

Crocodile (university), a girls' school walking two and two.

Crocus, croakus (popular and thieves), a quack; *crocus-chovey*, an apothecary's shop; *crocus-pitcher*, a street seller of medicines.

(Army), *crocus*, an army or navy surgeon. From "croak," to die, which has given the prison slang "croaker" for a doctor.

Crone (circus), a clown. From a provincialism, *cronny*, merry.

Cronker (tailors), the foreman.

Crook (thieves and popular). On the *crook*, by dishonest means; the reverse of "square." Got on the *crook*, stolen. Hence a *crook* is a thief, both in England and America.

CHICAGO *crook*.—"Good news, Jim."
... FELLOW *crook*.—"What's up?"—*Tit-Bits*.

No *crook* gets any good out of his boodles.—*Detroit Free Press*.

Crookback (old slang), a six-penny piece, from some of these coins being much battered.

Crooked (thieves), stolen. *Vide* CROOK.

Croop (popular), stomach; for crop.

Cropper (common), a heavy fall; to tumble "neck and crop."

He was far more shaken by his *cropper* than in any round of his memorable fight

with Bungaree or any other opponent.—*Sporting Times*.

To "come a *cropper*," to have a heavy fall. Also said of a man who experiences a decided failure.

There was a steeplechase for gentlemen riders, over which all the sharps came a *cropper* through backing Sufflet.—*Sporting Times*.

Croppie (prison), one who has had his hair cut in prison. The term was applied to Irish rebels in 1789, and formerly to those who had their ears cut off by the executioner. Puritans went by that name on account of their short hair.

Cropped (Winchester College), to be *cropped* is to be turned in a lesson.

Cross (thieves). To be "on the *cross*," to be a thief; to get a thing on the *cross* is to obtain it surreptitiously, the reverse of "on the square."

The young woman is Bess, and perhaps she may be on the *cross*, and y' don't go to say that what with flimpering and with cly-faking, and such like, she mayn't be wanted some day.—*H. Kingsley: Ravenshoe*.

Hence, a *cross*, a thief; termed also "*cross man*," or "*cross cove*."

It reminds us too of the "plants" and *crosses*, and of the lowest of the low who supported pugilism.—*Punch*.

(University), to *cross*, putting a *cross* against a man's name for not paying his bills to the bursar, or cutting chapel lectures, &c.