

Dudikabin (gypsy), "to lel *dudikabin*," lit., to take lightment. This word was for a long time kept a great secret by the gypsies, and one of them was reprimanded by his friends for telling the writer. It means the making a clean sweep of everything valuable in the house, under pretence of propitiating the planets, or of finding and attracting hidden treasure. This latter is more specially the *hukani boro*, or "great humbug." It appears to be connected with the English slang-equivalent "lightment," from to lighten, to relieve of one's property, to rob.

Dudine (American), a lady "dude."

Long-handled eye-glasses, and the *dudines* who buy and use them.—*Philadelphia Times*.

Duds (thieves), clothes. Scottish *dud*, a rag.

As I was walking down Cheapside a man came up to me and said, "Look here, mate, the sooner you sling them *duds* away the longer you will keep out of quod. I have been following behind two private clothes detectives, and they spotted you by your togs, so take my tip to get rid of them.—*Evening News*."

Also *duddies*.

Then he took out a little knife,

Let a' his *duddies* fa',
And he was the bravest gentleman
That stood among them a'.

—*Old Ballad: We'll gang nae Mair
a Koving* [Attributed to King
James V. of Scotland.]

T. Harman uses the word with the meaning of linen clothes.

We wyll fylche some *dudder* off the ruffemans, or myll the ken for a lagge of dudes.—*Caveat*.

I. e., "We will steal some linen off the hedges, or rob a parcel of the same from the house."

(Old), to "sweat *duds*," to pawn clothes. A "dudman" is provincial for a scarecrow; literally a ragged fellow.

Duff (thieves), spurious. Men at the *duff*, passers of false jewelry. To *duff*, to sell spurious goods, often under the pretence of their having been smuggled, stolen, or found. In London attempts at *duffing* are often made by rascals who offer for sale a worthless meerschaum pipe or ring, pretending they have just found it. *Vide DUFFER*.

Duffer (common). This word has two opposite meanings. A rank swindler, a clever cheat—"a word in frequent use in 1701 to express cheats of all kinds." In Yiddish every word which means clever or wise also means roguery; and in Yiddish *doffir* is a shrewd, clever, very crafty man (adjective *doff*, from *tor* or *toff*, good); Dutch thieves' slang *doffer*, a tramp, a seller of forged pictures.

. . . Nor did it mark him out as the prey of ring-droppers, pea and thimble-riggers, *duffers*, louters, or any of those bloodless sharpers, who are perhaps a little better known to the police.—*Dickens: Martin Chuzzlewit*.

A worthless person, a stupid man, an awkward, unskilful fellow, a coward.