

which the other believes to be false or insincere, the latter expresses his incredulity by exclaiming *bender!* or if one asks another to do an act which the latter considers unreasonable or impracticable, he replies, 'Oh, yes; I'll do it—*bender,*' meaning by the addition of the last word that in fact he will do no such thing."

**Bendigo** (common), nearly obsolete. A fur cap named from a noted pugilist, who is said to have got his nickname from his skill at "ducking." This "muscular Christian," some fifteen years ago, became a convert and preacher.

**Bendover** (Winchester) is to place yourself in such a posture as to give one so disposed an opportunity of "spanking" you.

**Bene, ben** (old cant), good.

A gage of *ben* Rom-bouse,  
In a bousing-ken of Rom-vile,  
Is benar than a Caster, Peck, pannam,  
lay,  
Or popler, which we mill in dense-a-vile.  
—*Thomas Middleton.*

"Stowe your *ben*" is thus explained—

"What, stowe your *ben*, cofe, and cut benar wydds."—*Harman: Caveat.*

*I.e.*, "What, hold your peace, good fellow, and speak better words."

A *bene mort*, a pretty woman.

Oh! where will be the culls of the bing,

A hundred stretches hence?

The *bene mort*s, who sweetly sing,

A hundred stretches hence?

—*A Hundred Stretches Hence.*

**Bene darkmans** (old cant), good night.

**Bene flakes** (old cant), bill-forgers.

**Beneship** (old cant), very well.

**Ben-flake** (thieves), a steak at a "slap-bang," *i.e.*, a low cooking-shop or eating-house.

**Beng** (gypsy), devil, flame; *ben-galo*, *ben-gescro*, devilish. Also *ben-gis* or *ben-gus*. *Bengis* his zē (zee), (May) the devil (be in) his heart. Paspati, also Pott. *Thea*. ii. 407, arguing from mere resemblance of sound, derives *beng* from *benk*, a frog, or *beng*, a frog, or *ben-ga*, squint-eyed in Hindu. But as *ben-gel* in German and Dutch means a mischievous, evil fellow or scamp, there is probably some Aryan root which would furnish a more direct connection with the evil principle.

"As if yuv had dikked o' *ben-g* te sã,"—  
"As if he had seen the devil and all."  
—*English Gypsy Songs.*

Perhaps it comes from *beg*, Hindu, but of Mongol origin, meaning lord or master. The Spanish gypsies call the devil by a similar term, *el buen baron*, the good baron or lord.

**Bengi** (military), an onion. Origin obscure, but it may be referred to the Hindustani *beng* or *bhang*, from its pungent taste; or again, it may be a