

He is not worth your pity, nor my anger ;  
go to the basket and repent.—*Massinger :*  
*Fatal Dowry.*

This is from the fact that a basket was lowered from the prison window for alms by a man, who called out, "Pity the poor prisoners !"

**Bastard brig** (naval), a coaster, termed also a "schoony-orgy" or "hermaphrodite brig."

**Bastile** (thieves, paupers, and tramps), the workhouse or "big house;" formerly a prison. The word is now abbreviated into "steel."

**Bat** (American), a frolic, a spree. An abbreviation of *batter*, which means the same.

I'm away from the shop and away from  
my work,  
And I mean to cut up like a regular  
Turk ;  
So down with the Lager and up with  
your hat,  
We are off for the day on a regular *bat*.  
—*Concert Hall Songs.*

Also a prostitute who only walks the streets at night. Termed "hirondelle de nuit" in French slang.

You lie, you *bat*—I couple with no cove but my own. Harry, will you let yourself be made a two-legged stool of by a flag-about?—*On the Trail.*

In the English slang, "on his own *bat*" has the signification of on his own account, by his own exertions, a cricketing phrase. *Bat* also means pace—to go off at a good *bat*.

**Bates' farm** (prison), the prison ; probably applied only to Cold Bath Fields.

Now every morning when you rise  
You get a starving meal,  
And if you don't eat all they send  
You have to work the wheel.  
Then so merrily we go  
To chapel to have prayers,  
And for a little pastime work  
The everlasting stairs.  
For it was this blooming morning  
I left *Old Bates's farm*.  
I feel so glad this blessed day  
I've left *Old Bates's farm* !

So C. B. F., the initials of Cold Bath Fields stamped on articles used in the prison, is interpreted Charley Bates's Farm, and to be on the treadmill there is feeding the chickens on Charley Bates's Farm. A warder of that name is said to have been in charge there.

**Bath** (general), "go to *Bath*" is so universally used that it has almost ceased to be slang. Invalids or insane persons used to be sent to Bath for the benefit of its mineral waters. So "go to *Bath*" literally meant you are mad, go to Bath to get cured.

You tell a disagreeable neighbour to "go to *Bath*" in the sense in which a Roman would have said "abi in malam rem."—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, New York.*

"Go to *Bath* !" said the Baron. A defiance so contemptuous roused the ire of the adverse commanders.—*Ingoldsby Legends.*

This town does not seem to have been in favour with the Earl of Rochester, who thus describes it :—