

and *bharna*, to fill or satisfy. *Barney*, a swindle, a sell, or a cross, is probably from the Yiddish *barniss* or *barnoss*, which becomes a Jewish proper name in Barnet, popularly *Barney*. (Dickens gives this name to a young Jew.) *Barniss* means a leader of a multitude, or headman of any description. Remote as the connection between a "swindle" and a "captain" may seem to be, it is direct enough according to the lowest form of Yiddish or German thieves' slang, in which a leading, a clever, a swindling man are all united in *cochumer*, "a wise man," and also "a leader of thieves." In *achprosch* we have again the conceptions of intelligence united to robbery, and to leadership. Further, *baldober*, a director, a leader, is applied to an arch-thief who gets double share. *Balmassenaten* has also the double meaning of a shrewd man of business and a swindler, and the transition from a swindler to a swindle is natural enough, and has many parallels. It is to be observed that Hebrew terms of this stamp are far more frequently used by Christian than by Jewish malefactors, as is proved by their corruption. From the *barniss*, *barnet*, or *barney* of a gang of thieves, we have *barneying*, robbing, or swindling, whence *barney*, a swindle, is all in order.

(Racing), the person who prevents a horse winning a race, is described as "doing a *barney*."

The same phrase is applied to the horse itself.

(Running), humbug, rubbish; in racing, when a man does not try to win.

(Society), trip, excursion, outing.

(Popular), fun, larking; teasing for amusement. It is common to hear people of the lower class say, whenever there is any object in view to make fun of, or have a game with, "Let's have a *barney*."

**Barney, to** (Harvard University), to recite badly.

**Barn mouse** (popular), to be bitten by a *barn mouse*, to be tipsy. Possibly an allusion to barley.

**Barn stormer** (familiar), a term formerly applied to itinerant actors who acted in barns, like the troupe of Scarron's Roman Comique, and that of Gautier's Capitaine Fracasse.

**Barnum** (American.) "To talk *Barnum*" is not to indulge in extravagant "high-falutin,"—this the great American never does,—but to utter vast assertions in a quiet manner. The following is a good specimen of it.

Rising Phoenix-like from the ashes of my fifth great fire, which only served to illuminate my path of duty as the American people's champion amusement-provider, I have taken into equal partnership my energetic and experienced friend and former associate, James A. Bailey. We have enlarged and vastly improved the