

as he had it in his fist, cries, "*Bite*, I am to be hanged in chains."—*Spectator*, No. 504.

Bite up (tailors), an unpleasant altercation.

Bit-faker (thieves' slang), a coiner or forger of false money. To "fake" is probably the Latin *facio*, which has many meanings besides its primary meanings of "make" and "do." It may also be a form of the gypsy *ker*, which has the same significations. A *bit-faker* would, therefore, be a maker of money (bit).

Bit-faking (thieves' slang), coining or forging money.

Biting his hips (tailors), regretting what he has done or said.

Biting up (tailors), grieving for something lost or gone.

Biting your name in (popular), taking a large draught of some liquor, drinking deep or greedily.

Bit of blood, a spirited horse that has some blood.

Bit of cavalry, a saddle horse.

Bit of leaf (prison), a small quantity of tobacco.

The same rigid rule is in force at Portland. I suppose it is because the convicts almost to a man set such a high value on a *bit of leaf*, regarding it as the greatest luxury of their lives, that the authorities are so severe in their endeavours to keep it from them. But they get it for all that.—*J. Greenwood: Gaol Birds at Large.*

Bit of mutton (common), a nice woman, generally in a questionable sense.

Bit on, a (common), slightly intoxicated.

The gallant captain was a *bit on*. He wanted to make some purchases there and then.—*Sporting Times.*

Bit of sticks (sporting), a copse.

The form of the master, his white head,
who bends

With his fine old school air, deferential
and courtly,

As his hand to our Belle's tiny boot-
tip he lends.

"Boots and saddles" the word is:—and
ye who would follow

For a last stirrup-cup loiter not nor
delay!

For from yon *bit of sticks* will ere long
the view-holloa

Ring the rise of the curtain, the start
of the play.

—*Sporting Times.*

Bit of stuff (familiar), over-dressed man; a man with full confidence in his appearance and ability. A young woman of dissolute life, who is also called a "bit of muslin."

(Common), a draft or bill of exchange.

I am sorry that *bit of stuff* (meaning the bill) wasn't for five thousand francs.—*Lever: The Doid Family Abroad.*

Bits of stiff (popular), bank notes.

Bitter (general), to "do a *bitter*," to have a glass of bitter ale. Originally an Oxford term.

Into the "Cri." of an evening I slip,
And into the cool sparkling *bitter* I
dip.

—*Music Hall Song.*