

Rag, and the back of Portsmouth Point were once noted (Smyth).

Fiddle, to (thieves), to gamble and consequently to cheat. (Popular), to get one's living by doing small jobs in the streets. To play upon, to take in.

She's diddled me, she's *fiddled* me, nigh Sent me off my chump.

—*Robson: Ballad.*

(Common), to take liberties with a woman. (American), to intrigue, or intrigue craftily.

Bob is the man who *fiddled* himself into Congress.—*St. Louis Chronicle.*

(Pugilistic), to strike.

Fidlam bens (thieves), thieves who have no speciality, who will steal anything.

Fidlam coves (thieves). *Vide* FIDLAM BENS.

Field (sport), the runners in any race. (Turf), the horses in a race as opposed to the favourite. To "chop the *field*" is said of a horse that outstrips the rest, literally "whips" them. *Vide* TO CHOP.

Bismarck, whose terrific speed enabled him to chop his *field*.—*Sporting Times.*

To "lay against the *field*," is to back one horse against all comers. (Hunting), the riders.

The cry of the "*field* a pony," means that the layer is willing to bet even money on the general mass of runners against any one competitor. The backers

would, of course, select the favourite on these terms.

Fielder (turf), one who backs the "field" (which see) against one horse. Also a "layer" or "book-maker."

Yet the confiding *fielder* who took this security stood him in Paris for about £100. —*Bird o' Freedom.*

Field-lane duck (popular), a baked sheep's head. *Field-lane* was a low London thoroughfare leading from the foot of Holborn Hill to the purlieus of Clerkenwell (Hotten).

Field, to (Winchester College), to jump into the water before another goes in, so as to assist him. (Turf), to back the "field," which see.

It cannot be denied that there has lately been an uncommon eagerness to *field*.—*Sporting Times.*

Field, to lead the (city), to set an example which is followed by all others. Evidently an adaptation of the sporting phrase.

Fiery lot (popular), a word which does not mean in ordinary slang hot-tempered so much as "fast" and rollicking.

Berty isn't bad-tempered, though he's such a *fiery lot*;
And he's cool, though when he's speaking, he's a boy that goes it hot.

—*Broadside: My Berty.*

Fi-fa (legal), a writ of *fiervacias*, i.e., a writ lying for him