

A contrivance for bringing air down into, and for cooling and ventilating a house. A wind tower.

Badger (American thieves), a "panel" thief (panel being probably a corruption of *panny*, a cant word for a house), who robs a man after a woman has enticed him into bed.

In schools it is the fate of red-haired boys to be nicknamed after this animal. (Naval) *badger-bag*, the fictitious Neptune who visits the ship on her crossing the line, and is so called from his badgering the uninitiated. Formerly the term was applied to a huckster or retailer, from *badjulate*, to carry, Latin *bajulare*. To overdraw one's *badger* is slang for over-drawing one's banking account, a play on the expression drawing the *badger*.

His checks no longer drew the cash,
Because, as his comrades explain'd in
flash,
He had overdrawn his *badger*.

—*Hood: Miss Kilmansegg.*

Also applied in old cant to a footpad who in old days robbed persons near a river, subsequently throwing the body of the victim into the water; a common prostitute.

Bad give-away (American), incautious betrayal, lapsus.

It was a *bad give-away* when a temperance lecturer absent-mindedly tried to blow the foam off a glass of water.—*American Newspaper.*

Bad halfpenny (Australian convicts' slang), a fruitless errand, no go. Probably taken out by the convicts transported thither. Vaux in his *Memoirs* says:—

When a man has been upon any errand, or attempting any object which has proved unsuccessful or impracticable, he will say on his return, "It is a *bad halfpenny*"—meaning that he has returned as he went.

A ne'er-do-well is called a *bad halfpenny*, because the ne'er-do-well of the family is so difficult to get rid of; he is said "to turn up like a *bad halfpenny*," because imperfect coins are constantly being traced back to and forced back on the person who circulates them.

Bad lot (common), a person of indifferent character. The term seems to be derived from an auctioneering phrase. It is often applied to girls who have, as the French term it, "la *cuisse gaie*."

The girl shuddered.

"I always thought you were a *bad lot*."

The chorus girl was trying to pluck up her courage.

"Well, well—I was once as pretty as you, and a deal prettier, and was made more fuss with."—*Ally Soper's Half Holiday.*

A very handsome girl she may be, but a *bad lot*, as her father was.—*R. D. Blackmore: Ercina.*

Bad man (American). This has a special meaning in the West, where it indicates a heartless, cruel murderer. Rowdies and