

Chip in (American). Defined by Bartlett as meaning to contribute. He gives no etymology for the word. It has also another meaning, *i.e.*, to take shares in and contribute, as if ten men were all to *chip in* on any undertaking. Supposed to be derived from "chips," the counters which represent money in gambling. As implying concealment, in a slangy sense, it probably was something to the gypsy *chipper*, to hide; Hindu, *chipana*. *Tan chipand*, to hide the body, *i.e.*, one's self.

Chipper (American), lively. Possibly from "chippernigns," "chip-muk," or "chip-munk," a proverbially lively little squirrel. (*Sicurus striatus*, or striped squirrel.)

Chippy (common), unwell.

He was *chippier* than ever after a jamboree of abnormal magnitude.—*Sporting Times*.

Chips (popular), money.

She admitted for me she might possibly care.

Chips, eh? I'm no mash for a tinker.
—*Bird o' Freedom*.

Also a nickname for a carpenter.

Chiriclo (gypsy), a bird. *Romany chiriclo*, "the gypsy bird," *i.e.*, the water-wagtail. It is said that whenever one sees a water-wagtail he will soon after meet with gypsies. *Kulo chiriclo*, a blackbird or crow; sometimes pronounced *chillico*.

Chirki, shirki (gypsy), a star. *Chirki* or *shirki*, a star in Romany, may possibly have something in common with the Persian *chirikh*, meaning the sky, or *chiragh*, a lamp.

Chirp, to (thieves and roughs), to talk.

I firmly resolved to *chirp*, when I was taken before the magistrate to give evidence, as little as possible.—*J. Greenwood: The Little Ragamuffins*.

Also to inform.

Chirper (journalistic), a singer.

The gentle damsel informed the votive vocalist that she could not sleep at nights through thinking about burglars, and contemplated purchasing a revolver. "Don't be rash," said the *chirper*.—*Fun*.

Chirpy (American), cheerful, like a lark, in fact.

Chirruper (popular), an additional glass.

Chisel, to (common), properly to cut close as in a bargain, &c., to cheat in a small way; for instance, to try to sell second-hand or soiled goods for new ones. (Winchester College), to cheat; a *chisel*, a cheat.

Chit (Anglo-Indian), a letter, note, certificate, or pass. It is remarkable that for nearly a century different writers in India speak of the habit of writing notes on all occasions, as if every person in the country were a Micawber.

These incessant *chits* are an immense trouble, but the ladies seem to like them.—*Letters from Madras* (vide *Anglo Indian Glossary*).