

Lincoln proposed to Congress that the word *adopted* should be struck from all public documents, so as to place foreign citizens and native-born citizens on an equality.

**Adopter**, a scoundrel who pretends to be desirous of *adopting* a child, out of philanthropic motives, on the payment of a certain sum, and either gets rid of it at the earliest opportunity, or leaves it to die of starvation and neglect.

There can be no doubt that if the history of every one of the ten thousand of the young human pariahs that haunt London streets could be inquired into, it would be found that no insignificant percentage of the whole were children abandoned and left to their fate by mock *adopters* such as F. X.—*James Greenwood: The Seven Curses of London.*

The initials refer to the subjoined advertisement, which is given here as a specimen of the mode of proceeding of *adopters*.

*Adoption.*—A person wishing a lasting and comfortable home for a young child of either sex will find this a good opportunity. Advertisers, having no children of their own, are about to proceed to America. Premium, fifteen pounds. Respectable references given and required. Address, F. X.

**Adoption.** (Low) “doption,” an adopted child. In baby farming, “to be mounted for lopping the ‘doption,’” is to be placed in the criminal dock for causing the death of an adopted child.

**Adown in the viol** (thieves), a hue and cry against a detected cul-

prit. *Adown*, although now considered vulgar, was formerly used by our best writers in place of down; viol refers to the noise of the old-fashioned instrument when played by street musicians, which was very different from its offspring the violin.

**Ad portas** (Winchester), a Latin speech delivered by the Senior College Prefect to the Warden of New College, and the “Posers” (see this word), &c., under the middle gate when they come down at election to examine for Winchester and New College scholarships and exhibitions.

**Adrom** (gypsy), away. From *a* and *drom*, a road or way; Greek *δρομός*. “*Jasa tu adrom, mán hatch akai*”—“Go thou away, do not stop here!”

**Adsum** (Charterhouse), roll-call or name calling.

**Adullamites** (Parliamentary), the seceders from the Liberal party led by Mr. Gladstone during the Reform Agitation of 1867. To “take refuge in the cave of Adullam” is a phrase borrowed from the Old Testament, and was used during the great American civil war in 1863 by President Lincoln in reference to the partisans of General M’Lellan after his dismissal from the command of the army of the Potomac. It was after-