

Bone standing (American cadet), to *bone standing*, to study hard for a class position (O. E. Wood: United States Army).

Bong (Australian blackfellows' lingo), dead. This word is a specimen of the pidgin-English, stuffed with native words, in which intercourse is carried on with the blacks on stations.

"Yohi," said the boy, still sitting on his horse, "altogether *bong*" (dead). "one fellow bail *bong*" (one not dead). "Which one bail *bong*?" demanded John in terror. "Missis bail *bong* ony, cawbawn frighten" (Missis not dead, only dreadfully frightened).—*A. C. Grant: Bush Life in Queensland.*

Bonger, bānger (gypsy), to bend, bow, duck, dodge, to twist or turn; *bongo*, bent, turned, unwilling, sinister, crooked, evil, distorted, awry. "O *bongo yākk*"—"The evil eye." "O *bongo wast*"—"The left hand." "A *bongo zī*" (or see)—"A crooked, evil heart." "O *bongo rikk o' the drom*"—"The left-hand side of the road."

Boning (American cadets), *boning* the adjutant, a violent or immoderate assumption of a military air or bearing; a swaggering military fillibuster; a Bombastes Furioso. *Boning* demerit, said of a cadet who avoids giving cause for being reported to the authorities (O. E. Wood: United States Army).

Bonnet (thieves), a pretext or pretence. Vaux defines it thus:

—"A concealment, a pretext, a pretence, an ostensible manner of accounting for what you really wish to conceal; as a man who lives by depredation, will still outwardly follow some honest employment, as a clerk, porter, newsman." One who metaphorically *bonnets* or *blinds* other people; a *bonnet* or *bonneter* is also a sham bidder at auctions; a confederate in thimblery or three cards; one who pretends to buy of a crocus pitcher or street medicine vendor so as to entice purchasers. In French, *bonneteur* is one who is profuse of compliments and bows; hence a swindler who tries to wheedle people out of their money; also a three-card trick sharper. To *bonnet* for a person, is to corroborate any assertion he has made, or to relate facts in the most favourable light, in order to extricate him from a dilemma, or to further any object he has in view.

(Common), to smash a man's hat over his face, a favourite amusement of London roughs.

Two young men who . . . varied their amusements by *bonnetting* the proprietor of this itinerant coffee-house.—*Dickens: Sketches.*

Bonneter (thieves), a crushing blow on the hat.

Bonnets so blue (rhyming slang), Irish stew.

Bono, good. (East), *bono* Johnny, an Englishman.