

worthless. It has been suggested, however, that *footy* comes from the French *foutu*, which among its various significations has that of inferior, worthless.

**Foozle** (American), a man who is easily humbugged, a fool. "This common slang word, which appears also as *comfoozle*, meaning flattery, cajoling, or humbugging, is probably derived from the Anglo-Indian *foozilow*, meaning quite the same thing. This is in its turn from the imperative *p'hustāo* of the Hindu verb *p'hustānā*. It is to be here remarked that many Hindu words came at an early date to the ports of Boston and Salem direct from India, and not through England. The prefix *com* is possibly the Hindu *kōm*, 'love.' To *comfoozle*, in Yankee, in fact means much the same as 'to mash,' but it also applies to bewilder, to lead one off the head, or simply to fool and confuse, which all agrees with the Indian word" ("MS. of Anglo-Indian Terms," by C. G. Leland).

**Fopdoodle** (American), a silly fellow. "Come, don't be such a *fopdoodle*." This is provincial English.

**Forakers** (Winchester School), water-closet. Probably because originally the place used was a field, termed "foreacre," a provincialism for the headland of a field.

**Force the voucher**, a term in use among sporting tricksters, who advertise to send certain winners, and on receipt of letters enclose vouchers similar to those sent out by respectable commission agents, but with double or treble the current odds marked thereon, in reference to the horse named. A plausible letter is sent with the voucher, and the victim is informed that on account of early investments made by the firm, the extra odds can be laid by them, and a remittance to the amount named, or part of it, is requested. Of course, the firm "dries up" when claims become heavy (Hotten).

**Fore coach wheel** (popular), half-a-crown.

**Foreman** (tailors), a "sleeve-cutting *foreman*" is a cutter's trimmer. "Near the *foreman*, near the door," a cutter's term, meaning the farther you work from the foreman the better for you.

**Foreman of the jury** (common), said of a talkative man who will persist in talking to the exclusion of others.

**Foreman on the job** (popular), a leader, master, director, or "boss."

Ah, my wife's *foreman on the job* and no mistake, and what can I do? Nice thing for a free-born Briton, ain't it?—  
*Song: I'll never go home any more.*