

rage, it might be said that his wrath broke out all over him, or that he smiled from his feet to his eyes. In the following anecdote it is applied to an excessive development of piety.

“Get down the Bible, we're going to have family prayer.” “Why! are you going to have family prayer before you have religion?” she asked. Grigger said he wanted it and the minister said if he'd do before he got it as he thought he'd do after he got it he'd have it. Well, Grigger could not get the idea into his head. But Grigger stuck to it, and in a few weeks Grigger was the finest case of religion I ever saw. *It broke out all over him.*”

Break shins, to (common), to borrow money. The French slang equivalent is “donner un coup de pied dans les jambes.”

Break the molasses jug, to (American), to make a mistake and come to grief.

Right, dar's whar he *broke his merlasses jug*.—*Uncle Remus*.

Break the neck of anything, to (common), a phrase signifying that the greater portion of any task has been accomplished.

Breaky - leg (popular), strong drink. The French slang says of a man who has had too much drink that he has “une jambe de vin.” (Thieves), a shilling, from the expression “to break shins,” which see.

Breast fleet (old slang), Roman Catholics were once known by this name. So called from the

practice of making the sign of the cross on their breasts.

Breeched (common), to be well off. The French say of a bankrupt that he is unbreeched, *déculotté*.

(Schoolboys), to be *breeched*, to be flogged.

Breeches (colloquial), a wife who usurps her husband's prerogative is said to “wear the *breeches*.” French, “porter la culotte.”

Breeze (common), a quarrel or disturbance—generally “to kick up a *breeze*.”

Breezy (American), cool.

Not since the original enemy of mankind stood up and rebuked sin have we seen such an exhibition of what might be called *breezy* chic (pronounced in this instance cheek) as that exhibited by Carter Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, in coming to New York to give us points on municipal government.—*New York World*.

Brekker (Oxford), breakfast. See FOOTER.

Brevet-wife (common), an unmarried woman, who is represented as married to the man with whom she cohabits.

Brew, to (Marlborough), to have some refreshment in the afternoon at about four o'clock.

Brewer's horse, old cant name for a drunkard. A vulgar stanza on this subject was popular about a hundred years ago or more :—