

(Military), white canvas frock worn by the men at gun-drill. Also patrol jacket worn by gunners.

**Jumpers** (American thieves), men that rob houses by entering windows.

**Jumping a claim** (American), obtaining anything by fraud or stratagem. Originally a Western expression, signifying an attempt to oust a squatter or settler on new country, such having by law and custom a first claim on the land. It has now come into general use.

**Jumping Moses!** (popular), an exclamation, probably of American origin.

**Jumping off** (turf), one of the earliest and most important accomplishments with which a two-year-old can be indoctrinated. In these days of short distance races, a horse which has not been taught to "jump off," *i.e.*, to begin at a high rate of speed, has but a poor chance with those properly instructed in the art. Therefore, as soon as a colt's education has so far progressed that he has learnt to obey the touch of the rider's hand as to walking, trotting, or cantering, his lessons in *jumping off* begin. He soon learns how to use his muscles for a sudden spring, and becomes as quick on his legs as a cat.

**Jumping off place** (American), the end of the world. From

an old story of a man who travelled till he came to a precipice which bounded the world.

**Jumping over the fat pot** (theatrical), a stipulation made in the days gone by, that all engaged should assist (as the music in Macbeth, Pizarro, Rob Roy, Dance in Honeymoon, God save the Queen, &c.) in the old-fashioned pantomime Man in the Moon (now called the Shadow Pantomime). When gas even was not convenient (Richardson's show), the light was got by a large flame of burning fat, behind the sheet, and all, each and every one, had to contribute his share of the work, and many a time the awkward, spiteful, or half-drunken have knocked it over, not jumping high enough, and so finished the performance.

**Jumping up** (tailors), getting the best of one, or the reverse.

**Jump off** (American). This phrase is thus explained.

Now and again the broad stem of a fallen giant gives you 150 feet of splendid wooden road; but arrived at the end, you find you have been gradually ascending and now stand on what the Americans would call a *jump off*, with a mass of brush below you, hiding in all probability a collection of lop, or a pitfall which, coming at the bottom of such a jump, would end your ramble for that day.—*Phillipps-Wolley: Trottings of a Tenic-foot.*

**Jumps** (popular), to have the *jumps*, the delirium tremens; also used in the sense of a craze, as "He's got the Jubilee