

spect for his royal person than for that of other boys, except on the infrequent occasions when he flogged him vicariously—and from Drs. Busby, Keate, and Arnold in more modern times. In the Glossary to the "Life and Adventures of Bampfylde Moore Carew" it is said that the word "flaybottom" is bestowed upon a flogging pedagogue. It has been suggested that the word is a pun, and a corruption of *phlebotomus*, letting blood, but the word itself gives evidence of its more humble origin.

Bum-charter (thieves), hot bread and water.

Bum-charter is a name given to bread steeped in hot water by the first unfortunate inhabitants of the English Bastille, where this miserable fare was their daily breakfast, each man receiving with his scanty portion of bread a quart of boiled water from the cook's coppers.—*Vaur's Memoirs*.

Bumchik (provincial), inferior beer for harvest labourers.

Bum-curtain (University), short or ragged academical gown.

Bumf (schoolboys), paper; an abbreviation of "bum-fodder." A *bumf-hunt* is a paper-chase.

Bum-fidget (old), a restless, uneasy person who cannot sit still.

Bumkin, or **bumpkin**, a stupid lout, or rustic. From Old Dutch *boomken*, a tree 'or log. Since

the English term also signified a thick piece of wood, it was readily applied to a blockhead. In French, *bûche*, a log, has also the signification of block-head.

Bummarees, unrecognised hangers-on at Billingsgate Fish Market, who act as middlemen between the wholesale and retail dealers, and who make a profit out of both parties. The word is usually derived from the French *bonne marée*, the good tide or product of the sea.

The *bummaree* is the jobber or speculator on a fish exchange.—*Henry Mayhew: London Labour and the London Poor*.

Bummer (turf), a heavy loss. (American), a slow, lazy fellow; in the French argot, *chic-debout*, a loafer.

The auctioneer . . . never got a bid—at least never any but the eighteen dollar one he hired a notoriously substanceless *bummer* to make.—*Mark Twain: Roughing It*.

San Francisco is the elysium of *bummers*. Nowhere can a worthless fellow, too lazy to work, too cowardly to steal, get on so well.—*Scribner's Monthly*.

(American), one who sponges upon his acquaintances.

In California, men who profess to be journalists, and so obtain free drinks, are called literary *bummers*.—*Hotten's Dictionary*.

Bummer is of Pennsylvania origin, from the German word *bummel*, meaning the same. During the war the term was applied to the camp-followers