

Gallus. *Vide* GALLOWES.

Gally slopes (old cant), breeches; abbreviated from "galligaskins," trousers, first worn by the Gallic Gascons, according to Wright.

Gally yarn (nautical), a hoaxing story. A sailor expresses disbelief by saying only *g. y.* (Hotten).

Gal nymphs (Winchester College), a semi-poetical name for housemaids.

Galoot, (nautical), an awkward soldier, a sobriquet for a young marine. In its early English use it seems to be "an infamous person," and derived from the Italian *galeotto*, a galley-slave. Its meaning as a raw marine seems to indicate this. Applied in America very generally as an abusive term, often without any special meaning.

"Yans!" he cried, striking the bar with his fist, "I've killed twenty-seven men up on the Kansas border, and ther first *galoot* thet looks cross-eyed at me'll be my meat!" —*Detroit Free Press*.

(Also American), a scamp, a rowdy.

Gamb (thieves), a leg; from the Italian *gamba*.

Game (sporting), "to play the *game*" is to do a thing thoroughly or properly. Also, lame; from Welsh *can*, Irish *gam*, lame.

The chair . . . broke down with the publisher. Warrington burst out laughing, and said that Bacon had got the *game* chair.—*Thackeray: Pendennis*.

(Nautical), a *game-leg*, a lame limb, but not so bad as to unfit for duty (Admiral Smyth).

Gameness (common), spirit, pluck, endurance. An almost recognised word.

Whatever else you might think of Blake, there was no doubt about his *gameness*.—*T. Hughes: Tom Brown at Oxford*.

Game pullet (common), a very young prostitute, or a girl who by levity and forwardness is almost certain to become one.

Gamey (popular), brave, plucky.

"You'll be shot, I see." "Well," cried Mr. Bailey, "wot if I am; there's something *gamey* in it."—*Dickens: Martin Chuzzlewit*.

And then again we had the ring,
Of which our poets used to sing;
In those days 'twas a *gamey* thing,
Eh? Rather!

—*C. H. Ross: The Husband's Boat*.

Gammon and patter (thieves), a meeting.

Gammon the twelve, to (Austrian convicts' slang), to deceive the jury.

A man who has been tried by a criminal court and by a plausible defence has induced the jury to acquit him, or to banish the capital part of the charge and so to save his life, is said by his associates to have "*gammoned the twelve* in prime twig," alluding to the number of jurymen.—*L'aux's Memoirs*.

Gammy (theatrical), old, ugly, *passé*. From the Gaelic *gam*, lame, crooked, or bad. (Tramps, bad, unfavourable, forged, as in "*gammy* stuff," bad stuff;