

**Blazes** (common). "Go to *blazes*," *i.e.*, "go to hell," is a common expression both in Great Britain and the United States, among those who are too fastidious to say the word that they mean, and are willing to go ninety-nine per cent. in the expression of profanity, making use of "by Gad," instead of "by God," "great Scott," instead of "great God," and "darned" instead of "damned."

I could have told Johnny Skae that I would not receive his communication at such a late hour, and to go to *blazes* with it.—*Mark Twain*.

**Bleach, to** (Harvard University, Massachusetts), to absent oneself from morning prayers. To prefer being present in the spirit rather than in the body.

**Bleached mot** (popular), a fair-complexioned wench.

**Bleak** (thieves' slang), handsome (New York Slang Dictionary).

**Bleating cheat** (old cant), a sheep. "Cheat," meaning a thing (gypsy), was added to a word describing the cry of the animal, thus cackling cheat, grunting cheat, &c.

When I spoke to him, he said something about a *bleating* sheep losing a bite; but I should think this young man is not much of a talker in general.—*Macmillan's Magazine*.

**Bleating cull** (old cant), a sheep-stealer.

**Bleating prig**, sheep-stealing.

**Bleating rig** (old cant), sheep-stealing.

**Bleed, to** (English and American), to be obliged to pay money against one's will, or to oblige one to pay.

A boy lives in Pennsylvania who suffers from bleeding at intervals. He usually bleeds nine days at a time. Candidates who *bleed* three months at a time will envy him.—*San Francisco Alta*.

This is in reference to the extravagant demands made upon political candidates by "heelers" and "strikers."

Then this fine old Englishman, to crown each other deed,

Has lately shown that for our sake he did not fear to *bleed*.

A generous gift, that silver cup, in sooth you'll be agreed,

That a *cup* which bears nine handsome *mugs* is a handsome one indeed!

—*St. Helen's Lantern*.

(Printers), a book or pamphlet that is cut down so much as to touch the printed portion is said to *bleed*.

**Bleeder** (sporting), a sovereign; (university), a "regular *bleeder*" signifies a superlative duffer.

**Bleeders** (old), spurs, from their causing blood to flow by frequent use.

**Bleeding the monkey** (nautical). The *monkey* is a tall pyramidal rod or bucket which conveys the grog from the grog-tub to the men. Stealing from this *in transitu* is so called.—*Admiral Smyth*.