*—to go, or be *sent*, beyond sea, he is on his travels. The high-gobontonian says, ‘declare I must *travvil*, onnor.’

*Tread-mill*—an invention we owe to the Chinese, who raise water by this means, and it is now adopted in these realms for the amusement of such philanthropic ‘ lads of the village,’ as undertake the disposition of other people’s effects, without leave. See *Cubit, Round-about*. The Radicals declare it to have been set up “on *Rot-a-Tory* principles.”

*Trente une apres*—at rouge et noir; the advantage taken by the bank of the punters, for profit, and as sett-off for the refreshments, &c. It looks like three per cent. upon the winnings, but is *in fact* about seven—arithmetically proven.

*Trick*—at cards; the play round at whist, for example; and the *odd trick* occurs the thirteenth time of so playing round. A *Trick*—a cheatery. ‘*Tricks on cards*’—in cutting and shuffling dexterously, so as to produce certain results. ‘*Tricks upon travellers*,’ cannot be practised safely, they being usually up to snuff. ‘*Tricks of youth*,’ leave us in old age, though every Senex pretends that he has left the tricks. Nestor sagely observed,

Age, with a pox will come apace;  
But dear experience can’t be gotten,  
’Till we’re with *tricks of youth* half rotten.

*Triponions*—a small lot of persons fond of cows’ stomachs, and the most pungent of edible roots; who take an occasional snap at Tom Rees’s coffee-panny in the Strand.—Card of invitation: “The *Triponions* congregate to masticate, to vocalise, and fumigate;

Thomas Rees,  
At his ease,  
A fine treat,  
About eight,  
Nought gaudy but neat.”

*Trudjon*—Trew-john, a Trojan. A hardy indomptable person; alluding to the twelve years’ siege of Troy.

*Trull*—the lowest state of prostitution.

*Trump*—he is one who sticks by a poor friend in distress, who scorns dirty actions and littleness of spirit, who diffuseth happiness around, maugre the difficulty of execution. In ring affairs, he is a *trump* who stands up to his man like a *Trudjon*.

*Try-back*—an order or command given to a dog, to go over the same ground again, for game, as in beating a gorse for a fox. *Try-back*—is said to a talkative person who may be flinging the hatchet a little.



## THE TURF.

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*The Turf*, is so called after the verdure which clothes the ground over which the horses run, that at Newmarket being the finest, most extended, and various in the *island empire*, which is the mother-country of turf sports, of large stakes, and great matches.

*Try-on*—and trying it on. An essay or endeavour to do a thing. ‘Here’s a queer shilling; I’ll *try it on* with the landlord,’ ‘Vell, my customer, you *tried it on* tolerably tightish, but it vould’nt *fit*, ye see.’

*Tuck-out*—plenteous fare at dinner or supper. See *Blow-out*.

*Tulip*—fine habiliments of various colours and strong ones, compose *the tulip*. ‘Jack Cooper, evolved *ex carcera* a *tulip* of no common colour,’ vide *Fancy Gaz.* 117. ‘Ah! Jack Atcherley, how are é my *tulip*?’ *Tulips* compared to *Swells*, are what gilt gingerbread is to a gilded sign-board; the one fades soon, the other is at least *intelligent* to the last. See *Corinthian, Gentleman, Swell*.

*Tumbler*—a cart. ‘To shove the *tumbler* ;’ to be whipped at the cart’s-tail.

*Turf*—(the). That species of sport which consists in running horses against each other, as trial of their speed or bottom; and these races are either matches (of two) or for sweepstakes of three or more. It is an improvement, or rather a refinement, upon the runs experienced in *the chase*; ‘hunters stakes,’ by their full *weights* and lengthy courses, assimilating nearest to that earliest sport of the field. Name derived from the verdure—*turf*; that at Newmarket being the finest, most extended, and various in *the island-empire*—which is the mother-country of *turf-sports*, of large stakes and great matches, and the only residence of *round-betting*.

Races are held in France, of royal horses mostly; but devoid of emulation, except in the animals alone—spunkless. Occasionally, at Petersburg, as in most of the British ultra-marine possessions, and, before the *dis-union*, in North-America. Proceeding upwards in the enumeration, Ireland comes next in importance, their stakes being minor imitations of those in England; yet they there dispense with sixteen king’s plates, whilst all England has only twenty-one, and but two are given in Scotland. This last mentioned portion of the kingdom stands forward next in order as to spirit, amount, and execution, though less in number than Ireland; whilst York is inferior only to Newmarket, Epsom next after York as to totality of sums run for; and Ascot, for great resort, and the attendance of royalty, has acquired the appellation of royal races. Doubtless to these latter, Somerville alludes in his didactic Poem, *The Chase*, Book II.

Oh, bear me, some kind power invisible!  
 To that extended lawn, where the *gay court*  
 View the swift racers stretching to the goal;  
 Games more renown'd, and a far nobler train,  
 Than proud Elean fields could boast of old.

See *Round-betting, Stakes, &c.*

*Turf abbreviations*—Those short and pithy literals that unexplained lead the uninitiated into certain loss; yet again some there are which signify little—nothing: ‘p. p.’ play or pay, post the poney, put down pounds, or pay poundage. h. ft. half-forfeit, i. e. half the stake is to be paid certain, by the party who does not choose to run for the whole: forfeits are limited to very small sums occasionally. List, oh, list! b. bay, br. brown, bl. black, c. colt, ch. chesnut, d. dun, dis. distanced (240 yards off, at least) dr. drawn, f. filly, g. gelding, gr. grey, gs. guineas, h. horse, lb. pounds, m. mare, pd. paid, p. poney, p. p. play or pay, ‘positive,’ must be done, dead or alive, ro. roan, st. stone, (14lb.) yr. year; the figures 1, 2, 3, the first, second, or third horses *in*, at the winning post.

*Turned-up*—ruined, in any way. A kept mistress is ‘turn’d up,’ when ‘her occupation’s gone;’ she is then said to have got ‘turnips’—[turn-ups.]

*Turnip*—a watch; and if silver, the more vraisemblable.

*Turnip-tops*—watch-chain and seals: ‘cutting turnip-tops on the autem sneak’—is the *taking-off* those appendages of the congregation by means of short strong forceps.

*Turn-out* (a)—an equipage, including horses, carriage, servants, *self*, and liveries. Superior to *Set-out*.

*Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee*—(bon-ton) musicians: two signiors (fiddlers) at Bath, were thus *nicked*, circa 1780, on occasion of a quarrel and duel on Lansdown. In *the Album* at the pump-room, one wrote—(before the fight)

“Pity such difference e’er should be  
 Twixt tweedledum and tweedledee.”

After the battle had been declared harmless, he added,

Surely, no danger e’er can come  
 To tweedledee or tweedledum.

*Twig*—to notice, to remark upon a thing or person. ‘Did you *twig* the old cock?’ ‘I *twig’d* him a *touting* on us.’ ‘I do not *twig* your meaning.’ ‘In *twig*,’ well dressed; ‘out of *twig*,’ shabbily clad, or in undress.

*Two-penny men*—i. e. two-pence per line for fabricating articles of *intelligence* for the newspapers, paid to men.



calling themselves reporters [qu. *porterers?* carriers] forth. When the type used for such *minor* purposes ceases to be minion (e *mignon*, little) and devolves into bourgeois (or commonalty letter)—into brevier, or short letter—then three half-pence is the dignè payment per line. Sometimes called ‘penny-a-line-men;’ but this applies only to such as work at under price—*dungs*; an invidious kind of generalising. Consult *Caddee* and *Kedger*, without prejudice; and see *Patin*, who characterises the whole race of news-scribes as ‘*hominem genus audacissimum mendacissimum avidicissimum.*’ See *Reporters*.

*Two-a-penny*—London cry for oranges, pronounced *t’wappinny*, when probably the ware is two-pence a-piece. The Jews only come it thus rumly.

*Two-to-one*—(ring.) This trick is carried sometimes to 3 to 1, when so many fall foul of one. ‘Mister *Two-to-one*’—a pawn-broker; that being the advantage he takes of his customers’ necessities: the method of suspending his golden-balls—two above, one below, seems to tell this plainly.

*Tyburn*—formerly the place of execution of criminals, but changed about the year ’80, for the new-drop. ‘Tyburn,’ is figurative of *hanging*, as is ‘the drop.’ The *place* or situation of the destructive and sanguinary instrument, was across the Edgeware-road, about 150 paces from the corner of Oxford-road, near the corner of Upper Seymour-street, west; two or three instruments were set up occasionally, for the better dispatch of business.

*Tye*—a neckcloth; also the neck itself occasionally.

*Ty’e-O!*—is the call of one patrol to others, about Clerkenwell, that they may look out for the rogues.

## V.

*Vagabond*—one who journeyeth from place to place for a precarious living. *Ergo*--the actor-men and women were *vagabonds*, without the aid of an act of parliament. The lower Irish accuse each other of this *crime* [‘as by law established’] with a Spanish pronunciation: ‘get along *ye Bagavond*;’ nearly approaching to *Bag-o-bones*, in the plural. This application of the word is illegitimate, inasmuch as those ‘*countrymen*,’ though they may be employed ‘here to-day and there to-morrow,’ yet is their living not *precarious*; scarcely a man but earns his three bob a-day.

*Vagary*—indulgence of a whim or notion out of the common way; called *Figgary* formerly, vide ‘Scotch Figgaries, a Tragedy,’ 1649. *Figario*, a Spaniard of whimsical habits; he should be active on his pins as if he were figged.

*Vampers*—stockings.

*Varjus*—verjuice; sourness. ‘Oh, the varjus!’ an exclamation, which shows the utterer’s utter astonishment.

*Varment*—applied to badgers, polecats, and the otter; in common parlance, ’tis spelled ‘vermin;’ but no fox-hunter holds a fox to be a varment, however true in fact. Not many years since, (20) several gentlemen, associated for four-in-hand amusements, took the title of ‘the Varment Club.’ See *Bon-ton*, *Four-in-hand*.

*Vastly*—bon-ton; one of the prodigious fine words so much mis-used by the dandies; who apply it to every thing but the heavens, which alone are *vast*; though it is extended naturally to the ocean, when the two seem to touch. We should like it *vastly*, if the reader would turn to ‘monstrous,’ and ‘prodigious;’ but our city-aldermen get monstrous cross, when they become *wastly* fat,’ so say their wives and families all. ‘A-vast heaving,’ is derived from the heaving up of an anchor.

‘*U. D. C.*\* Mornings 12 to 4.—Evenings 7 to 12.—No.—Cleveland-row, St. James’s.” Some Frenchmen, from the Palais-royal, thus introduce this game to the notice of gentlemen, at coffee-houses, in the streets, and parks. The place of address is ‘a Hell’ upon earth; so termed to deter conscientious persons from ruining their fortunes. Roley-poley is the more vulgar name for *une-deux-cinque*.

*To Vegetate*—mere existence; *haut-ton* for retirement. See ‘*Life*.’

*Weighty-von*—a fat landlady, who has a good run of custom, is a weighty one in both senses of the word.

*Velocipede*—or *Bicipede*. See *Dandy-horse*. We have also had the *tricipede*, or three-wheeled foot vehicle; more recently, and more utilely, we have the aquatic tripod or *tricipede*, for traversing shallow waters after wild-fowl. See *Badcock’s Philosophical Recreations*, Vol. 2.

*Velvet*—the tongue. To ‘tip the velvet,’ to give out the tongue, by either sex. To scold.

*Venison*—flesh of red deer; modernly used of the whole race, indefinitely: ‘whoever has venison on his chase,’ vide *Game-laws*: again, ‘*Capriolus*, the roe, is no *venison*

unless hunted.' Beasts of *Venary* (five in number) are venison: *Buck* is not one. See *Chase, Forest, Park*.

*To Vent*—to breathe—said of otters, when at length they come to the surface to respire:

Ah, there once more he *vents*!

See, that bold hound has seiz'd him; down they sink,  
Together lost.

Again he *vents*;

Again the crowd attack: that spear has pierc'd his neck.

*Vestal*—ironically said of an incontinent woman.

*Ugly-mug*—he who has queer features and variolous.

*Vicar of Bray*—one who acts now with this party now that.

Bray lies near Putney, and one of its *incumbents* (*circa* 1680) changed to opinions most diametrical, repeatedly.

*Victualling-office*—the stomach, and sometimes the cup-board; at others, a man's means of subsistence are alluded to as his victualling-office.

*Vi-et-armis*—(bon-ton); by force and arms: 'you shall *dine*, egad George you shall; if you don't come we'll fetch ye, *vi-et-armis*, as they served the new *speaker* t'other day, in *the House*.' This was an allusion to the shoving of the speaker, Mr. Addington, into the chair of the H. C.—according to ancient practice.

*Virago*—derived from *vir*, Latin for mankind, and *acu* sharp. The lady *virago* (as we now spell her name) is a scold, whose voice fills the domicile of her good man, *Cornuto*; and the noise she makes is intended to drown her own reproaches of conscience, for the horns she is planting. But should she be virtuous, as regards the intercourse *au double*, if she drink, rob his till, or amasses, *virago* scolds her husband, as a cover to her *heroical* misdeeds.

*Vixen*—a bitch-fox with cubs in her hole, and quarrelsome.

*Umpire*—he to whom the referees of disputed points appeal as the last resort, when those arbitrators cannot agree. In most legal adjustments, the arbitration bond has a rule of umpirage attached thereto. See *Referee*, and note, also, the subsequent 'articles of *agreement* to fight, made between Neat and Spring, for May 28, 1823, drawn up at "the Castle," and countersigned, with a "witness P. E." meaning (we are told) the *Sporting Editor* of the Weekly Dispatch paper—Pierce Egan. In this published document, the same blunder is thus again attempted to be per-

petuated, and thus stands exposed the author of those ignoramuses we have noticed under the word *Referee*.

*Uncle* (my)—the pawn-broker. Q. 'Whereabout is your mammy, my dear?' A. 'She is gone to *my uncle's* Marm, at the corner of the alley.'

Who dwells at yonder three gold balls,  
Where poverty so often calls,  
Guarding her offerings in his walls?

*My Uncle.*

*Unguentum aureum*—among the literati—when a bookseller advanceth money to needy authors, he is then said to apply this 'salve for all sores'—money.

*Unkid*—ugly, awkward, (prov. of Bucks) thus we have 'an unkid or onkid house.' A man knock-kneed, with long toes and visage, must be *onkyd*, exceedingly.

*Up* or *U. P.*—may be taken and used in various significations, in one or two of which contradiction may be visible to an *hypercritic*, or one who is not soon pleased; but we, on the contrary, firmly believe in the natural affinity of all things on earth—some coming closer together than others. 'Tis all up,' and 'tis U. P. with him,' is said of a poor fellow who may not have a leg to stand upon, or in other words (meaning the same thing)—nothing on which to place his leg, as in the case of suspension at *the drop*, as well as suspension of payment, or ruin coming upon a man's commercial concerns. 'The game is up with him,' is said very properly of a gambler recently unblunted; but, after poverty has long attached itself to his pocket and person, he must be considered as no other than a *seedy cove*, whose holy pocket is neither likely to be visited by, nor capable of containing, that pale comfort of the poor man's pocket—coined silver. When a pugilistic contest approaches its termination, 'tis said to be *all up*, or U. P. on the part of the losing man and his backers. See *Down*.

*Up*—as regards either house of parliament, means that *the house* has been sitting, but that the *sitting* is over and the members *up*—on their legs, and off. A man who knows a little how things are going on in the world, is said to be *uppish*; when he makes a display of this knowledge, this is *uppishness*; but, if he pretends to be aware of more than he knows, and gets bowled out, he is not to be considered as *up at all*. Scout the rip.

*Uphills*—loaded dice, that throw high.

*Uphill-work*—it is, when a cove's Moll is in kid.

*Upon the town*—street-walkers, persons who live about at this place and that, and every where, whether men or women, (the latter particularly) with loose habits—sexually or otherwise.

*Upper-crust*—one who lords it over others, is Mister Upper-crust.

*Upperworks*—the head and parts adjacent, in boxing. 'Gas paid serious attention to Tom's upper-works.'

'*Upset*—his apple-cart;' ruin his whole pecuniary concern : a costermonger's idea.

'*Upstairs, going*'—in fair way to the tread-mill.

'*Up to snuff*'—worldly knowledge, however pungent or errhinal. See *Cabbage*. A girl who is so *up* is no virgin.

*Used-up*—one who, by his labours or his irregularities, is no longer the active clever person he was wont to be.

*Useful men*—beggars alive, though they ask no alms. Cockney-breds, who hang about, along-shore in the east, and at the West end of town, to show strangers the *sights*—a sort of Ciceroni. Another kind of *useful men*, are little jobbers, small brokers, who effect sales of goods for needy manufacturers and *traders upon the go*. In number not above two hundred; they are all country-born, and their resorts are to the north of St. Paul's.

*Vulgar behaviour*—the mode of conducting civil life of those immediately below the speaker. See *Gentility*.

## W.

*Wabblers* (a)—a boiled leg of mutton, alluding to the noise made in dressing it. Hence '*Pot-wabblers*'—the qualification for some borough-votes; proving, that they are house-keepers, dressing their own victuals—boiling a pot.

To *Waddle-out*—of the Stock-exchange. Jobbers, usually brokers, who cannot make good their engagements for the delivery of stock, or run short in funds to pay for what they have bought, or those who fail to complete the instalments on loans—equally become lame ducks and *waddle out*. They then retire to the rotunda opposite, or cease their gambling tricks altogether, and turn honest shop-keepers, or black shoes—or vegetate afar off—according to their *savings*. See *Botany-bay, Duck, Taking-in*.

*Wag*—one who turns serious matters to jokes; sometimes applied practically, when they become no jokes, and recoil upon the *waggish* spree-hunting perpetrator.

*Wagers*—some men settle all disputes by offering excessive bets that truth is falsehood, and *vice versa*; these are ‘wagering kiddies’—or fellows who lay quirking bets on equivocal subjects, and out-vote the persons to be done. See *A. B. C—darian, Bets, Bubble* (bar the.)

*Wake*—from awake. Very differently used in England, Scotland, and Ireland, maugre ‘the acts of union.’ The Scot considers no man *awake*, or *wakeful*, who is not alive to his own interests; at Bristol, one eye is ever upon *the wake* while the other nappeth: hence the question, ‘are ye *awake*?’ ‘are ye up?’ Such an one ‘is always awake, or a-fly;’ the (a) being nearly mute in most cases; very unlike Milton’s ‘Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen.’

*Wakes*—in most parts of England, are merry-makings, held once a-year in each parish, on the day preceding (or eve of) the patron-saint’s day to whom the church may be dedicated: as St. Bartholomew (Sept. 3); St. David (March 1); St. Nicholas (Dec. 6); a custom introduced by Augustin, first bishop of Canterbury, at the request of his earthly master, Gregory of Nazianzen, Pontifex Max. about A. D. 600. ‘Let your flocks get drunk with their pastors,’ said the pope; ‘Drink all night, O be joyful,’ added the *pye-house* bishop, ‘the better to meet your saint in the morning.’ ‘If you do you’ll be d——d,’ rejoined the modern Methodists; and these new saints got the parliament to sanction *their* anathema, by fining every man who did as the pope and bishop bid him, 5s. for each extra refresher, which is ‘to be d——d indeed.’

To ‘wake a poor fellow’—an Irish custom, practised by those people every where, and is intended to answer two or three purposes at once: 1st. Lamentation for the loss society has sustained. 2nd. A funeral oration on the virtues of the deceased, in which his love of gin and of potatoes are lauded. 3rd. To raise the wind for defraying the expenses, or to put something in the pockets of the survivors, in order to invite further marriage alliance, or to procure grub. In England, the body is sometimes placed in a coffin; in Ireland, seldom so, *the waking* being usually called for the purpose of procuring one. The deceased is dressed up as in life, with hat, wig, &c. the body is set

upright, and partakes a sup or two of spirits with the company at parting, and the whole then issue! a repeated howl, or balloot, in which the voices of some two or three hired women-weepers are conspicuous,—they are adepts. This would wake or awake the deceased, one would imagine, if any thing on earth could do so; and the legend speaks confidently of several corpses having been restored to life by this kind of last sip of their favorite beverage. Name, time, and place, however, are wanting to confirm the accuracy of such statement—with one exception. Early in the 16th century, at Shute, in Devon, lived Sir John Acland, a Bart. very fond of brandy. He, also, ‘died one day,’ so they say, and his ever-faithful groom *watched* the body during the night. That he might perform this duty fearlessly, the brandy-bottle was replenished as if Sir John still lived. ‘Hang it!’ exclaimed the groom to his companion of the watch, ‘Sir John used to like a drap out of this bottle, and I ordain he shall have a drap now, by my truly; Vath, ha lookth as if ha was a little a-dry. There, there, there!’ ended the groom as he poured the last drain of a bumper into the mouth of his deceased master. Hereupon arose a throttling noise in the throat of the *corpse*; it articulated ‘more brandy,’ and the faithful groom supplied its wishes, while his co-watchman ran tumbling down-stairs, awoke *the doctor*, who that night slept at Shute; and Sir John Acland rose again, took supper, and lived several years afterwards, to the great annoyance of the disbelievers in miracles, and the lasting edification of all the *old women* in East Devon.

*Walk* (in cocking)—the ground for keeping them. Among Cyprians, it means the district where she plies for game. ‘To walk over’ another, is to domineer or assume the upper hand, swellishly; also, to set him at naught, as a racer which is so vastly superior to other cattle that none dare start, and he walks over the course. ‘To walk *the chalk*’—a military manœuvre to discover which is drunkest.

*Wall-chalkers*—fellows who, having received due qualification at the charity-school, scrawl balderdash upon garden walls, empty houses, and builders’ hoards, to prove to their benefactresses (in particular) that ‘a little learning is a dangerous thing,’ unless it teach respect for the feelings of all others, and not for *a party* only. When they reach maturity, they chalk up Quoz—B. C. Y. or ———, and in

process of time reach Tyburn-tree, or cross the herring-pond. Others chalk up their trades—as ‘try Warren’s blacking;’ ‘Qui-hi,’ a book-advertisement; ‘Bonassus,’ a beast; or, ‘try Dr. Eady’—and these fellows, though they may amass money, are nevertheless low souled rips, despised of all that is worthy in society.

*Wallup*—a random hit, any where. ‘A good wallupping’ cannot be mistaken for plum-pudding. ‘A wallupping sort of fellow,’ one whose walk, or gait, is of the awkward kind, rolling, knock-kneed, *unkid*, and difficult. ‘A wallupping bout,’ a fight without skill.

*Wan-horse-chaise* (a)—lean cattle; a Hyde-park corner joke upon an one-horsed vehicle.

*Wap*—a species of slap, resounding, as if imparted by a wet dishclout. So, a man may tumble down, *wap*, in battle, when he gets grassed by the *first intention*. *Wapped* and *licked* are nearly synonymous, as regards the patient. *Wapper-eyed*—heavy-eyed, drunk, so that the eyelids lose the retractile function, occasionally. *A wapper*—a big one, whether man, woman, or thing. A stiff stick is a *wapping* one, capable of administering a good *wap*.

*Wapeti*—the largest species of deer extant, serving the double purpose of roadster and the chase. Imported here 1820, from the back settlements of North America.

*Warblers*—singers who go about to ‘free and easy’ meetings, to chaunt for pay, for grog, or for the purpose of putting off benefit-tickets. Some of them *dish up* a song, now and then, and are dubbed poets (*agrah!*); others ‘spout Billy,’ and are thought ‘great actors,’ ‘fair orators,’ ‘up to snuff,’ and ‘all that sort of thing.’

*Ware-haunch*—in stag-hunting; ill-taught hounds, afraid of the stag’s horns, fasten upon the hind-quarters of their prey; whereupon the people *up*, cry ‘*Ware-haunch!* Ware-haunch, ye scoundrels!’ and whip off the canine as soon as the chase is pulled down. Play these babblers with the antlers as soon as the face is cut off; let them lick it for reward, dab their head with the croches, and, finally, throw the head among them; they will thus learn to fight at the head fearlessly. See *Do*. *Ware-hawk*, derived from the last, is used among poachers and rogues, when their pursuers would make prey of them, as hawks are wont to do when they pounce upon small birds.

*Warm flannel*—spirits, mixed; hot, perhaps.



*Watch*—the instrument for marking the egress of time is never so named but by flats, or persons not *up* to the things that be. It is a tattler, a thimble, a ticker, or turnip. ‘A *watch* of nightingales,’ expresses the presence of several of those ‘sweet songstresses of the night,’ as the saying goes, though the cock-bird alone sings—the female never. He also assists in hatching the young.

*Water bewitched*—grog too weak, or tea fit only for husbands to sip. *Watery chops*, hath he or she who long for a thing that is uncomeatable. A *watery head* hath the wife, whose nob, like Niobe’s, is all tears; sometimes termed ‘the New River head,’ after an elevated *back-water* near Islington.

*Wax*—persons who receive impressions easily, are said to have ‘a nose of wax.’ ‘Ah, my cock of wax!’ is a shoemaker’s salutation. Some bootmakers of Cockaigne, when a customer forgets to pay his account, they insert a ball of wax at the toe, which renders the boot a fixture. *Waxy*—a cobbler or shoemaker; sometimes he is dubbed ‘lad of wax;’ at others, ‘ball o’ wax:’ this latter is frequently contracted into two syllables, by dropping the *w*; the former is well illustrated by Atrides, when speaking of Diomed’s father:

“ ’Tis known he was a ‘lad of wax,’  
Let *bellum* be the word *aut pax* :  
He was, indeed, of stature small,  
But then in valour he was tall.”

‘*Way of life*’ (the)—a state of prostitution. To the question ‘What are you, young woman?’ a prisoner replied, ‘I am in the *vay of life*, your vorship.’

*Weapons*—in cocking, the spurs appearing on hens or young cocks. The foils, in fencing, are also denominated weapons.

*Weather*—the changeableness of our climate, gives rise to many remarks, inquiries, and opinions on the state of *the weather*. ‘Fine day, this;’—‘Rather cold, though;’—‘The sun shines bright;’—‘It snowed this morning;’—‘But the stars were out last night;’—and other most evident statements, are nothing in comparison to the charge brought by some persons, drunk, who assert that ‘’tis all owing to the weather.’

*Weed* (the)—tobacco. To *weed*—to steal part only.

*Weights*—(turf) These differ on different courses, as well as for various kinds of prizes. See *Catch*, *Give-and-take*, *King’s-plate*, *Stone*, *Turf*, *Whim*. But a horse needs no

certificate, whose owner will put upon him the highest weight required by the rules of any particular race.

*Weights*, in post-stakes, those for which the ages merely are entered in the articles; and upon coming to the post, you run either of those named, or any other of the same age.

*Welch rabbit*—cheese and bread, both toasted. Those so-called rabbits (*quere rare-bits?*) seldom *bolt*, upon any occasion, in greater numbers than braces and treys; but a certain book-knight, entertaining a large party of book-people at ‘the London,’ pompously ordered up ‘a couple of dozen of *Welch rabbits*,’ which naturally raised *the grin*; hereupon the knight rung again boisterously, and in great stew commanded ‘five dozen of rabbits’—and they appeared accordingly, but without legs. *N. B.* The real coney is a great favorite with all the book-men.

‘*Wet*, a little’—somewhat drunk; but ‘a wet soul,’ is he who gets drunk ‘a little and often.’ See *Heavy*.

*Whack*—share in any concern or thing; also an Irish exclamation, meaning something like *a smack*—of the hand. ‘Jem and Harry *whacked* the blunt a-tween them two.’ ‘I shall have my *whack* of the booty; I’ll open else.’ *Paddy-whack*—any Irishman.

“ With a *whack!* for my sweet Kitty Grogan,  
The delight of her dear Darby Logan,  
And whilst I’ve a tongue with the brogue on,  
Oh! I’ll bother the world with her praise.” See *Pip*.

*Whelp*—a boy with dog’s-tricks. Those *ladies* who would call him *dog* must wait until he is full grown; when aged he will be an *old dog*; and if he *mag* too much he is a *yapping old dog*—and all the *ladies* his sisters b——s. When Pallas would stay the regicide arm of Achilles, she

— “ swift descending down,  
Lent him a knock upon the crown;  
Then roar’d as loud as she could yelp,  
Lugging his ears, ’tis I you *whelp*.”

*Whid*—talk. ‘Hold your whid,’ is to stow magging. ‘*The whiddle*’—trial, or police-examination. *To wheedle*—to soothe, cajole, or coax.

*Whigs*—a political party; oligarchs, that do not worship the episcopacy; civil liberty on their lips, the crown in their teeth, philanthropy on their tongues, with tough lungs and piping tracheæ, ‘the sacred duty of insurrection’ is ever at heart. Colour—blue and buff; but, when Pitt threw

off *the chrysalid*, and butterflyed it among the Tories, he 'carried on the war' under the same colours.

*Whiggamores*—an expanded scholia of '*whigs*;' the political party upon whose principles the present family were secured in the succession to the throne. 'The Scotch derivation runs thus, 'Not from sour milk, as is somewhere alleged, but from the cry of the West-country horse-dealers to their trains of horses. To *whig*, is to make haste. Hence 'whig away,' and 'whig a more' was the *usual* cry of those country jockies, who bequeathed their name to a numerous political party;' so says Sir W. Scott.

*Whip-hand*—the right, or that which you give to persons met on the road. 'To have the whip-hand of one,' to have the best, or take advantage in a bargain of horses, &c. The left is the bridle-hand. '*Brother whip*,' a stage-coach driver; also the four-in-hand club, who were all 'prime whips.' To 'whip out the ring,' ten or twelve pugilists, with whips, clear a large space round the *roped ring*; and the spectators then form the personal ring, or outer ring; the whippers' pay 5s. each.

'*Whipper-in* (the) of the House of Commons'—the ministerial Jackal, formerly called 'the *manager*' of the Mandarin members. He who, in the chase, flogs up lagging hounds.

*Whipper-snipper Jack*—a thin, active underling, togged high.

*Whipping*—most men of any school attainments know its import; the learning that is driven in at the bottom must be fundamentally good, upon which the *upper works* may draw at will, or rest at leisure. 'Whip me the man without *understanding*'—fools live ye upon lack-wit. 'To eat *whip* syllabub,' or '*whip* out the cove's ticker,' is not half such hard work as '*coal-whipping*,' at which the *whippers*, six or eight in number, buff-it; then, by running up steps and throwing themselves off, they *whip* out a large measure of coals (by means of a snatch-block) from brigs to barges. '*Whipping the cat*'—mechanics idling their time. Derived from the practice of bricklayers' men, who, when repairing the pantiles, sneak into adjacent gutters, &c. pretending to be in pursuit of, and '*whipping the Tom cats* and their moll-rows!'

*Whir*, whirra—the noise made by large birds at rising, as pheasants, wild-fowl, &c. which astounds the young fowler,

“ The sportsman finds a zest  
Which all others can outvie,  
With his lightning to arrest  
Pheasants *whirring* through the sky.”

*Whistling-shops*—those rooms in a prison where spirits are sold, contrary to the regulations.

*Whites*—in the language of smashers, ‘small whites’ are shillings, ‘large whites’ half-crowns, which are also ‘half-bull whites.’ He who is said to carry a *white feather*, has the mark of a coward set upon him; in cocking, *white* is eschewed as indicating a runaway cock. A *white swelling*—a good dollop of silver. Women with child, are also said to have *the white swelling*.

*White serjeant*—the wife of a mechanic, or other man, who would drill him into certain observances.

*Whiz*—buzz, or noise, interruption of tongues. ‘Hould your *whiz* there in the shilling gallery, you sixpenny half-price marms.’

*Who-bawl*—a milk-woman, calling to her cows; and, by re-fraction, she herself.

*Whoop and halloo*—the calling and hallooing on of the canine, particularly harriers, has been employed to describe the whole chase—chiefly of the hare.

“ Now each god and goddess  
Assumed human bodies,  
With *whoop and halloo*, boys, after the hare.”

The phrase is frequently spelled *hoop and hollow* by careless persons, (song-smiths and such-like,) who have no regard for orthography or the dignity of the sporting character. King Arthur, speaking of his queen’s vagaries, gave out the chaunt thus :

“ When we husbands do give away  
Unto our wives the precious sway,  
We for our breeches the next day  
May go *whoop and halloo*.”

“ ——— The hunter ;  
O’er gap and gate he leaps elate,  
The vaulting stag to follow,  
And at the death has scarcely breath  
To give the *whoop and halloo* !

See *Hollo—Chevy*.

*Whore’s-bird*—a bastard, a despicable fellow. So Juno, speaking of Hector, to her husband :

“ Perhaps, you’ll take the *whore’s-bird’s* side,  
And thrash my Grecians back and hide.”

*Wiggins*—Mr.; any mannerist of small brains and showy feather. ‘The *three Mr. Wigginses*,’ portrayed by Dighton, were ‘habited alike from top to toe,’ and kept *the step* of the bird-cage walk, in their Sunday ambulations :

Here’s to you Mister Wiggins,  
And to you Mr. Figgins,  
So push the bowl about. *Asperne’s Song.*

*Win*—abbreviation of Winchester—a half-penny: two farthings are not *a win*. Sometimes spelled whinn.

*Winkers*—sparkling eyes—female; also, the appendages of leather, placed near the eyes of horses given to shying. ‘To tip the wink’—a signal; when ‘tis found ‘a nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse.’

*Wipe*—a pocket-handkerchief, of the cotton kind, though a silk one would be thus termed, as well as *fogle*. When this kind of article is in the last stages of consumption, they scoff at it, as ‘a *snotter*.’ ‘Gas now entered the ring with a blue bird’s eye wipe tied round his *squeeze*.’ Vide *Fancy Gaz. No. 1*.

*Women of Pleasure*—have been spoken of as ‘ladies of expansive sensibility;’ and the man of pleasure, as ‘an old goat’—a very satyr.

*Wood*—money. ‘Hand over the *wood*,’ said Wallis, in *the Shades*, and ‘silence my customers for a song.’

*Wooden-gods*—the men of a draught-board, so named after the pagan worship. Thus Alcides rebukes the priest Chalchas :

A pretty fellow, thou! to teach  
Our men to murmur at thy speech;  
Tell lies as thick as thou can pack ‘em,  
And bring your *wooden gods* to back ‘em.

*Wooden-habeas*—a coffin for an imprisoned debtor.

*Wooden-ruff*—the pillory. ‘Taking the air for an hour.’

*Word-pecker*—a critic upon words, a punster, or one that plays with words. The author of this Vol. is one, for certain.

*Worthy*—commonly applied to magistrates of police, when they ‘act with a vigour beyond the law.’ The scrap-news reporters use it once a week at least, lest they attract censure and lose their bread; ‘tis usually *set down* with a grin—‘worthy of the police,’ is *police worthiness* (*vaut-rien*.) When Home Sumner committed *poor* Joyce for not telling his name, he too was a *worthy* magister—rate. Like-wise Sir William C. ‘I shall send you to Bridewell

for a month, said the *worthy* alderman, where you will have bread and water sufficient to keep soul and body together, and light enough to let you know there's a god in heaven.' Sublime and true; therefore not *worthy*.

*Wrangle*—(ring;) is that state of a battle, wherein the spectators, losers, try to make a drawn battle by jawbation, as in the case of Warren and Curtis. See *Bets*.

*Wranglers' hall*—Westminster-hall, filled by Discord, who

When born, though smaller than a fly,  
In half an hour she'll grow so high  
Her head will almost touch the sky.  
'Too oft she drags both great and small  
In heat of blood to *Wranglers' Hall*,  
Where half their blunt is from them lugg'd,  
Before they find themselves *humbugg'd*.

## X.

X or ✕, the sign of cheatery, or *Cross*, which see.

*Xantippe*—a scold, who applies her prattle chiefly to her husband. Socrates, the moral philosopher, was bound by the marriage-act of Greece to the first *Xantippe*—who was a 'tip-slang hen.'

X, Y, Z—pron. rapidly as *exquisite*, would give the *sound* of that word. Supposed to be derived *ex* 'quiz—it,' by reason of these fine fellows wearing an eye-glass, with which they *quiz* the ladies'—*it*.

## Y.

*Yarn*—a long story. Naval, from 'to spin *yarn*' in the dock-yard for rooving-in with king's-store ropes. 'To *yarn* a sum of money,' is Cockney for to *earn* it.

*Yam*—(v); to eat heartily, 'how he yams.' See *Toco*.

*Yapp*—to bark; in the language of *the pit*, when dogs fight silently they are *mute*; if they make a noise, they are said *to open*; when a dog barks—a *little*, he yapps, and is considered a cur. So a man with a snarling manner, or replete with short testy replies—yappeth; if his talk be smooth, monotonous, and nonsensical, 'tis twaddle; if boisterous and accusatory, with or without oaths and asseverations—this is a *blow-up*.

*Yarmouth-capon*—a red herring, or soldier.

*Yellow-man*—the silk fogle or canary, tied round the neat squeeze of our pugilists. John Gully introduced the yellowman.

*Yelper*—a town-crier. Also, a discontented cove, who is forward to complain of his woes, and the imaginary evils of life. Covesses yelp most.

*Yoick*—the cheer used by hunters at the death, or any other notable exploit. *Yoicks*—tantivy, a call to the hounds to keep them together, or to excite attention. *Hoick* is nearly the same kind of cheering, singly:

“ She turns and she doubles in vain,  
And *hoic!* she now loses breath;  
Huzza, she is flat on the plain,  
We'll revel my boys o'er her death.”

*Yokel*—or Youkel. A countryman, or newly-arrived person, easily cheated by the tricksters of the town.

\* *Yule'*—the noise made by pigeons in their cote, sometimes called 'cooing' when the dove is *concerned*. *Yule* is also the name of a pagan festival, which has passed into most European languages—and thus we have the French *Noel*, for the Easter holidays.

## Z.

*Zedland*—name slang-whanged by Capt. Grose, upon the Western counties—Gloucester, Somerset, and Devon, where the letter z is commonly substituted for s. When the captain was among them sketching for his *antiquities*, he demanded of a nurse, whether her children were then laughing or crying? “Zinging zur,” zaid zhe. Foreigners long complained of the letter (s) that ran hissing through-out our rich language—(*rich* in variety) like ‘anguis in herba;’ the Zedlanders, therefore, did well to amend that objection. In this laudable endeavour they are mainly supported by the typographers of Cockaigne, to a man; who, when any word which has an (s) in its inflections sounded hard like (z) is sent them to print, they follow the Zedlanderz' practice by practizing the *izzard*; which they idolize while they temporize or harmonize it, and may ere long misuze and abuze, until they capsize the genius of the English tongue,

**ADDENDA**  
OF  
OBSOLETE AND FAR-FETCHED  
**Words and Phrases.**

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A B S—A L L

- Absolute Wisdom*—interference of a third party in the negotiations of two great ones, cannot be the effect of *absolute wisdom*. Coined by Brougham, 1820, as regarded Wood (not timber,) negatively, in the case of the queen; though *the counsellor* himself did not evince *absolute wisdom*, when subsequently ‘overlooking some accounts,’ instead of ‘*looking them over*,’ he was mortified at being set right by an Italian *Trastagano*. ‘*Absolute ignorance*’ is modestly avowed by Miss Hawkins at the set out of her *Anecdotes*.
- Adonise* (to) bon-ton—to dress *a-la Dandy*. Derived from *Adonis*, the supposed minion of Venus; a cyprian by birth.
- A-la* (ring, mostly, but bon-ton also)—an importation from France, and applied by the jargonical writers to ring-affairs, as *a-la Belcher*, *a-la Cribb*, *a-la Mendoza*; whereas, ’tis as well known that the French are no boxers, as it is, that those who thus express themselves concerning what is only and truly British in a foreign lingo, must be fools by the first intention. ‘We have turned to, and served out chaps who were insolent—*a-la Belcher*.’ Vide *Edinburgh Magazine*. We can forgive scribes like Kent and Egan for using such far-fetched foolish stuff, but, for Blackwood and Wilson—Oh fie! See *Nouvelle*.
- Album*—‘a faire booke, compact in pergam, for that wittie personnes therein doth aye write doune their cogitations:’ at watering-places, the pump-rooms were thus furnished with the means of visitors making known their arrival, and showing their wit—always of the watery kind.
- Alligators*—fellows who open wide their potatoe-traps while chaunting.
- Archery*—a neglected fine old sport; the oldest missile known, next to David’s sling. At Troy, Pandarus, a Lycian by birth, and a famous shot at the long-bow, was foiled in his aims by Minerva, whereupon he exclaimed,



“With this damn'd bow, a plague confound 'em,  
I only scratch but cannot wound 'em ;  
I could, as sure as I was born,  
Find in my heart to break *the horn*.”

*Aeneas* answers : “ Fie, for shame !  
Pray don't your bows and arrows blame,  
They're Phœbus' gift : with these you may  
At distance ducks and wildgeese slay ;  
They have their uses, let me tell ye,  
When timber's wanting for the belly.”

Thus does the Trojan point out the bow as the ready instrument of field-sports as of warfare ; and this particular bow, we are told, was made of a stag's horns, six feet long, fastened in the middle. From Ireland we now hear of no ‘ bow-meeting ’ whatever ; that country which derives its name from *Yr*, the Runic for *a bow*, whose inhabitants were so expert in ‘ pulling the long-bow,’ now never think of *the thing*, unless, mayhap, when any hyperbolise the *land of Yr*.

*Argument*, the ‘ (ring)—a battle ; and, ‘ to arguefy the topic,’—a boxing-bout. These were bastardly creations of Capt. Topham, a prize-fight reporter, 1780—1796 ; this was the writer who gave the present *tone* to the literary part of ring-affairs, and who, for the sake of the figure alliteration, said (contrary to fact,) ‘ Big Ben (Brian) is a big black-guard.’ Whereas, a more inoffensive fellow never left Bristol ; though he had constitutional hoarseness and rough voice, this could not *reasonably* be construed into blackguardism.

*Babblers*—ill-bred hounds. See *Open*. When the pack is questing, the babblers open frequently without cause—senselessly ; let them be well flogged, and soon after finding they may be seen headmost in the chase : at fault, they are loudest when most wrong ; so do fools and ‘ *old women* ’ babble most pertinaciously when their errors are rankest—let these be *flogged*, likewise ; and if a convert to *Truth* be brought over, he becomes her most active partisan, whilst she blusheth whenever he *opens wide*.

*Bala*—low, mean, or senseless talk ; derived from *Balare*, (Lat.) the bleating of sheep. The French washerwomen are termed *Baylayer*, from the rum stuff they talk while at work ; hence, also, *Balandran*, the cloke worn by those washerwomen.

*Backed* (laid on the back)—dead. *Meagre*.

*Bas-bleu*—literally, blue stockings; the obsolete name given to a *club* or assembly of *dames sçavantes* (circa 1778) Bath and London. Mesds. Moore, Carter, Montagu, led the way; Mesds. Hurst, Warrens, Mashams, closed the vagary: name obnoxious to the survivors. Their aversions were manifold: 1st. The ascendancy of males. 2nd. *Crim-con.* 3rd. Man-milliners and all male shopkeepers. 4th. Subjection in the marriage-state. 5th. The dance, theatricals, and opera. 6th. All scandal not of their own making; *ergo*, parson Bate, soldier Topham, counsellor Boremq. Jack Bell—his sister, and the Della-Cruscans.

*Bazaar*—a market-place in the eastern countries; imported here, 1815, and applied by a host of speculators to certain uninhabitable houses, fitted up with myriads of yard-long shops for little dealers, like nests of Dutch pill-boxes—*parvorum succubit magno*. The tumour absorbed in three years.

*Bean*—a guinea, but this coin being abrogated, so must *bean* be as its surname.

*Belch*—malt-liquor, beer, ale.

*Bilboa*—a sword. *Bilboes*—the stocks, or irons—naval. Derived from *Bilbao*, a Spanish port, whence, in the 16th century, issued immense privateers, the piratical crews whereof confined their prisoners thus, in pairs, treys, &c.

*Blank*—baffled—no proceeds.

*Box*, to—is ‘derived from the noun,’ *a box*; six pieces of wood fastened together, or *a snuff-box*—Johnson knows not which. Indeed, how should he? Nor does he amend the matter by telling us, that “boxing is fighting with the *fist*,” whereas nothing can be less true, neither one fist or two fists would constitute *fighting*, unless they belonged to different persons, as in the case of two one-armed men. See *Lick*, *Fighting*. In support of his definition, the doctor adduceth for *authorities*, L’Estrange and Grew, one of whom says, ‘the ass stood quietly by, whilst they *boxed* each other a-weary;’—the other, *still better*, tells that ‘the leopard *boxes* with his paws like a cat.’ These extracts *boxes* the doctor’s derivation *a-weary*; for a man is only *boxed* when put in prison, and then ’tis the incarcerator who *boxes* him. Unfortunately, for most inquiries respecting the oddities of our language, when old Johnson is but adverted to, all persons are struck dumb,—flabbergasted, put down and done for; notwithstanding the old

boy might happen not to know an atomy of the subject he was expounding—as in the present case. For example: this Johnson (Sam) a lexicographer by trade, having to fight Tom Osborne who lived at the sign of *the folio*, behind Belcher's back-door, instead of turning out fairly, Sam took up a thundering large vol. and floored Tom in a pig's whisker, so that he could not come again. In fine, the name of Johnson has been the *bug-a-boo* to frighten cowards with for half a century. If the verb 'to Box,' is to be retained at all—and really we feel no hopes of erasing it, by reason of the great preponderance of fools to be found in the world,—why then, in the names of Harry Stephens, old Ainsworth, and Stemmata Salmon, let us carry *hoc verbum* to its extreme cases. Then will *Boxology* mean the knowledge of boxing and boxers, as taught in these pages; *Boxosophy*—the philosophy of boxing, as exhibited monthly in 'The Annals of Sporting;' *Boximania*—is the passion or desire to behold manful exertions at fisty-cuffs; but more finely exalted by another denomination, viz. 'THE FANCY;'—to satisfy which *passion* we publish monthly details of such occurrences, with scrupulous regard to truth, and the exactitude of *the Gazette*. *Box* (v.)—to fight with the fists, but without science. As *pugilism* is the highest species of man-fight, so is *boxing* the lowest. Several intermediate degrees of fighting capabilities are described in the foregoing pages, of which *millling* and *hammering* are most distinctly marked; the latter including those who *slash* away as if they were mowing, and *wallop* their antagonists about the carcase or *maw* (whence 'maw-wallop,' and the term 'great walloping chap,' for a big country booby); the preceding terms comprise those who rush in, roley-poley-fashion, alike uncertain of what is to become of themselves or their blows. Refer back to both terms. A 'boxing-bout,' and 'boxing-match,' is said properly of boy-fights, or the contests of boobies, ploughmen, and navigators.

*Boxiana*—pron. *Box-hanny* on the frontiers of Cockaigne, and *Box-eye-knee* by the *canaille* of Bristol, Birmingham, &c. The word is compounded of the verb *to box*—as above; and *ana*, trivial remains, scraps, or forgotten trifles, left by learned men. "Boxiana, or sketches of pugilism," is the title of three vols. on those subjects, the first of which is alone entitled to our regards here; it was compiled in 1811,

and 12, by *old* John Smeeton, (the sixpenny *Macænas* of our earliest flights,) upon the basis of Bill Oxberry's *Pan-cratia*; the second and third by Egan. This publication is the only work of so much bulk in the market; it contains numerous details and many good portraits. Whoever possesses either of those works, and would correct its errors, fill up its omissions, and see every fight at a glance, should add thereto, a compressed tract, entitled "*Fancy Chronology*; a history of 700 battles; by John Bee, Esq.' the fancy writer, and present quill-man. See *Pan-cratia*.

*Bummarree-men*—at Billingsgate; those who, as the clock strikes eight, matinly, take the places of the salesmen there, and generally buy the last lot. Derived from the Latin *mare*—sea, to which most of them have been addicted, and *bum*, a thing which, like one's faults, is never seen by one's self. See *Rump* and *Backside*.

*Butter* (to)—to praise, laud, commend inordinately.

*Callot*—originally *call-out*, *vel potius*, bawl-out; a scolding, family talk, or civil jaw. So Vulcan used it:

“Mother, you know not what you 're doing;  
To *callot* thus will be your ruin.”

*Cam-a-lankee*—green peas; 'here they are, *cam-a-lankee*.'

*Canœuvre*—a low manœuvre or essay at deception. *Quere*, whether made from 'Can you man-œuvre?'

*Casuals*—twopenny lodgers for the night, in the rookeries.

*Casualty* (a)—an over-driven ox or sheep—one beat to death or worried out of existence by hankers, dogs, &c.

*Cast*, a (chase)—a mud wall, or bank, upon which the hunter leaps on and off. To give any one '*a cast* to town'—to take him *up* in one's chaise. *Cast horses*, those which are turned out of a regiment, or stud—thus, Eclipse was *cast* by the D. Cumberland for his ugliness.

'*Catch cold* (to) at a thing'—to have the worst of betting, of a bargain, or contest—ruination sometimes.

*Catch-poll*—a bailiff, or serjeant at mace.

*Champion* (ring)—not a reality, though the best man of his day is hailed as such. The honour, real or supposed, has been obtained surreptitiously, as in the *sale* by Darts to Corcoran; or, when the actual champion was worn out, as in the case of Jem Belcher to Cribb. The latter, however, was universally hailed as such on defeating Molineux, and received for presents a large silver vase, and a curious

belt, but neither is transferable. No emolument ever arose from *this honour*, but casual presents often, and the acclaim of all the Fancy.

*Cheese-toaster*—midshipmen's dirks — and the swords of greater men. Pallas did not hesitate so to call the death-dealing instrument of Achilles :

“ Sheathe thy *cheese-toaster* in its case,  
But call him scoundrel to his face.”

*Chickendom*—Chick-lane, *alias* West-street, is merged in Saffron-down-derry—which see.

*Civil jaw*—Jawbation of two or more, in the course of which each gives the other a decent sort of character. Ex. gr. 1st. ‘Why don't you pay your tailor?’ 2nd. ‘Your face is like a jail-door, dotted all over, and your nose stands for the knocker.’ Again, 3rd. ‘You are a thief and murderer; as for you, you have killed a monkey, and run away with his fissog.’

*Cognomen*—a surname, a travelling name, or fighting name; the name by which persons choose to be known when pursuing some favourite sport. Fighting-men most commonly take cognomen, or it has been put upon them by the slang-whang reporters, who, when a new man appears, inquire ‘what name he will *go by*?’ These are a few: *Death*, (S. Oliver,) *the Russian*, (Symonds,) *the game chicken*, (Pearce,) *the Out-and-outer*, (Turner,) *Nonpareil*, (Randall,) Bristol boy and youth, and youths from other places. The Gasman, the Wheeler, Black Diamond, Master of the Rolls, Colonel, Blackee, Massa, and African—comprise a fair specimen. Even potentates assume such, occasionally, to avoid the tædium of state-observances, or for the better worming out the secrets of their subjects, as is illustrated, with a vengeance, in the ‘Arabian Nights’ Entertainment.’ Henry IV. of France, however, assumed *l'incognito* with a totally different aim, he having in this manner wormed himself into the secrets of the peasant's fair daughter: our own Alfred was harper to the Danes; Peter of Russia became an apprentice to a Dutchman as Peterkin; Gustavus of Sweden is but count Gustavson; whilst, the story of an earl of Exeter choosing a wife far from the blandishments of high-life, under the name of *mister Cecil*, is tolerably well known. Even the author of this highly valuable Dictionary, underwent *cognominans* chiefly on account of the sweetness of his disposition, his industrious habits,

- and stinging capabilities; which have enabled him to kill several drones of *this particular hive*, to amass the sweets of lingo in adamantine waxation, and to dispose the same FANCY-full-y to the edification of the present generation: his family, though generally esteemed of the *fœm. gen.* (*hæc apis,*) are, nevertheless, well assorted, and he himself *vir-apis* (*vel potius*, man-bee). See *Nick, Surnames.*
- Commander-in-chief* (ring)—John Jackson, to whom is often confided the arrangements towards pugilistic fighting.
- Commissary-general*—Bill Gibbon, in whom centres the news as to where fights are to take place, he having the care of the P. C. ropes, stakes, and whips, for making a ring. His pay, three quid.
- Cooler* (a)—any occurrence that reduceth the animation of one's pursuit; as, when a skater mergeth in six-foot water. So, also, a hit on the jugular is *a cooler* for a boxer; twelve months at the tread-mill for a leg; and a wipe-out clean will cool the ardour of a wagering kiddy.
- Country* (chase)—that district which one set of hunters abandon to another, so that their sporting may not clash. In like manner, we have high country, (hilly,) low country, a Leicester country, (not much inclosed,) as well as lord Bulkeley's country, Sir Thomas Mostyn's country, &c. —*District* would do better for these.
- Cousin-betty*—a travelling prostitute, frequenting fairs, races, &c.
- Crimps*—persons employed in procuring seamen for the merchants during war: mostly Jews, and invariably cheats. None employed for the army since 1796.
- Cyprian*—(bon-ton), any native of the island of Cyprus, where Venus played Telemachus such slippery tricks that his bear-leader (old Mentor) was obliged to jump him into the sea, by way of cooler: solely applied to ladies who comport themselves like she in the accusative of the last member.
- Daffy* (a)—a quartern of gin; and you must toss up who's to pay. See *Drain.* D. C.—Daffy-club, and P. D. C.—Jem Soares, *President.*
- Damn'd souls*—merchant's clerks, whose business lay at the custom-house in clearing goods, &c. and who commenced business with swearing that they would not make a single true affidavit in that *house.* Practice going down with the *ascent* of the *Society.* One of these souls being once

very particular as to some packages, was reproved by his employer, but he excused this apparent dereliction, saying he 'was only careful lest he might by accident swear correctly, and thus incur the penalty of his major affidavit.'

*Damper* (a)—a wet blanket thrown on a fire will *damp* it nicely. In like manner a *tinney* in a ball-room would *damp* the spirits of the company, and surcease their 'funning.' Dumplings were doled out as *dampers* to their customers at Dolly's beef-steak-house, formerly; she appelled them 'naked boys.' 'A *damper*,' and 'a whet,' are antipodean.

*Dandy*—has been applied to *finely-built* clinker cutters in the smuggling trade.

*Davy*—*affidavit* abbreviated; not solemn, or binding.

*Dil-dol*—an article generally supposed to have been manufactured and used, formerly, but we do not find any one who has ever seen *the thing*. Discredited.

*D. I. O.*—(bon-ton) Damme I'm off.

*Doughy* (a)—a baker; but some of that fraternity are ill deserving the name, they being of crusty manners.

*Eatoners*—walkers; used of those who attend *mills* about town, and choose to *walk it*. Derived from one Eaton, a book-hawker, who performed a long pull match against time: he was no great shakes, nor the *term* either.

'*Edition*, second'—a hoax upon the public, practised pretty much in war time, at the western extremity of Cockneyshire, by hoarse-bawling newsmen with horns. When truly a reprint or *new edition*, the new information is usually unimportant: in 1812, the Observer had for 'second edition,' a slip, the size of one's thumb, announcing that a suggested probability, thrown out by the editor that morning had been verified; the *paper itself*, without alteration, was given also. Peter Pindar's poetry seldom attained a *second edition* (in 4to.) after his suppression of the Lonsdale castigation; but the doctor counteracted this evil, apparently, by printing a thousand in number with 'second' and 'third' edition on the same day: of some, the *first edition* never appeared! *Lloyd's Thesaurus Ecclesiasticus*—was printed but once, though the title underwent *five editions*, as the books changed hands. 'Edition of a story,' or piece of news, is substituted vulgarly for *version*.

*Editor*—of a book, he who looks after the errors and omis-

sions of his author, and amends or explains them, points out his beauties, and if he be an unfledged one, licks him into form. Editor of a periodical—he who is answerable for all that appears in his publication, a leading proprietor, or a party, inserting any libel, or nonsense, at will.

*Egyptian charger*—a jackass: nickery of oriental travellers.

*Everlasting*—a coarse cloth used by tailors for stuffing the pudding collars of our modern dandies. It is employed in small scraps or slips. ‘Whereabout are you, Roberto?’ demands the *ninth* of a man; ‘Here am I,’ replies an *eighteenth*, ‘here, in hell, Sir, seeking for everlasting.’

*Family* (the)—the whole race of thieves were thus termed by a few actor-men meeting in Russell-street, and an explanation attempted by the *preux* count de Vaux; but it would not gee. Jem Moore, charged up with ‘being one of the family,’ and therefore not fit company for *the chargers* [diverting vagabonds!] declared himself only the droppings of a deceased w——, and that his wife was hanged in his own potatoe shop, by (nobody knew, but) himself.

*Fieldsmen* (turf),—those who make it a rule to give odds against the favorite, or any particular horse; they are considered very knowing.

*Flimsy*—a Bank-note, from the light texture of the paper of which they were made: mostly one and two pounds.

*Frippery*—tawdry dress of misfits and half-worn garments; custom and nomen derived from the French *fripon*. ‘All frippery and fallals’—women and dandies stuffed and bolstered.

*Gaffawing*—triumphing; used adverbially by Ebony. Not legitimate; arbitrary, not derivable.

*Gingling-cart*—(ring.) The commissary-general’s tumbril, in which he carries down the P. C. traps,—arbitrary.

*Glimms*—the eyes, from the *glimmer* of light.

*Gothamites*—fools active, who may have been reared too lactarially—derived *immediately* from a place in Essex, alias calf-shire, called *Gotham-hall*, of whose inhabitants, it was sweetly sang, by Timothy Ticklepitcher. [1 Vol. 32mo. Newbery.]

Three wise men of Gotham went to sea in a bowl;  
Had the bowl been stronger,  
My song had been longer.



Antiquarians, however, insist the derivation should be sought farther back, among the Scandinavians, yecept *Goth* or Gothic; part of whom set up, in Germany, an university of noodle-professorships, and called it *Gotha*. *Gotham-hall*, alone, is undeserving the distinction thus conferred upon it by Tim, and others; it makes part only of Coggeshall (nigh *Brain-tree*) a little town, of whose inhabitants' deficit of 'absolute wisdom,' many tales are told. 1. A mad dog, driven from *Brain-tree*, having bitten a wheelbarrow, the machine was tied to a pump-handle, that its earliest indications of loathing might be made manifest. During a dark windy night the watchmen *saw* nothing, but at dawn the head moved round, and the wheelbarrow was burnt exemplarily. 2. In 1800, 43 volunteers turned out—41 insisted upon being made officers, one man died, and one *filled* the ranks. 3. The summer following was unpropitious to 'their favourite *beverage*,' and they lighted up several hundred fires in chaffing-dishes to ripen the fruit—walnuts. Yet is not this curious kind of philosophy confined to *Essex*; it may be discovered in Ireland; and in Nottinghamshire (written *Snottinghamshire* in Doomsday Book) a little town is also called Gotham, of which many pleasant tales are told. See *Noodle*.

*Grin*—this is not an indicative of English feeling: 'tis native of France, and betokens servility, conceit, or contempt, as the ivories may be shown more or less. At any rate it is a smile spoiled; none *grin*, to show their merriment; nor will any one who can *laugh outright*, adopt the exotic *grin*. 'To have *the grin* of any one'—what is it, but to contemn his want of foresight, when the grinner has obtained the best of the grinnee? To 'repay grin for grin'—is retaliatory contempt.

*Grumbler* (a)—four pennyworth of grog; sordid landlords usually grumbling when their customers so economise, or 'leave off drinking in *great measure*.'

*Guineas*—they had long been proved 'an incumbrance on commerce,' but were retained to the last moment in the *ideas* of sportsmen, until '*the ghost* of a guinea,' was exorcised in form by the Jockey Club, and was *laid* formally at the Epsom meeting, 1822. They were of a round form, yellow, (gold for the most part) and milled at the edge; 5 penny-weights 8 grains in weight, with the king's *head* on one side and his *arms* on the other, they 'gave leg-

bail' in 1796, to the body politic of this *paperised* nation. Yet are they still spoken of historically, or to prove a lie is true; and 'I'll bet you a guinea 'tis true,' 'twenty-five guineas, or a roleau, upon an event,' is most common; but a law of the Jockey-club enacts all such to be 'considered as made in *pounds* only.'

*Hear! hear!*—in the hon. H. C. the celebrated 'hear! hear!' is commonly intended to interrupt the member on his legs; it is then delivered sharply and often, and if 'set up by the ministerial manager, all the mandarin members of that side chime in with him, until the balloot becomes general. Sometimes, though seldom, *hear, hear!* is persuasive, means 'pay attention,' and hints at the superior reasoning then used, or 'answer that if you can.' It swells upon the ear like the prattle of hounds upon finding a fox, or outlying deer.

Our British Commons sometimes cry, "hear! hear!"

A Gallic senate hath more mouth than ear.

'*Historian* of the prize-ring—all *fudge*; no such *thing*; *He* of whom it was said being incapable of *history*, as we have shewn in 'this *here* book.' Spoken ironically by the Blackwood.

*Hedge*—obsolete. See *Fence*; though *hedge* is evidently best.

*Intire*—falsely written over every public-house within the bills of mortality; the beer received from the brewers being dashed with *new river*, coloured with *the brown powder*, which increaseth those *bills*, thereby adding to *mortality*. Sometimes spelled *Entire*. See *Chemistry*, *Porter*.

*Irish brigade*—a knot of black-legs from Erin. So named by the gamblers' weekly apologist (W——t), because the *brigade* have outwitted the patrons of *the weekly*.

*Jerusalem poney*—an ass, in allusion to 'the entry.'

'*Lammy*'—i. e. companion, pal, or friend; used by the fantail lads: 'Ya, heep-ee! *Lammy!!* Dust-ho!!!' Qu. *L'ami*—friend?

*Laugh* (v)—to evince right English merriment aloud, at some *good thing* or other, said or done by another: he who laughs at his own conceit is a puppy; women laugh and cry by prescription. They call it '*tee-whopping*' in north Devon, when a man makes his sweet-heart laugh outright; but then she 'laughs on the wrong side of the mouth.'

in the course of a few months—*nine years* according to my-lord Portsmouth! The *horse-laugh* is not graceful; the performer throwing back his head and body, as if he cared nought what became of either: if he laugh in *peals*, he is an ass for his pains. Every man has his peculiar laugh: Sam Johnson's laugh was a good-humoured growl; Tom Davies, the bookseller, ill-naturedly called it 'the rhinoceros' laugh.' Alexander's laugh was a continuous expiration, without articulation, and might be termed a *goose-laugh*. Peter Pindar (Wolcot's) was a *horse-laugh*, but then it was that of a *perfect one*, out of the season; in a very pretty antithesis, he says:

Care in our coffin drives its nails no doubt,  
Whilst every *laugh* so merry draws one out.

*Leader*—'leading article;' that paragraph or two in our daily prints, wherein the whole noddle of the editor is spread forth, wherein he showeth his patriotism or his servility, and into which he throws the span-new secrets of his party, or throws doubts over the statements of the adverse party. Sometimes, however, 'tis mere milk-and-water stuff—as in the hebdomadal publications, when it may only be distinguished by being wide-spaced and *leaded*, and thus, probably, *mis-lead* the reader.

*Legitimates*—a good word for sovereigns—the coins; came into use since the early part of this Dictionary was printed.

*Loaves and fishes*—the good things of this life, easily obtained; as are sinecures and government offices. Coined in 1782, as regarded Pitt: 'Here is a boy among you, who hath two *loaves* and three small *fishes*, but what are they among so many?'

*Mandarin-members*—those honourable M. P.'s, who do not question any question before *the house*, but nod assent, and bow submiss, like the Lycurgii of China, whose *vera effigies* keep 'nod, nod, nodding,' in our tea-men's shop-windows.

*Master of the Ceremonies*—(ring); he who at the Fives'-court, or other sparring exhibition, shows up and announceth the combatants, and ties on the gloves. Joe Norton was long time M. C. and died *in office*; his pay, 8s. 6d. per diem. *The Colonel* (Lennox) was occasionally *vice* ould Joe, as he is also, of Paddington Jones—the actual M. C.

*Mellish*, or Miel-ish—a sovereign. Probably from *Miel*, honey, i. e. a 'sweetener of life.'

*Mew*—a hare's seat, as well as the layre of all beasts of *venary*. *Meuse*—a thicket where hares, rabbits, &c. resort and hide. *Mews*—residence of horses, in series.

*Mistress Jones*—house-keeper of the water-closet; sitting in the Cloacean portal, she was found somewhat venal at the tea-gardens of the metropolis; now, however, the poor-lice and society-men watch her water, well.

*Moabites*—bailiffs and their followers.

*Morley*—mawley, the hand, mis-spelt by the slang-whangers, after the false pronounciation of the Cockneys.

*Mother Comyns*—to win at play by small numbers, as by two's and three's, at La Bagatelle: she is said to have done things by driblets.

*Mountain-dew*—whiskey contraband, usually drawn from malt among the hills.

*A Muff, or Moph*—whether derived from the *muff* worn by ladies, for the most part, or hermaphrodite abbreviated, is uncertain; but he who fails in an endeavour, is said to 'make a moph of it,' and if he is commonly guilty of failure, he is himself 'a proper *moph*.' Capt. Morris had a song titled 'the Muff:' its burthen,

Oh, the muff! the jolly, jolly muff,  
Give me of muff great store;  
Red, black, or brown, divinely rough,  
I honour and adore.

The Captain was not himself *a moph*.

*Nouvelle*—style, and "quite *nouvelle* manner of flooring his man, the John Bull boxer, &c." The word means *new*; but the impropriety, the silliness of introducing this and a thousand such French words, to explain transactions that are purely English, must strike every one (except 'the *historian*') that 'tis a bul confessed. See *A-la*.

*Old hat*—nearly worn out. See *Monosyllable*.

*Pancratium*—a place of boxing at Rome. But they knew nothing of the *ars pugnandi*, as now practised: their wrists circled with iron, their knuckles defended by bullocks' hide, they larupped away incontinently, and two or three-score proud Romans were thus murdered annually. Hence derived we have '*Pancratia*,' which is the title of a '*History of Pugilism*,' partly done by Bill Oxberry in 1811, the

first fifty pages by another hand. Out of this vol. Smeeton, a printer, dished up '*Sketches of Pugilism*,' being a copy essentially, but a vulgarised one, of *the comedian's* book; for which piece of dis-service the latter vowed vengeance, inefficiently, for poor Smeeton was burnt with his premises and family in the interim. See *Boxiana*.

*Pardie* (bon-ton)—a small oath, not binding: originally '*par Dieu*.'

*Pic Nic Society*—no 'society' at all; but an understanding, centering in Mr. F. Greville, that each of several noble and honourable personages should furnish some one or other requisite towards a general assembly—with a ball. It was an elegant, a sociable, select, and very desirable assemblage of the higher classes,—notwithstanding the sneers of the daily press. Mr. G. never would bribe the varlets. See *Reporters, Twopenny-men*.

*Pins*—a game at bowling, or knocking down *nine-pins*: there are several modes of doing this. See *Bowl, Tip*. 'In a merry *pin*,' jocularly drunk; derived from an old Saxon practice of driving pegs (or pins) into the sides of drinking horns, and the parties undertook to take draughts so as to nick certain pins, or pay forfeit. Anno 1102, at the Synod of Westminster, Priests were forefended drinking at pins with their parishioners.

*Play-world*—a softened phrase for those gamblers, black legs, cheats, and consequent duellists, who infest the metropolis, and possess revenue sufficient to bribe their prosecutors, and to buy over and maintain a weekly apologist. W——tt might brag of his origin, and may again boast of the paucity of *ceremony* observed by his parents, he *can* whine about the number of his literary bantlings without *legitimate* contradiction, but he must not hope by many words to make a straw stand upright: 'Play-world' was introduced and used nine times in twice as many lines by said periodical-monger, on the 4th Jan. 1823.

*ograms*—a silly set of beer-drinking Horselydown old fellows—never merry, but always noisy.

*kerians*—at Westminster, a stupid landlord permits no gentleman to *poke* his fire; they therefore retired opposite and exalted a *poker*, as insignia of the event, and left foolish Boniface to poke the fire by himself.

*olice*—police-magistrates and police-officers—no such recognised in law—written or oral: an invention made for

us by Patrick Colquhoun in his fabulated 'Treatise' on this non-existent subject about 1794 ; called *poor-lice*, giggishly.  
**Pommel**—(ring,) provincial of Oxfordshire; compounded of *pommel*, to beat, and *to impel*. Not good.  
**Purl**—hot porter, having an infusion of wormwood. It was anciently a winter-morning drink—dashed with gin.

**Relieved**—from a troublesome customer, is any woman who miscarries; but the advertising 'Mr. White, at the blue lamp,' till within a few years, acted professionally in this ingenious line. He is evanished from St. Paul's.

**Ribbon**, or ribben—money.

**Ring**—the word was applied by the city-officers to that *connexion*, *circle*, or secret understanding which is supposed to exist among the caddees of stage-coaches who are upon the lay—or kedge; and in this sense of *a ring* representing *a circle*, round, or connexion, better heads than their's concur.

" Thus various tastes and tempers may be found  
 In our *small circle* as the world's *large round*."

**Roleau**—fifty guineas, done up in paper, and pasted close, passing from hand to hand at hazard, E. O., &c. formerly, —but commonly *one piece* short, often *two*, and we have found the mistake a *trifle* worser for the actual holder. Howsomdever the discovery is not to be disclosed, unless laughingly, if the holder value his neck or collar-bone, [see *Neck and crop*,] or doubts the utility of the cold steel application at his ribs, or is apocryphal concerning the final efficacy of cranial perforation by the *legs*. See *Lead towels*. Guineas once avaunt! not practised upon sovereigns, *parceque le jeu de grab-coup*.

**Roper**—the hangman—obsolete. 'If I do, then damme the roper,' is not now used.

**Saffron-down-derry**—Saffron-hill and its beautiful vicinage; Caroline-court was, not long since, the sole rookery of Derry-men, their Shelahs and shelalahs.

**Scotch fiddle**—the itch. No where to be found, 'tis inculcated, since the Bute ascendancy; all the Scotch being now too genteel, though, as Dr. Gregory, (himself a Scot,) *lectured* "it is engendered by the climate, it pervades every person of every age and every condition, the present company always excepted."

*Scrag-fair*—a hanging-bout. The procession to Tyburn resembled going to a fair. Cock-feeders, when they twist the necks of their dungs, call it *scragging* them.

*Second* (ring)—(seldom performed completely) he who aids with advice the actual pugilist, or, indeed, boxer; who, when his principal is down, raiseth him up, bodily, supports him on his knee, gives advice as to the opponent's weak points, admonisheth him if neglectful—cheers him up—moisteneth his lips with water or orange, and, as the contest is protracted, with brandy diluted,—who, if an accident happens, takes prompt means of alleviation. He must be furnished with a lancet, to let out the extravasated blood *below* the puff; and never desert his man on account of reverse of luck.

*Shaking-hands*—the last ceremony preceding a well-regulated man-fight; and with some it marks the commencement of the battle, the shaking and the thwacking having no interval: shaking of hands, then, is but falseness, deceit.

*Shallow*—a hat; term acquired when the crown was worn shallow, and continued in the face of fact.

*Slow-top*—(chase) said of a person who, *to all appearances*, cannot ride to hounds: the cut of his coat, or wearing a three-chisselled wig, or his horse a martingale, tells plainly enough he will never *do the thing*.

*Snake-headed* (ring)—one of the many blunders of the jargonical writers is, that the best fighters, or finest-bottomed men, are *long-visaged*, *vel* 'snake-headed,' as they *slang-whang* the matter; whereas, no truth lies in the pretended craniological position, as may be proved upon the nobles of Hen. Pearce, John Gully, and others,—but the fact is, those jargonics reason from effect to cause, and because some men who have been hammered much about the jaw-bones, &c. so that their features *become long*, possessed courage, this must necessarily *indicate a priori* those qualities.

*Sobriquets*—*avant* names, such as were at first given according to individual circumstances. These began about the time of the conquest—the conqueror himself being nicknamed 'William *Bastard*;' his son was called 'Carrots,' in *French*, by reason of his nob being all 'flames;' Henry II. stuck to his learning, and was therefore called *Beauclerk*; and then-about all persons obtained such *surnames*, which

shortly became *sire-names*. One landholder was called Simon Wolfsface, several Hog, many Bull, numbers Hare, and multitudes Cocks; whence proceeded (respectively) Hogsflesh and Hogard, Buller and Bulteel, Hartop and Harman, Cockshut and Hitchcock. Mr. White designated a pale face, whilst a dark muzzle had Mr. Black; Grey alluded to the hair, and Long, Short, Broad, to the stature or built, our Edward I. being king *Longshanks*.

*Song-smith*—one who *hammers* out a chaunt occasionally; as Tom Durfey did, so did squire Fitzgerald, and so will the Bullers and Stebbings, and the Fogo tribes of this day—who are, after all, mere ‘gatherers of *scrap-iron*,’ or mud-larks *prepanse*. Dibdin the younger called himself ‘a song-smith;’ but he was a poet too, and, it should seem, modest likewise.

*Steevin*—money, coined; and of *silver* is understood.

*Stop* a blow, (ring)—to prevent its alighting on the part intended, by means of *the guard*, or position of defence, i. e. the fore-arm or elbow. But this was effected differently by the several schools: the Broughtonian caught the coming blow on the perpendicular arm, which enabled them to make a *quick return, cutting downwards*. Mendoza’s consisted in throwing up the arm from the elbow, catching the adversary at the wrist or higher, which disabled the muscle, and *spoiled* that arm awhile,—when he *chopped*. The Bristolian *tactique* is to hit past the intended blow, lengthwise, inside the arm (if possible), when the arm must be thrown away, and the man stopping be *well in*; but he gets himself to *off-fighting* again, if desirable, by hitting the ribs with the other hand—this springs him back, though he has the option of *in-fighting*, if, instead thereof, he lets fly at the neck, throat, and upper works. Harmer’s guard (a square one) for the head, or rather his *eyes*, would inevitably cost him a broken arm [when *fighting*] were he a shorter man. The *sloping guard*, against an antagonist’s main arm, who ruffians in, is a good one and effectual, as exemplified in the celebrated battle of Neat and Hickman. We said, “If Neat can be induced to fight upon the retreating system, knocking away at the nob of his antagonist, as he comes on, with an almost straight left-handed guard, while hitting away with the right—he may pocket the brads, and realise the odds that are now so freely laid upon the invincible gas-man.” Vide [*Old*] *Fancy*, for Nov. 4, 1821.



- Salmagundi*—Any odd mixture served up as a dish of eatables; derived from a Countess di Salmagondi, a Florentine, about 1530. She chopped up *white meat*, onions and apples, with herring, oil, and vinegar, to please her dainty palate—exclaiming that it was “selon mon gout.” *Salgarius* was a Roman shopkeeper, a dealer in spiced meats—a sausage-maker.
- a *Sap*,—a fool, whose understanding has been *sapp'd* or *sopp'd*, *vir sapi*, ironically, a natural fool.
- Salam*—*Salaam*—long-shore for compliments, or a *bow*.
- Salt*—money at Eton Montem, demanded of all visitors to that triennial festival, at Salthill; something between begging, borrowing, and robbing.
- Science (the)*—the art and practice of boxing, according to rule. Conducive to success herein, amateurs reckon mainly upon *quantity*, but admit other requisites, which may augment or diminish the chances in favour of either party, as these may be possessed in a greater or less degree of perfection—these are, 1. Weight. 2. Strength. 3. Activity. 4. Skill (or Science.) 5. Bottom. See *Chances*.
- Screeve*, spelled *scrive*; a letter. Derived from *Scribeo*, and *scribe*; whence it was easily transferred to the thing written—*screeves*, screen, or scrins.
- a *Screw*—one who exacts every farthing that is due—or more. ‘*A screw is loose*,’ when aught has occurred to sever friendships, or to place one in danger as to property, personal liberty, or the failure of his endeavours. See *Nail*.
- to *Secure*—in throwing the dice at hazard, backgammon, &c. the player (leg) gets one finger into the box, placing it on one or more of the dice, whereby he can *secure* a heavy throw nine times in ten.
- to *Shell out*; to count over money to another.
- Shelved*—dead; from the *shell* used by undertakers in removing bodies defunct. *Laid on the shelf*—the same. See *Dorse*.
- Sherry*—to go, sheer off, or run away; ‘*Sheer ye!*’ “*Sherry off, there! or I’ll toss ye down, and dirty your Sunday suits.*”
- a *Shrew*—the wife of a hen-pecked husband, whom she worries to his grave, if she herself do not waste her own vitality in the attempt. Derived from the circumstance of William, sixth Earl of *Shrewsbury*, having married three

- such wives, who were all widows, (having thrown off their first loves)—but he earthed them all. *Be-shrew me!*—a little affidavit, meaning that the juror hopes to be curst with such a wife if he speak not the truth.
- to *Slam*—at cards, to put a trump upon *the play* demanded.
- Slates*—sheets, wrapper-cloth, and also blankets among the *gypts*.: “Tree slates pon botton on, tree slates in top on ’n, make good sleep for poor man.”
- Soil* (turf).—Horses out of training are ‘gone to soil.’ A stag ‘takes soil’ when he goes into a river or pond. Derived from *se souille* (Fr.) to wallow in the dirt or muck.
- to *Spell*—to talk deliberately, persuasively, as by the enchantment of speech; *a spell* being conjuration brought on by incantation. “Faustus then drew a circle with his staff, and into this *spell* summoned the power of darkness.” “Go to my panny, Jack, and *spell* my ould devil on a wife into a good humour.”
- Sponging-house*—The temporary lock-up house for debtors; the prime depository of the Moabites, where the poor client devils get sponged upon, or apply the same *holey* substance to their creditors’ accounts.
- to *Squeak*—to betray by a whine, complaint, or hint.
- Squeeze*—the neck, in allusion to the compression some do undergo at the *drop*.
- St. Leger* annual race.—Though the word *leger* means *light* weight, yet, as applied to these races, it was intended thereby to perpetuate the name of Colonel St. Leger, who was actively engaged in their establishment; the Marquis of Rockingham was sponsor on the entry day, 1779, Jan. 1, when the nominations close, and they are run in Sept. annually. See *Ante*—Leger (St.) p. 112.
- S’Rotvelsk*—long-shore *slang*, when mixed up of Dansk, Swedsh, &c. The north-country sailors consider it “thieves’ lingo;” but its ground-work is *gypts*, with the additions of renegado scholars.
- Staunch*—True to any given purpose, as is a hound to his *scent* or *slot*. Hence, *foxhounds* are more *staunch* than staghounds, generally; because those always *kill*, when they can; these seldom do, when they may.
- Steeple chase*—riding across the country, over all obstacles towards a church, usually, the *steeple* of which is to be seen afar off. Performed on hunters; no *taking the road*, above a hundred yards together.

*Stinger*—A copy of a writ is a *stinger* at law, and so is a *fieri facias* against body and goods: they slang it *fi. fa.*—the varlets. So *ca. sa.* for *capias satisfaciendam*—*si. fa.* for *scire facias*, and other (rogueish) flippancies, to show their familiarity with crime.

*Stud*—the saddle-horses of any one gentleman, those of *the chase* and *the turf* being understood. Although the latter is simply called *a stud*, we particularise the former as ‘a stud of hunters,’ and say of either ‘a breeding stud,’ &c.

*Subscription-house*—a species of tavern, open to subscribers only, and their friends, each peculiarly regulated, gambling being allowed in all, and in a few it is carried to a great extent. By a recent *blow-up* of their transactions, one of these was found to have been robbing its frequenters of immense sums—Piccadilly to wit. See *Uphills*.

*Surname*, or *undername*—such as are taken, or applied ‘under certain circumstances.’ *Sirnames*, are names derived from the *sire* or ancestor, and were originally nicknames, except those ending in *son*, or beginning with *Fitz*, which show that about the time of Henry II., when those nick-eries, or *sobriquets* we now bear, were applied generally, the wearers were worthy of no other note than what they derived from their parents. The family of O’s come from the squeals of their mothers, except one lot, the *O’Donnelly*, who may place their O at least nine months earlier than any other O’ family, when their sire *wheeled* their dam with ‘O, do Nelly!’ The *Oudinots* of Flanders, and *Hoddinots* of north-England, are derived from the reply to the supplication just quoted, which was ‘O, do not!’ See *Sobriquet*. Matters of this sort, however, are mightily altered of late years.

Men once were surnamed from their shape or estate,  
(You all may from history worm it,)  
There was Lewis the *Sulky*, and Henry the *Great*,  
John *Lackland*, and Peter the *Hermit*.

Mr. *Box*, though provoked, never doubles his fist,  
Mr. *Burns* in his grate has no fuel;  
Mr. *Playfair* won’t catch me at hazard or whist,  
Mr. *Coward* was winged in a duel.

*Suite*—course of proceeding in any affair. ‘What suite are you after now?’ *i. e.* what game, or species of robbery does the fellow follow. Derived from the legal slang for a *suit at law*, which robs the clients of the speaker.

*Sukey-tawdrey*—a slatternly female in fine frippery.

*Swaddy*—a soldier, supposed to have been flogged. *Swadders* are beggars in terrorem—pretending to have served in the wars—very ancient.

*Swampy-heels*.—Heavy fellows, the *vis inertix* of whose systems permits the feculant humours to drop downwards; out toes in heels.

*Swaddle*—to baste with stick or sword. Thus, Hudibras,

“ Great on the bench, great in the saddle,  
He could as well bind o’er as swaddle.”

*Switch*.—The horse’s tail which has been docked and grown out again; and so is that walking stick ‘a switch,’ the upper part of which is stiff, the lower end bending, limp, supple.

*Sword-arm*, in fencing—the right, being that in which the rapier is held.

*System*—a word misused for every course of proceedings—as the fighting *system*, eating *system*, *system* of robbery. ‘The Bonifaces on the road practised the old *system* of double charges and baptising their max.’

The ‘*System* of life’ would be the whole functions by which existence is preserved, vessels, nerves, membranes, &c.; but Physiologists speak of these as entreties, or whole systems;—thus we hear them say ‘the vascular system’—the ‘nervous system’—the ‘membranous system;’ whereas, these are only parts of the whole, and the word *part* should precede *system*, and then we should have it nervous ‘*part of the system*,’ and so on. But J. Lawrence Scott goes a little farther than the human doctors, and talks of ‘the tendinous and fibrous system’ in horses.

*Tats*,—false dice, usually; tho’ correct ones have the name also, since their bias is usually known to the owner.

*Tester*—Shillings were testers, *temp. Elizabethæ*; and Mary Q. Scots’ shilling was called *testoon*. Pistol, one of Shakespeare’s characters, says to Falstaff, “*Tester* I’ll have in pouch, when thou shalt lack, base Phrygian Turk!” Vide *Merry Wives*. Word derived from *Teste* (now *tête*) the head, because the head of the monarch usually adorned the obverse; by a topsy-turvy kind of *au revers*, up-turned tail.

*Theatricals*—Of, or pertaining to the theatres, to the plays, or to “Spout Billy.” Term invented by Topham, and

preserved in spite of Sam Johnson's teeth, at the minor theatres and *Subscription Barns* round Town. A daughter of Thespis, being abducted from *the boards*, by her inamorato of the scena, the case came on to be heard before the magistrate: "My child, Miss Clementina Casement, Mr. Alderman, is being carried off last night, after the Tomb scene, by Romeo, Sir, one Mister Whalebone, sir."—*Ald.* "I can do nothing in it, Ma'am, unless she had been forced off, against consent."—"Oh, Mr. Alderman, let me not lose my Clementina—never more to visit Gutter-lane! Had you but seen her in Juliet, sir! Such pathos in the *die-away!* it would have done your heart good. Such swoonings, such throes! Mrs. Siddons was a fool to her; no more to be compared in any department of theatricals than a barge to a Margate-hoy, or a waggon to a whiskey."

*Thingumbob*—a fellow of little worth; a *thing*, who would do any *thing* for a *bob*, which is a shilling.

*Three sheets in the wind*.—Naval, but naturalized ashore, and means *drunk*, but capable of going along—like a ship which has three sheets braced—main, mizen, and fore.

*Thrown out*—in the Chase, is that hunter who goes homeward without knowing 'what is gone to the fox'—whether *death* or *liberty*.

a *Throw over*—the hedge, among black-legs; the same as a cross, or X among pugilists, and is done *double* sometimes, when the player or the jockey accepts a bribe to lose, yet agrees with the adversary to make a win of it.

*Thrum-ming*—"doing that which ought not to be done" until the priest has given his *free toleration*. Derived from the greek, *tau-rho-epsilon-mu*.

*Tickling bout*—the flogging usual on the last day of each Old Bailey Session, Jack Ketch operating, the Sheriff superintending. "HO!" is the word that arrests the active arm of Jack, after about 40 agitations. By act of 22 Hen. VIII. beggars were to be "whipped at the cart's tail till blood came," of which fact they then had a certificate, and this constituted their license to beg for fourteen days more.

*Tickle-pitcher*—a merry story-teller. *Tickle-tail*, a flogger.

*Tilbury*—an one-horse chaise, with low wheels and bent shafts.

*Tintin a-metre*—matronical scolding, when she letteth loose her red-rag, like the clapper of a bell perturbed by a frightened campagnologist. See *Tinney*.

*Toddle*—to walk feebly as a child; compounded of *to waddle* or roll in the gait. “Toddle off!” an order to depart, peaceably.

*Toe and heel*;—the act of *walking*, as distinguished from *running*, in Pedestrianism.

*Tom Owen's Stop*—(ring;) left-hand open, scrawling over the antagonist's face, sarvice with the right—poor strategie.

*Top Sawyer*—Any one who has more money than he can spend, thereby placing his cotemporaries at a disadvantage, as he in the pit is, by having the dust in his eyes.

*Toss*, the (ring)—one of the preliminaries to a regular fight; he who wins *the toss* placing his back towards the sun at each setting-to. At Blenheim fight, the Bavarian had his face towards the sun, and got diddled by Marlborough.

*Trade*—any means of getting money, robbery not excepted:  
Q. ‘What trade is this stupid Tom B.?’ A. ‘Vhy, ye see, he vos a carver, yarning his three quid a week, but now he lives vith a voman as valks the City-road.’

*Truant*—is played by that carpenter or cordwainer who keeps up *St. Monday* beyond Tuesday. Word derived from the French *Truands*, a set of jolly beggars, who gave name to one of the streets of Paris, ‘*La Truanderie*.’

*Trueman's Cocks*—those persons who act truly by each other, in evil or in good. *Thomond's Cocks*—those who fight their friends in preference, in their cups, as lord Thomond's people do.

*Tubman*--A preacher; one who suffers nothing in respectability by thus underrating his rostrum.

*Turned*, in coursing—when the greyhound's nose turns the hare over, she is said to be *turned*.

A *Turn-over*—A restless apprentice, if not a graceless one, whose period of servitude is turned over to the controul of a new master.

“A *Turn-up*”—A fight unpremeditated; evolved of drink or a casual rencontre. ‘The turn-up,’ at cards, is the last card at whist, as it is that which indicates trumps at some other games, and at cribbage is the card to be played at.

*Twaddle*—The confabulation of persons who learn to talk, or twattle, before they *think*: in the nursery 'tis *prattle*.

*Twines*—one of a hare's wiles in coursing, when her course describes the segment of a circle, now right, now left, whereby the dog is each time thrown out a few paces.

*Tyburn-top*—the hair combed over the forehead, with a curl betwixt the eye and the ear; up underneath the former the cuticle is pushed, wrinkling (sure sign of *fear*,) in order to smoothen the muscle which the consciousness of crime engenders about the eyes. *Name* disused; practice continued.

*Unicorn team*—Three horses applied to a short stage, or cross-country coach, two stiff ones at the wheel, with one leader, curvetting.

*Upright men*—Beggars pretending to have served in the wars, ‘too honest to steal, and would work if they could.’ Also, bullies to bodikins, in-doors and out.

*Vagabonds* (diverting)—players are so, ‘according to *the Act*.’

*Variety*—that change in our occupations or pleasures which alone renders *life* supportable. ‘I pity the man that can travel from Dan to Beersheba, and say ’tis all barren.’ *Sterne* was of opinion, that a man’s happiness depended mostly on his own desire to be pleased: *variety* performs this operation upon our minds; so sung *Morris*.

To no one subject I’m confin’d, about I mean to range, sir,  
Most folks like *variety*—you may be fond of *change*, sir.

Bow, wow, wow; fol lal de iddy oddy, Bow, wow, wow.

*Vardo*—a waggon, is derived from nothing—never was worth any thing, and is gone to *the nothings*.

*Vowels* (the)—I. O. U.; *they* indicate a debt, and were much in use 50 years since: “the rascal wanted to *vowel* me,” *i. e.* wanted to borrow. *Vowelling* is now extended to the employment of consonants also, when silly initials are adopted, as in a subsequent *article*, and many more, in this volume. See *Turf* abbreviatures and *Ring* also.

*Wagers*—must be paid at the place where they are laid, unless otherwise mentioned; but if either party calls upon the other to *make good*, or put down stakes, it is compulsory on the opponent to do the same, or to relinquish his wager. Round betting on the great turf stakes, and bets on double or treble events—inasmuch as the parties are understood to edge-off and on a good deal—are never subjected to this strictness: if the *time of settling* be mentioned in man-fight events, it would obviate the danger of passing money on the field of battle. See *Chances*, *Stakes*.

*Walking Advertisement*—A boarding-school procession, ostensibly for exercise or devotion, but actually intended as a peripatetic intrapment of noodle parents, who “desire to spare no expence.”—Another kind of “Walking” advertisement is that practised by insurance-offices (fire!) who hold an annual dinner, (often *twice* a year!) and perambulation to invite customers to their *shops*.

*Warm-hearted*—A lie by inuendo; applied by Irish writers of slang-whangery to the misdoings of their countrymen of every grade, murder not excepted; but when these are *had up*, they disavow the heart has part in the affair, give the lie to their eulogists, and insist that the liquor taken into the stomach hath fused the brain, and that the offence is therefore attributable to the *hot head* and want of heart in the supplicant Paddy.

*Y. m. o. h. s.*—Trade slang, used by lazy or disrespectful clerks and junior partners for “your most obedient humble serviteur.”

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