

Choring (Scottish thieves), stealing. From the gypsy.

While outside the cells he heard . . . ask "What she was in for?" Maciver replied, "Choring, me and Maggie Devaney." He took that to mean stealing.—*Scottish Newspaper*.

Chōro (gypsy), poor; also *churero* and *chúridir*, poorer. "Mandy's a *churedo*"—"I am a poor man." This word is confused with *chorclo*, one not of pure gypsy blood, and stolen; e.g., *churedo* or *posh an' posh*, half and half, also a poor person.

"Oh, mandy shom *choro* te kálo;
Oh, mandy shom kek pensa rye"—
"Oh, I am poor and black;
Oh, I am not like a gentleman."
—*Gypsy Wooring*.

Chortle (popular), to howl.

Chota-hazry (Anglo-Indian), "little breakfast;" refreshment taken early in the morning, corresponding to the auroral mint julep or pre-prandial cocktail of Virginia. An ante-breakfast.

The small meal commonly known in India as *chota-hásziri*, and in our English colonies as Early Tea.—*Waring: Tropical Resident*.

Chouse (schools). It is a regular *chouse*, signifies it is a great shame.

The boy . . . was told that what he had done was an awful *chouse*.—*Brinsley Richards: Seven Years at Eton*.

(Common), to *chouse*, to cheat out of one's share or portion. Supposed to be derived from

the Turkish *chiaous*, an interpreter, on account of a gross fraud committed by one on Turkish merchants in London.

Chout (East End, London), an entertainment (Hotten).

Chovey (costermongers), a shop.

Chovihani, chovihan (gypsy), a witch, a wizard. Hindu, *choihani*. "Miri diri bibi ma kamāra butidiro tevel chovihani"—"My dear aunt, I would like to become a witch."

Chowdar (Anglo-Chinese), a fool.

Chow-chow (pidgin-English), to eat, or food of any kind. This is the chief definition, but the word is also specially applied to a kind of sweet preserve made of many things, and has thence been somewhat incorrectly taken to mean a medley of trifles of any kind. Also *chow-chow*, "to have a meal." In the Mandarin dialect *chi-fan*, showing that the radical of the word means to eat, and not a mixture.

"Littee Jack Horna,
Makee sit inside corna,
Chow-chow he Clismas-pie;
He puttee inside t'um."

We ate *chow-chow* with chopsticks on the celestial restaurants.—*Mark Twain: Innocents at Home*.

The word *chow-chow* is suggestive especially to the Indian reader of a mixture of things good, bad, and indifferent; of sweet little oranges and bits of bamboo stick, slices of sugar-cane and rinds of unripe fruit, all concocted together . . . into a very tolerable confection.—*Bombay Quarterly Review*, 1853.