

But now better things exist,
For we daily swell the list,
And have really quite a choice of market
slang.

—*Atkin: House Scraps.*

To *bang* also signifies to excel
or surpass. *Banging*, great or
thumping.

Banger (Yale), a thick stick, cane,
or bludgeon.

The freshman reluctantly turned the key,
Expecting a Somophore gang to see,
Who, with faces masked and *bangers* stout,
Had come resolved to smoke him out.

—*Yale Literary Magazine*, vol. xx.
p. 75.

(Popular), an obvious untruth.

Bangle (Anglo-Indian). This
word, now generally used in
England, is from the Hindu
bangri. The original is applied
to a bracelet of coloured glass,
but it is now extended to all
kinds of such ornaments for the
wrist when in ring-form or of
one piece of metal.

Hear their wrists and ankles jangle,
With many a brass and silver *bangle*;
Dresses sprayed with many a spangle,
So for living fish they angle.

—*The Mild Hindoo.*

Miss H. wore her blazing Cashmere
shawl; her great brooch . . . ; and her great
bracelets (she used to say, "I am given to
understand they are called *bangles*, my
dear, by the natives") decorated the sleeves
round her lean old hands.—*Thackeray: The Newcomes.*

It is curious that the Hindu
word *bangri* exists in Eng-
land as the gypsy term for a
waistcoat, *i.e.*, originally a mere
ring, belt, or circle of cloth,
like a cummerbund.

Bang off (common), to write a
letter *bang off*, in a hurry.

Bangster, a provincialism for the
victor.

If you are so certain of being the *bang-*
ster, so very certain, I mean, of sweeping
stakes.—*Sir Walter Scott: St. Ronan's Well.*

Also, a loose woman, a bully.

If the Pope's champions are to be *bang-*
sters in our very change-houses, we shall
soon have the old shavelings back again.
—*Scott: The Abbot.*

Bang straw (provincial), a barn
thresher, but applied to farm
servants in general.

Bang-tailed (popular), short-
tailed.

"These little *bang-tailed* sinners any
good?" said Drysdale, throwing some
cock-a-bondies across the table.—*T. Hughes: Tom Brown at Oxford.*

Bang-up (common), fine, first-rate.
Synonymous with "slap-up."
To *bang-up*, to make first-rate,
stylish.

Pat to his neck-cloth gave an air

In style, and *à la militaire*;

His pocket, too, a kerchief bore,

With scented water sprinkled o'er;

Thus *bang-ed-up*, sweeten'd, and clean
shav'd,

The sage the dinner-table braved.

—*Combe: Dr. Syntax.*

Jem drove me in a gig of the regular
bang-up, stay-for-nothing, rumtumptiddity
order.—*Punch.*

Nothing more thoroughly *bang-up* and
highceewoa rollicking than the run which
the Evergreen had last Thursday.—*Punch.*

A *bang-up* cove is a dashing
fellow who spends his money