

Blethers (Scottish), wind or windy; nonsense. Robert Burns jocosely laments that his business was to string up *blethers* in rhyme for fools to sing. *Bletherhead* is a loquacious fool. *Bletherumskite* is a synonymous word, but expressive of still greater contempt by the use of the word "skite" or "skyte," which signifies excrement. To *blether* or *blather* is to talk tediously and foolishly. The word is akin to "bladder," that is, filled with wind.

I hae been clean spoilt just wi' listening to twa *blethering* old wives.—*Sir Walter Scott: Old Mortality.*

Wha can ken . . . whether sic prayers as the Southron read out of their auld *blethering* black mess-book there, may not be as powerful to invite fiends, &c.—*Scott: Fortunes of Nigel.*

Blew or blue (common), to waste, to spend, to dissipate. "I *blew* a bob (I wasted a shilling)," said a costermonger, "when I went to an exhibition of pictures." To spend or lose one's money in gambling or betting.

But knock-down blows the punter knows
Are a part of his racing creed,
And he says this year he has no fear—
"The Baron *must* succeed!"
We think so too, and our oof we'll *blew*,
However rash the act,
For if this one's missed he will swell the
list
Of the winners we might have backed.
—*Sporting Times.*

We'll polish off the malt and grog, and to
have we are bound,
A jolly jug, and kiss the girls and women
all around;

We'll take a stroll, and then keep it up
till boxing night,
Blew all the coin—rent as well, and think
we're doing right;
And if we have to pawn the clock, next
day I shan't repine,
It was my father's custom, and so it shall
be mine.

—*Song.*

Blewed (common), spent, disposed of. Lost or been robbed of. Primarily, to pay out, to spend. German *blauen*, which suggests blue, and not to blow, as the original. *Ins blaue hinein* (away into the blue), vanished, gone; the French *passé au bleu* has the same signification. *Paire passer au bleu*, to suppress, dissipate, spend, squander, appropriate. An allusion to a distant, undefined place in the blue above.

Bligee, bligey (pidgin), obliged.

Too muchee *bligee* you, Mis-see Hugh-see, fo' that number-one book. You show me that pricee, England-side, my look see that Table, can savey how-fashion makee offer. Must catchee chancee now.—*Chin: Punch.*

Blimey (common), an apparently meaningless, abusive term.

C. FOR THE MOB.—As this is a court, I feel it suitable and proper to use the sort of language always used up *our* court. I therefore remark, "Liars, murderers, rascals, ghastly bloodsuckers, devils; garn heut, shet up currant-face, *blimey*," and other things which would naturally occur to a gentleman by Act of Parliament.—*An Ennobling Exhibition.*

Blind (popular), "in the *blind*," in the night, in darkness.