

and with small preparation for cleaning up. &c.

**Doing a bunk** or **doing a shift** (common), attending to nature's needs.

**Doing a nob** (circus and showmen), making a collection of money from spectators (Frost's "Circus Life").

Possibly from the gypsy *nobet*.

**Doing a star pitch** (theatrical), sleeping in the open. French. "coucher à l'hôtel de la Belle Étoile.

**Doing it on the d. h.** (common). I could do it on my *d. h.*, i. e., on my head, is a vulgar assurance of being able to do a thing with the greatest ease.

**Doing out** (American thieves), a device by which a thief, if arrested with a confederate, pleads guilty but acquits the other.

**Doing polly** (prison), picking oakum in jail.

**Doings** (American), any kind of food, but in most instances applied to that of an ordinary sort.

Suppose you drop roum' ter-morrer an' take dinner wid me. We ain't got no great *doins* at our house, but I speak de old *oman* . . . kin sorter scramble roum' em git up sump'n.—*Uncle Remus*.

**Doing time** (thieves) refers to a term of imprisonment.

**Doldrums** (nautical and provincial), trouble, low spirits, worryment. "Jack in the *Doldrums*" was the title of a tale or novel. Applied sometimes to a stormy place, or where the weather or navigation is bad.

For then I must surely die,  
And my soul sail off to *Doldrum's* isle,  
Unless some one pities my pain  
And carries me down where the waters  
boil.

And pitches me in again.

—*The Song of the Mermaid*.

The term seems to have become general. Probably from dull (with the sense of doleful), and a facetious suffix, as in tantrums. For other derivations vide Dr. Charles Mackay's "Gaelic Etymology of the English Language."

**Dole** (Winchester College), a trick, stratagem; from the Latin *dolus*.

**Dollar** (city), a five-shilling piece.

**Dollop** (old slang), a lump, a share. To share, according to Hotten, derived from "dole up," to deal out in small portions. Dutch, *deal*, a share.

The old gal used to stow a whacking lot in a big pocket she had in her petticoat, and I used to put away a *dollop* in the busum of my shirt, which it was tied round the waist-bag hid underneath my trousers for the purpose. But, Lor' bless yer, sometimes the blessed trade would go that aggravatin' that we would both find ourselves loaded up in no time.—*Seven Curses of London*.

**Doll's christening** (provincial), a party consisting entirely of ladies.