

It is said that the teamster . . . considered himself to be entitled to be called a tough *cuss*.—*Stevens: Around the World on a Bicycle.*

**Cussedness** (American), evil-mindedness, innate depravity.

To do a thing out of pure *cussedness* is the same as to do it for mere mischief, without reason or excuse. Also audacity.

He . . . resolved to be present in his seat out of what may be characterised as pure *cussedness*.—*Daily Telegraph.*

**Cuss out, to** (American), to subdue or silence an opponent by overwhelming severity of tongue. "He *cussed him out*," *i.e.*, used such violent language (not necessarily profane) as to verbally annihilate him.

**Customer** (common), generally used in such phrases as a "queer, or rum *customer*;" a curious fellow, or one difficult to deal with; an "ugly *customer*," a dangerous person or animal.

(American thieves), a victim.

**Cut** (old), tipsy. (Society), a step, a stage, as "she is a *cut* above me."

**Cut a shine, to** (popular), to play pranks, amuse oneself boisterously.

I smoke her havannas and lower her  
wine,  
At times with her money I *cut a rare*  
*shine.*

—*Song.*

**Cut and dried** (thieves), the phrase refers to a robbery which has been duly planned.

Some time after that affair with the fence, one of the mob said to me, "I have got a place *cut and dried*; will you come and do it?"—*Horsley: Jottings from Jail.*

**Cut bene, to** (old cant), to use pleasant words.

**Cut capers, to** (common), to behave in a disorderly, improper manner.

**Cut dead, to** (common), to break off all connection with an acquaintance or friend.

But he could not get these books without Dr. Wycherley, and unfortunately he had *cut* that worthy *dead* in his own asylum.—*Reade: Hard Cash.*

**Cut didoes, to**, synonymous with cut capers (Hotten).

**Cut dirt, to** (American), to run away very rapidly.

He jump up fo' sartin—he *cut dirt*  
and run,

While Sambo follow arter wid his  
"tum, tum, tum."

—*Negro Song of 1829.*

**Cut down** (American), deprived, brought low, poor.

**Cut in, to** (society), take a share in, to try for.

Most of the students will *cut in* for a prize.—*School Magazine.*

**Cut into, to** (Winchester College), to hit one on the back with a "ground ash" or stick used by prefects in the exercise of their functions.