

he may act, must be the leading man or first low comedian, perhaps both. He becomes the manager, of course, and thus has one share for "fit-up," one for scenery, one and a half for management, one for wardrobe, one and a half as leading man; and the same is given to the wife, who, of course, will not play anything but the juvenile lead, but who at any other time would be glad to play first old woman. Thus the manager takes nearly all the proceeds.

Consonant choker (society), one who cannot pronounce his R's and his G's.

Consoo (pidgin), consul.

My makee first-chop pidgin long-side dat *consoo* man, dat man no lawts (lazy), he blongy plenty smart inside.—*Newspaper*.

Constable (common), to outrun or overrun the *constable*, to get into debt.

Harkee, my girl, how far have you overrun the *constable*? I told him that the debt amounted to eleven pounds.—*Smollett: Roderick Random*.

Constician (theatrical), an orchestral musician.

Consumah, khansama (Anglo-Indian). Persian, *khansaman*, house-steward, or provider, or butler.

"I have taught my *khansama* to make very light iced punch."—*Jacquemont: Letters*.

Contango (Stock Exchange), corruption of continuation, a re-

newal of a bargain, a speculative sale or purchase. The premium paid by a buyer of stock to the seller, when upon selling day he wishes the bargain to remain open.

B stands for broker, for bull and for bear, C's the *contango* that's paid by the bull.
—*Atkin: House Scraps*.

Continent (Winchester College), to be *continent*, is to be on the sick-list. *Continent* work, work done while on the sick-list.

Continental damn (American), a term applied at a very early time in the Republic to anything utterly worthless, and supposed to have originated in some allusion to the Continental currency or American assignats.

Not to care a *continental*, not to care a damn.

Continuations (common), trousers or breeches.

Convenient (old cant), a mistress.

Convey, to (thieves), to steal.

But as I am crack, I will *convey*, cross-bite, and cheat upon Simplicius.—*Marsden*.

Conveyancer (thieves), a thief, a pickpocket.

Conveyancing (common), stealing; picking pockets.

The green youth who attempted to decamp with —'s watch . . . was properly punished for his ver-jancy in the art of *conveyancing*.—*Modern Society*.

Conveyer (old), a thief. The expression is used by Shakespeare