

It will contain two pages of interesting and absorbing turf reminiscences by ourselves and master; a *blood-curdler*, by the murderman.—*Sporting Times*.

The only one who is annoyed is our own special murder-monger, who has got several *blood-curdlers* of English extraction up his sleeve.—*Sporting Times*.

Blood for blood (trade), barter among tradesmen, who exchange with each other the commodities in which they deal.

Blood-suckers (society), extortioners, people who are constantly getting money. Derived from vampires, who are blood-suckers.

If the stay be longer, the porter and the boots expect something. A fair estimate is about two francs per diem divided between all the *blood-suckers*. Members of the Stock Exchange generally give treble this; members of the aristocracy half.—*Truth*.

(Nautical), lazy fellows, who by skulking throw their proportion of labour on the shoulders of their shipmates.—*Admiral Smyth*. In the army such fellows are styled "scrim-shankers."

Bloody. Dr. C. Mackay makes the following remarks: "A word that is constantly used in the sense of sanguinary by the rudest and foulest-mouthed of the vulgar. Did these people know the harmlessness of the odious epithet, as they now understand it—if they understand it at all—they would perhaps cease to employ it, as not sufficiently

coarse and disgusting to suit their ideas of the emphatic. Dean Swift, who was partially acquainted with the vernacular Gaelic of Ireland, wrote from Dublin to his friend Gay that it was '*bloody hot*'—an expression which he would not have permitted himself to use in its blackguardly English sense of sanguinary. '*Bloody hot*,' in the use made of it by Dean Swift, meant 'rather hot.'"

Mr. Charles G. Leland writes: "Mr. Hotten thinks that this is an expletive without reference to any meaning. Any one who will take the pains to look over the sanguinary words in any European language can at once perceive a great deal of meaning in the association of *bloody* with evil or revolting. We find, for instance, ill or evil blood, blood-thirsty, blood-stained, bloody, in the sense of cruel or atrocious, bloody council, blood-guilty, and in German or Dutch, blood-shame or incest, a blood-revenger, bloody revenge, and in all three 'a bloody villain' for murderer, as nothing is more natural than for an adjective or adverb used in so many opprobrious meanings to take on others. The transfer of *bloody* from murderous to everything wicked or bad seems as natural as Max O'Rell's derivation of it from *By'r Lady!* is absurd. As R. H. Proctor remarks, in his *Americanisms* ('Knowledge'), it is 'simple nonsense.' The Germans have *blutwenig*, which