

"I am D. W. Voorhees," replied the tall man, in some surprise.

"Then you can't touch this machine. I wouldn't have it burst for \$50. Here is your nickel. This ain't no elephant lung-tester."

And shouldering his machine the man walked rapidly away, as if he had had a narrow escape.

It would appear from this artless anecdote that Mr. Voorhees has a natural reputation as a *blower*. It is said that the late Horace Greeley, during a trip from New York to Philadelphia, being engaged in a political discussion, went on "narrating" or "orating" for a long time, while all the other passengers kept silence in admiration of the great man. But the conductor, not knowing who the speaker was, and thinking that he was monopolising an undue share of conversation—a great offence in the United States—stepped up to him with the remark, "Old man, you talk too much. Shut up! We don't allow no such *blowing* on this train." And then there was a roar of laughter "fit to blow the roof off."

(Popular), a tobacco-pipe.

**Blow in** (American), another form of "blew," to spend one's money.

"Sam? Isn't he in the valley?" "Not much! Sam got two months' wages ahead, so he cracked his whip, and went off on a bend." "To *blow in*?" Jake laughed aswent.—*Saddle and Moccasin*.

"To *blow in* one's pile," to spend one's money, to pay.

I had "*blown in* my pile"  
On the strength of his tip,  
The name of the horse  
Was on many a lip;  
But I learnt, ere sunset, to my sorrow  
That there's slips twixt the cup and the lip.

—*Turf, Field, and Farm*.

**Blowing** (Australian, popular), boasting, bragging.

The public-houses presented a very busy sight, and judging by the bars it seemed that when men were not eating, sleeping, or working, they were drinking grog and boasting (or *blowing*, in colonial parlance) of some feat which they had performed, or of the particular merits of some horse, bullock, dog, or man.—*Grant: Bush Life*.

The metaphor probably is "*blowing* one's own trumpet," if indeed it be not simply an abbreviation, Australian slang being given to abbreviations of all kinds. Anthony Trollope gave a good deal of offence in Australia by speaking of *blowing* as a national failing out there.

(American), "*blowing* his bazoo," *blowing* his own trumpet, boasting. From the Dutch *bazu*, abbreviation of *bazuin*, a trumpet or trombone, "*Jemands lof bazuyen*," to sound one's (own) praise. (Thieves), "*blowing* out a red light," stealing a gold watch, a white light being a silver watch. (Nautical), "*blowing* great guns and small arms," heavy gales, a hurricane; "*blowing* the grampus," throwing water over a man on watch who has fallen asleep.

**Blown together** (tailors), garments badly made are said to have been *blown together*.