

shell, &c. Among these symbols the *horse-shoe* occupies a conspicuous place. Hence the belief that it forms an amulet, and that it is lucky to find one. In German the phrase "Sie hat ein Hufeisen verloren" (she has lost a *horse-shoe*) is equivalent to saying that a girl has been seduced.

Horse-teeth (American), a man with *horse-teeth* is one that grasps, grabs at, or gains what he aims at.

"Who is that?" I asked of my friend Fisher, as we passed a marked-looking man on the street the other day.

"That?" responded Fisher. "Why, that is So-and-so; great man and full of money. Got *horse-teeth*. That's the kind of man to succeed here."—*Detroit Free Press*.

Horse, the old (prison), for Horse-monger Lane Gaol, built at the suggestion of John Howard, closed 1878.

Horsey (common) applies to men who are great lovers of the horse or who affect a turf appearance and conversation. Also to articles of dress which in cut and style recall those of turfites or persons whose occupations are connected with the horse.

Hospital sheep (up-country Australian), sheep suffering from some contagious disease which necessitates their removal from the rest.

They had passed some miles back a small *gunyah* and yard temporarily oc-

cupied by a flock of *hospital sheep*, ship-headed by an old black gin.—*A. C. Grant: Bush Life in Queensland*.

Hoss (American, Western), a brave, excellent man.

"Well, old fellow, *you're a hoss*" is a Western expression which has grown into a truism as regards Judge Allen, and a finer specimen of a Western judge, to use his constituents' language, "ain't no whar." . . . They consider him one of the people, none of your stuck-up imported chaps from the dandy states, but a real genuine Westerner—in short, a *hoss*.—*Americans at Home*.

Hoss-fly (American), "old *hoss-fly*," a familiar form of expression, such as "Well, old boy!" in England. It is of course a variation of "horse," as meaning a man.

Says I, "Billson, yer hav'n't got a well-balanced mind." Says he, "Yes, I have, old *hoss-fly* (he was a low cuss)—yes, I have. I have a mind that balances in any direction that the public requires."—*Artemus Ward: The Prince of Wales*.

Hot (popular), exuberant in spirits, rowdy, full of extravagance and fun, "a warm one." A *hot 'un*, a fast man or woman. One who goes the pace.

She's what Shakspeare might call "a pure, unadulterated, red-hot, clinking scorch." She's so *hot* that when she takes a walk out in November all the coal merchants shut up shop, fancying it is June.—*Music Hall Song: Why don't you be steady, Maria*.

(Society), a *hot* member of society is a man or woman who does not much care what he or she does, and sets most rules of decorum and morality on one side.