

**Downy Bible** (tailors), corruption of Douay Bible; equivalent to "according to Cocker."

**Downy** (common), a very great deal, an excess. Hotten says this is probably from the gypsy, but there is nothing like it in Romany. It is just possibly from the Yiddish *dowor*, a thing (or word); *dowrin beteilim*, superfluous things. *Dowor* would, like *res*, refer to property.

**Dowser** (popular), a man who tells fortunes; a kind of wizard who pretends to be able to find water or treasures by means of a divining-rod.

**Doxy** (canting), a mistress, a "moll," generally used in a disreputable sense, but "in the West of England women frequently call their little girls 'doxies' in a familiar and endearing sense" (Hotten). This probably is the original meaning.

Lastly I will cleave to my *doxy*, wap stilly, and will bring her duds.—*Life of Fannyde Moore Carew*.

**Do you see anything green in my eye?** (popular), Do you think that I am to be taken in or gulled. "Green" is a synonym for unsophisticated, simple-minded, the equivalent in French being *cornichon*, a gherkin, alluding to the colour.

**Drab** (gypsy), poison or medicine; "up to *drab*," knowing all the

mysteries of poison and remedies, suggesting "up to trap" in English slang.

**Drafting on the camp** (Austrian), explained by quotation.

*Drafting on the camp*, or cutting out, as it is generally called, is a very pretty performance to watch, if it is well done. First of all a small mob is cut off from the main body of the cattle, and driven gently away for a little distance, and then allowed to stand. This is the nucleus of the draft mob, for no beast will stand still a moment by itself, and one of the hands is told off to watch them. One or two men then ride in among the cattle, and draft out the ones they want, one at a time, while the rest of the hands ride round the camp and keep the cattle from breaking away.—*Finch-Hatton: Advance Australia*.

**Drag** (low), a woman's dress when assumed by men for a frolic or a fraud. When a "molly," or young man, dresses like a girl, for immoral purposes, he is said to be "on the *drag*." In England and America *drag*-balls are held, at which the young men are dressed like women, and women very often like men. Some *drag*-balls, without any of the female element, and attended by sodomites, take place occasionally in London.

(Thieves), a term of three months' imprisonment, termed also "tray moons."

... But neither Snuffy (Reeves, the identifier) nor Mac (Macintyre) knew me, so I got a *drag*, and was sent to the Steci.—*Horsley: Jottings from Jail*.

Well, sir, as I was saying, I only got a *drag* for that last joo. Oh, I beg pardon, a *drag* means three months. Three