

remainder of a thing. The *balance* of an account is a term well authorised and proper, but we also frequently hear such expressions as the *balance* of a speech, the *balance* of the day, &c." It seems doubtful whether *balance* can ever be quite correct unless it signifies an exactly equal half.

I hit on her affections for the *balance* of the season.

—*Negro Song of 1843.*

Balbus (university), Latin prose composition. A term derived from Arnold's "Latin Prose Composition," a well-known text-book in which *Balbus* (who does not connect in his memory this odious individual with the magister's cane?) occurs at the beginning of the exercises and on every page, sometimes over and over again, right through to the end of the book.

Balderdash (old), a term applied to adulterated wine, and to senseless talk or writing.

Bald-face (American), new whiskey.

Bald-faced shirt (American cowboys), a white, *i.e.*, muslin or linen shirt. So called because *bald-faced*, or Hereford cattle have white faces.—*C. Leland Harrison: MS. Americanisms.*

Bald-faced stag (popular), a term of derision applied to a bald-headed man.

Bald-headed row (American), the front seats in the pit of a theatre. It is an old joke in the United States, that whenever there is a great "leg-piece," or a "frog-salad" (*i.e.*, a ballet with unusual opportunities for studying anatomy), the front seats are always filled with veteran *roués*, or "Uncle Neds."

Baldober (see BALDOWER), a director, or leader. In German thieves' slang the director or planner of a robbery, who gets a double share.

Baldower (Yiddish), head-speaker. One who conveys information; a spy. Connected with this are *baldowern*, to direct, plan, spy, lurk, observe (in Dutch slang *baldoveren*), also *baldorer*, a spy or traitor.

Bales, a little drive with (popular); *Bales* is the policeman who superintends the Black Maria, or prison van.

I was fined forty shillings, but not forty pence

Had I in my pocket to pay,
So into the p'lice van soon bundled was I,
But to *Bales* I sung all the way.

—*Oh, ain't I having a day. Bertini, Marlborough Street.*

Bale-up (common), an equivalent of "fork out," that is, pay, give the money instantly, a phrase imported from the Australian bushrangers.

Ball (prison), prison allowance; six ounces of meal; a drink. A *ball* of fire in popular slang is a