

has nothing to do with *blut*, 'blood;' the first component is a dialectal form of *bloss*, 'merely.'

The Earl of Suffolk gives the following definition of the word: "*Bloody*, an ornamental adjective of infinite adaptability and significance. This word is used largely though not exclusively in turf circles."

**Bloody Jemmy** (popular), sheep's head.

**Bloody king's**, a red-brick church in Barnwell (St. Mary's the Less), resembling King's College Chapel in architecture.

**Bloody Mary's**, the red-brick church, St. Paul's, resembling St. Mary's in Cambridge, the University church.

**Bloody shirt, the** (American), agitation of the war question after the Civil War.

"Chorus of mugwump, democratic, and rebel yells: Here's Blaine waving the *bloody shirt* again. The colour line is wiped out; the negro question is settled, and all Southern negroes interested in politics are democrats. Down with the sectional question!"

**Bloomer** (Australian), prison slang for a mistake. Abbreviated from the expression "a blooming error."

**Blooming** (common), used commonly for emphasising a word, but generally in an ironical

manner, or to express disappointment or ruffled feelings—mild swearing, in fact. It is applied to everything from a swell to an oyster.

Heard on the course at Ascot after mounted bobby had rushed amongst horses in Prince of Wales' Stakes and completely spoiled Phil's chance of winning.irate backer of Phil, with feeling: "Just like my *blooming* luck; a *blooming peeler's* stood in my way all my life."—*Bird o' Freedom*.

He had been tried and found guilty of murder. The day had come for his execution, and the Talepitcher and Tom Beard had made a special journey to the gallows with a Church Service and a German dictionary to hear his last words. As the fatal moment approached he turned to the hangman, in a dazed, half-conscious manner:

"What day o' the week is this?"

"Monday," replied Berry.

"Monday, is it? Well, s'whelp my good garden stuff, this is a *bloomin'* nice way to commence the week!"—*Sporting Times*.

**Bloomy** (American), flowers; from the Dutch.

**Bloss** (American thieves), woman, girl, mistress; from *blossom*, old English slang.

I only piked into Grassville with a dimber-damber, who couldn't pad the hoof for a single darkman's without his *bloss* to keep him from getting pogy.—*On the Trail*.

**Blot the scrip** (popular), to engage to do anything by a written instrument.

**Blot the scrip, and jark it** (old cant), to stand surety or bail for any one.