

to the ground"). It implies probably from top to bottom. A common phrase is "that will suit me *all the way down*," or *all the way*.

All to his own cheek (tailors) signifies all to himself.

All to pieces (common), utterly, excessively. To beat one *all to pieces* is to surpass one altogether. The term is also used by boating men. A crew are said to have fallen *all to pieces* when they are exhausted and the rowing is wild.

All up (general), a synonym for "all over," signifies that the end has come to any one, that all is over with him. "All to smash" is another phrase of a similar meaning, applied to a person whose affairs are irretrievably involved, who is utterly bankrupt in fortune. Thus one hears that "So-and-so has gone all to smash," *i.e.*, his credit is gone. Flans, and indeed anything, may go "all to smash." A similar expression is popular among the lower classes in Belgium and Holland, and among children *alle op* signifies that everything is gone—all is over. An odd variety of this slang is sometimes heard in the United States. Mr. Bartlett records that it is a common expression among servants in Pennsylvania to say, "all any more," instead of "all gone" or *all's up*.

All wag blue (American), a jolly time, a frolic, a jamboree.—*MS. Americanisms*, by C. Leland Harrison.

'Tis merry in hall
When beards *wag all*.

—*Shakespeare*.

Ally-beg, a bed. This very ancient and nearly obsolete cant word was expressive of the pleasure found by the vagabond classes in the unusual luxury of a warm and comfortable resting-place for the night. People who slept in a nook in a wall, under a bush or a hedge, or the chance shelter of a barn or outhouse, spoke of a bed as *aille*, pleasant, agreeable, and *beg*, little, *i.e.*, a little place or harbour of pleasantness. *Leab* is Gaelic for a bed, and *leab-beg*, a little bed; and *leab-ker* or *lybker*, a house with beds in it, a lodging-house for travellers.

Almighty smash (American). The adjective is used in an infinite variety of ways, and Lord Lytton in a certain measure acclimated it on this side of the water. For example, he speaks in the following quotations of *almighty smash* (that is, a state of complete demolition); of "driving into almighty shivers" (a state of entire collapse); and of "almighty crack" (that is, without ceasing—a reference to the popular crack of doom). These phrases are thus illustrated from one of his best works—

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