

Cock-sure (popular), certain, confident. Probably an abbreviation of "cocky-sure," *i.e.*, confident, as a "cocky" fellow. It has been suggested that the origin ought to be sought in the old practice of cock-throwing. Shakespeare uses the expression in the sense of "sure as the cock of a fire-lock."

We steal as in a castle, *cock-sure*. . . .
We walk invisible.—*Henry IV.*

Cock-up (printers), a term for superior letters or figures, such as used for abbreviations, *i.e.* "Mr." or "A¹," &c.

Cocky (common), saucy.

Cocky. *Vide* COCKATOO.

Cocoa-nut (common), the head.
French slang, *le coco*.

Cocum (comm.. London slang, also Yiddish). In Hebrew *chochum*, *chochem*, or *cochem*, crafty, learned, wise, or a wise man. According to Hotten the English slang term means shrewdness, ability, luck. "Jack's got *cocum*," he's safe to get on. Among themselves German thieves call one another by this name. Mr. Hotten does not recognise any Hebrew origin for the word, and suggests that it is "allied to the Scottish *keck* and German *gucken*, to peep or pry into." In Yiddish *cochemer* or *cochem*, pronounced almost like *cocum*, means wisdom; *cochum-wirth*, a thieves' landlord; *coch-*

mas Schlaumauch, the wisdom of Solomon.

"Wie grau seinen deine werk, got, ale hastu gemacht mit *chochmah*, die welt is vul deine akufte, du hast sei beschafen."—*Polish-German Yiddish Translation of the 104th Psalm, cited by Grünbaum.*

(Theatrical), wariness, to "fight *cocum*," to be cautious.

(Booksellers), a sliding scale of profit in the book trade in cases where the books are not marked, according to your customer.

Cod (popular), a fool; to *cod*, to chaff, hoax. An idiom imported from the sister isle.

She threw a plaice right in my face,
And told me to depart.

I thought that she was *codding* me,
And told her I should stop.

She lifted up her lovely foot,
And kicked me out of the shop.

—*Barrett: Old Jones's Gal.*

(Thieves), a purse. Gaelic *cod*, a bag.

(Tailors), a drunkard; on the *cod*, drinking and neglecting work. From *coddle*, a provincialism for to indulge.

Codd (Charterhouse), probably from *codger*, an old pensioner.

Yonder sit some threescore old gentlemen, pensioners of the hospital, . . . the Cistercian lads called these old gentlemen *codds*.—*Thackeray: The Newcomes.*

Codding (Irish schoolboys), nonsense, humbug, chaff.

Coddom (popular), explained by quotation.

The convicts take advantage of that to the extent sometimes of playing a gam-