

to the school, cricket, or football eleven. (Rugby), at Rugby when the school played football in white ducks, the probation "caps" were allowed to wear *flannels*. At present, though the whole school wear *flannels*, the name retains its old signification (Our Public Schools). The term has now become general.

Flap (thieves), sheet lead for roofs.

Flapdoodle (American), nonsense, an English west country expression meaning nourishment for fools, as in quotation.

I shall talk to our regimental doctors about it, and get put through a course of fools' diet. . . . *Flapdoodle* they call it, what fools are fed on.—*T. Hughes: Tom Brown at Oxford.*

Also "flap sauce."

Flapdoodlers (journalistic), charlatan namby-pamby political speakers.

Flapmen (prison), the first and second class of men in convict prisons, who are allowed for good behaviour a pint of tea at night instead of gruel.

Flapper (popular), hand; *flapper*-shaking, hand-shaking.

Wondering whether . . . and if the joining palms in a circus was the customary *flapper*-shaking before "toeing the scratch" for business.—*C. Bede: Verdant Green.*

Flap the dimmock, to (popular), to pay. Termed also "to touch

the cole, stump the pewter, tip the brads, down with the dust, show the needful, sport the rhino, fork, fork out, shell out," &c.

Flap, to (thieves), to rob, to swindle; "to *flap* a jay," to swindle a greenhorn. From *flap*, to turn over, i.e., manage adroitly.

Flare (nautical), said of a stylish craft.

I've heard her stern-post shows a "rake,"
and that she's a decided *flare*,
Which may be both advantages, but I'm
no salt and never were.

—*Judy.*

Flare up (common), a jollification, an orgie.

Flash, a recognised word for slang, cant, thieves' lingo. Also old for showy but unsubstantial and vulgar, gaudy but tasteless. The term explains itself as applying to anything that glitters, that "flashes." Also spurious, as a *flash* note, a forged bank-note. Thieves have appropriated it and applied it to themselves or their avocations, in a sense of commendation, with various significations, such as good, knowing, dashing, *flash* toggery, elegant dress.

Soon then I mounted in Swell Street High,
And sported my *flashiest* toggery.

—*Ainsworth: Rookwood.*

Flash man. Vide FLASH-MAN. A *flash* mollisher, a thief's