

**Cobble-colter** (tramps and gypsies), a turkey.

Come, old mort, tout the *cobble-colter*.  
 . . . And Beruna, flick the panam.—  
*Disraeli: Venetia.*

**Cobbed** (schoolboys), caught or detected. *Cobbed* is a variation of "cobbed." *Vide TO COB.*

**Cobbler** (Australian shearers' slang), the last sheep. This term is very widely spread in Victoria. It is a pun of the shearers. The *cobbler* is the man with the *last*, and therefore they call the *last* sheep the *cobbler*.

**Cochineal dye** (pugilistic), blood.

He would kindly inquire of one gentleman, "What d'ye ask for a pint of your *cochineal dye*?"—*C. Bede: Verdant Green.*

**Cock** (racing), "a *cock* horse," properly a child's rocking-horse, is a horse kept in the betting quotations to deceive public backers, though known to the private layers against him that he has no chance of winning.

(Tailors), a good *cock*, one who thoroughly understands how a garment should be made. A poor *cock*, the reverse.

(Thieves), an abbreviation of "cockney."

(Pugilistic), a man knocked out of time; used in the phrase "knocked him a *cock*." From the expression "to knock into a cocked hat."

(Printers), *vide* JEFF and THROW. When throwing or jeffing, should one or more of the nine quadrats not fall flat, but lodge crosswise on another,

it is termed a *cock*, and the thrower is allowed another turn or chance.

(Popular), to *cock*, to smoke (Hotten).

**Cock a ball, to** (cricketers), to throw a ball under-handed.

**Cock-a-brass** (old cant), a confederate of card-sharpers who remains outside the public-house where they are operating. When they have left, *cock-a-brass* protects their retreat by misleading statements to the victim on the direction taken by them.

**Cock-a-hoop** (common), in high spirits; alluding to a victorious cock crowing. This is borne out by the French, "se dresser sur ses ergots," to be elated or to look proud and defiant.

**Cock and hen club** (common), a free and easy gathering where persons of both sexes are admitted. One composed exclusively of males is a "stag party," whereas a gathering of females who do congregate for the purpose of drinking tea and gossiping is termed a "cat party."

**Cock and pinch.** The old beaver hat cocked back and front, and pinched at the sides.

**Cockatoo** (Australian up-country). Also *cockatoo* farmer or settler, a small settler. Sometimes termed *cocky*. So called to compare them with the common sulphur-crested white *cockatoos*, which come down on the newly sown cornfields in myriads.