

Washington Irving acted rather unfairly when he described *bundling* as something which the Dutch learned from the Yankees, since it was in full bloom in Holland at the time of which he wrote, and is thus described by Sewel (1797):

“*Queeston* is an odd way of wooing usual in some sea towns or Isles of Holland, after this manner. When the wench is gone to bed, the fellow enters the room and lays himself down in his clothes upon the blankets, next unto her, with one window of the room open, and thus he talks with her, very innocently—as it is reported.”

It is said of a damsel in Connecticut, who expected her lover to come and *bundle* with her, that her mother bade her put both her legs into a pillow-case, and tie it round her waist. The next morning she asked her if she had kept her “limbs” in the bag, to which Miss Innocence replied, “Ma, dear, I only took *one* out.”

**Bung** (common), a brewer or a landlord of a beerhouse.

*A Peerage and a Beerage.*—Within the last few years several “bungs” have been made Peers. There is no particular objection to this, for brewing is just as likely to produce an individual who is so thoroughly impregnated with legislative wisdom that he will propagate legislators, as shooting pheasants, or any of the other occupations to which those who become Peers generally devote themselves, and a beerage is as glorious an institution as a Peerage. The only difficulty seems to me to be this: The title becomes a sort of Government

guarantee that the beer of its possessor is good, and, therefore, any one whose beer is up to par ought to have a right to claim a Peerage, for otherwise competition will not be carried on between the *bungs* under fair conditions.—*Truth*.

A pickpocket, sharper, a purse. This very old English cant word is still in use among American thieves in the phrase “to go *bung*,” which is the same as “to go bang,” derived from the popping of a cork, or the *bung* of a barrel; lost, gone.

In this case the title of the “Queen’s Fund” has been sufficient to damn what otherwise, beyond doubt, would have been a widely beneficial charity. It cannot be thought, however, that the Queen herself will be consumed with sorrow even if she does happen to hear that this abortion has “gone *bung*.”—*Australian Journal*.

(Pugilistic) to give, pass, hand over; “*bung* over the rag,” hand over the note. (Popular), in a public-house game called “cod ’em,” when one of the opposite party suspects the *piece* to be in any particular hand, he places his own over it and exclaims “*bung* it here,” *i.e.*, give it up.

**Bunged peeper** (common), an eye closed by a blow.

There is, I think, no natural connection between the *bung* of a barrel and an eye which has been closed by a blow. But when we reflect on the constant mingling of gypsies with prize-fighters, it is almost evident that *longo* may have been the origin of it. A *longo yakko* (or *yak*), means a distorted, crooked, or in fact a *bunged eye*. It also means lame, crooked, or sinister.—*The English Gypsies and their Language*.