

**Charpoy** (Anglo-Indian), explained by quotation.

We must send down to the bazaar, and get tables, chairs, and *charpoy*s (bedsteads).—*W. H. Russell: My Diary in India in the Years 1858-59.*

**Charrshom, chershom** (tinker), a crown.

**Charter the bar, charter the grocery, to** (American), to buy all the liquor in a groggery or "rum-mill" and give it away freely to all comers. This is not an uncommon occurrence in the South and West.

This fine Arkansas gentleman raises several hundred bales;

Unless through drought, or worm, or some other contingency, his crop runs short and fails;

And when his crop is ginned and baled, he puts it on board a boat,

And *charters the bar*, and has a devil of a good spree while down to New Orleans he and his cotton float.

—*Aibert Pike.*

Bolus was no niggard. He would as soon treat a regiment or *charter the grocery* for the day as any other way.—*J. G. Baldwin: David Bolus, Esq.*

**Chat** (thieves), a house; from chattels, or château.

I had not been at Sutton very long before I piped a slavey (servant) come out of a *chat* (house), so when she had got a little way up the double (turning), I pratted (went) into the house.—*Rev. J. W. Horsley: Jottings from Jail.*

"That's the *chat*," the proper words to use; the state or facts of a case.

Has the gentleman any right to be in this room at all, or has he not? . . . That's the *chat*, as I take it.—*Anthony Trollope: Orley Farm.*

**Chat-hole** (prison), a hole in the wall, made to carry on a conversation.

**Chats** (theatrical), properties; short for chattels. (Popular), lice. In this sense *chats* is probably from *chatel*, meaning cattle.

(Stock Exchange), London, Chatham, and Dover Railway stock.

**Chatta** (Anglo-Indian), an umbrella.

**Chatterers** (common), the teeth.

**Chattering** (prize ring), a blow on the mouth.

**Chatter broth** (old slang), a tea party.

**Chatty** (popular), filthy, lousy. A *chatty*, a lousy person; a "chatty doss," a bed with vermin. *Vide CHATS.*

**Chatty-feeder** (thieves), a spoon. *Vide CHATTY.*

**Chaunt or chant, to**, to take worthless horses to fairs and sell them by false representations.

Jack Firebrand and Tom Humbold . . . was here this morning *chanting* horses with 'em.—*Thackeray: Virginians.*

To *chaunt* the play, to explain the tricks and devices of thieves.

**Chaunted upon the leer** (old cant), an advertiser.