

**A NEW DICTIONARY OF THE TERMS
ANCIENT AND MODERN OF THE CANTING
CREW, IN ITS SEVERAL TRIBES, OF
GYPSIES, BEGGERS, THIEVES, CHEATS, &C.,
WITH AN ADDITION OF SOME PROVERBS,
PHRASES, FIGURATIVE SPEECHES, &C.**

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A new dictionary of the terms ancient and modern of the canting crew, in its several tribes, of Gypsies, beggars, thieves, cheats, &c., with an addition of some proverbs, phrases, figurative speeches, &c. by B. E. Gent

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B. E. GENT

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A N E W

DICTIONARY.

A B

A D

A B

A *Bram-cove*, c. a Naked or poor Man, also a lusty strong Rogue.

Abram-men, c. the seventeenth Order of the Canting-crew. Beggers antickly trick'd up with Ribbands, Reel Tape, Foxtails, Rags, &c. pretending Madnes to palliate their Thefts of Poultry, Linnen, &c.

A C

Academy, c. a Bawdyhouse, also an University, or School to learn Gentleman like Exercises.

Accoutrements, c. fine rigging (now) for Men or

Women, (former ty) only Trappings for Horses. *Well accoutred*, c. gently dress'd.

Acquests, and *Acquisitions*, the rights of Fortune purchased by Labour, Arts or Arms, oppos'd to Hereditary and Paternal.

Acteon, a Cuckold. *Acteon'd*, Cuckolded, or made a Cuckold of.

A D

Adam's-ale, Water.

Adam-tiler, c. a Pick-pocket's Camerade, who receives Stolen Money or Goods, and scowers off with them.

Addle-pate, one full of Whimsies and Projects, and as empty of Wit.

B

Ad.

A F

Addle-plot, a Martin-mar-all.

Adri ft, loose. *I'll turn ye adri ft*, a Tar-phrafe; I'll prevent ye doing me any harm.

A F

Affda vit men, Knights of the Post, Mercenary Sweaters for Hire, Inhabitants (formerly) of White Friars, now dispersed.

Aft and *Abast*. towards the Stern, or hinder Part of the Ship.

A I

Aim, Endeavour or Design. *To aim*, or level at a Mark, he has mist his Aim or End.

Air of a Song the Tune.

Air of a Face or Picture, the Configuration and consent of Parts in each.

Airy, Light, brisk, pleasant; also a Nest of Hawks He is an Airy Fellow.

A L

A L

Alabafter, mixt by all the knavish Perfumers with the Hair-Powder they sell, to make it weigh heavy, being of it self very cheap, that their Gain may be the greater, found destructive to the Hair and Health

Alsatia White Friars.

Alsatia the higher, the same.

Alsatia the lower, the Mint in Southwark.

Alsatians, the Inhabitants, such as, broken Gentlemen, Tradesmen, &c. Lurking there.

Allay, the Embasing of a purer and finer Metal, by mixing it with an inferior or coarser Metal, as of pale Gold with a Silver-Allay, or of deep Gold with an Allay of Copper; also whatever is used to qualify what is bitter or nauseous in Compositions, as gilding of Pills, sweet.

A M

sweetning of Boluses, or Powders.

Aloft, above or over Head; also anciently an Upper-room or Garret, now more us'd in Compounds, as *Cock-loft*, *Hay-loft*, &c.

Altogether, altogether.

Altitudes, the Man is *in his Altitudes*, he is Drunk.

A M

Ambidexter, one that goes snacks in gaming with both Parties; also a *Lawyer* that takes Fees of *Plaintif* and *Defendant* at once.

Ambient-Air, Air abroad oppos'd to that pent and shut up in Wells, Vaults, Caves, &c. Or else the outward Air in the House, oppos'd to that shut up in the Cavities of Vessels, Glasses, Vials, &c.

Ambrol, among the Tarrs for Admiral.

Amphibious Creatures of a doubtful kind. or of

A N

a double Element; as a *Bat* is between a Bird and a Beast; an *Otter* between a Beast and a Fish, and a *Puffin* with the rest of the Sea-Fowl, between Fowl and Fish.

Amuse, to throw dmt in one's Eyes, by diverting one from a serious Thought to a pleasant one.

Amusement, a Blind or Disengagement from deep Thoughts to more Diverting.

A N

An Ark, c. a Boat or Wherry.

Anglers, c. Cheats, petty Thieves, who have a Stick with a hook at the end, with which they pluck things out of Windows, Grates, &c. also those that draw in People to be cheated.

Animal, a Fool. *He is a meer Animal*, he is a very silly Fellow.

Antechambers, foretooms for receiving of Visits, as the back and Drawing

A N

A P

Rooms are for Lodgings, anciently called Dining-rooms.

Antidote, a very homely Woman, also a medicine against Poyson.

Ancient, at Sea, for Ensign, or Flag.

Anticks, lit le Images on Stone, on the our side of old Churches. *Antick postures or dresses*, such as are odd, ridiculous and singular, the habits and motions of Fools, Zahies, or Merry-andrews, of Mountebanks, with Ribbands, mismatched colours and Feathers.

Antiquary, a curious Critick in old Coins, Stones and Inscriptions, in Worm-eaten Records, and ancient Manuscripts; also one that affects and blindly doats, on Relicks, Ruins, old Customs Phrases and Fashions.

Antiquated-Rogue, Old, out of date, that has forgot or left off his Trade of Thieving, &c. also superannuated, ob-

solete Customs, or Words, such as are worn out; out of use and Fashion.

A P

Apart, severally, asunder.

Apartments, Rooms apart, private Lodgings, inner Chambers, secret and withdrawn from the rest. Recesses of the House opposed to the *Ante-chambers*.

A R

Arack, an East-Indian Brandy, or strong Spirit drawn from Rice, and (sometimes) Roes of Fish, best when old, much us'd in Punch, the double distill'd *Gos* most esteem'd.

Arab, { *Rogue*, Witty.
Wag, Pleasant.
Whore, Cunning.

Arms, to bear *Arms*, a Profession not unbecoming a Gentleman, for *Books* and *Arms* are Gentlemens Burdens.

Armour

A S

Armour, in his Armour
Pot-valiant.

Arisippus, a Diet-drink,
or Decoction of *Sarsa*,
China, &c. Sold at cer-
tain Coffee-houfes, and
drank as *T*

Arsworm, a little di-
minutive Fellow.

A S

Ascendant, Power, In-
fluence, as, *he has the Af-*
scendant over him, or an
Hank upon him; also
the Horoscope, or point
of the Ecliptic that rises
at one's Nativity.

Affig, now us'd for
Affignation, an Appoint-
ment or meeting.

Assuming, conceited,
as, *an Assuming Fellow*,
one that abounds in his
own Sense, and impos-
es it upon every Man
else.

Assurance, Confidence,
as, *a Man of Assurance*,
one that has a stock of
Confidence.

A U

Aunt, a Bawd, as one

B A

of my Aunts, one of the
same Order.

Autem, c. a Church,
also Married.

Autem mort, c. a Mar-
ried-woman, also the
Twenty fourth Order of
the Canting Tribe, Tra-
velling, Begging (and
often Stealing) about the
Country, with one Child
in Arms another on Back,
and (sometimes) lead-
ing a third in the Hand.

Auxiliary beauty. Drels,
Paint, Patches, setting
of Eye-brows, and lick-
ing the Lipps with red.

B

Babler, a great Talk-
er.

Backt, dead, as *he wishes*
the old Man · backt, he
longs to have his Father
upon six Mens shoulders,
or as *his Back's up*, he is
in a fume, or angry.

Bacon, as *he sav'd his*
Bacon, he has escap'd
with a whole Skin. *A*

good voice to beg Bacon,

B 3 said

said in jeer of an ill voice.

Badge, a mark of Distinction among poor People; as, Porters, Water-men, Parish-Pensioners and Hospital-boys, Blew-coats and Badges being the ancient Liveries.

Badgers, they that buy up a quantity of Corn and hoard it up in the same Market, till the price rises; or carry it to another, where it bears a better. Also a Beast for sport, *Badger Eartheth*, *Lodgeth*.

Badjob, an ill bout, bargain, or business.

Baffle, to worst, or defeat. *A baffled Cause*, worsted, defeated.

Raggage, a Whore or Slut.

Bagonet or *Bisnet*, a Dagger.

Bail-dock, the place in the Court, where the Prisoners are kept till called to be Arraign'd.

Balsom, c. Money.

Balderdash, ill, unplea-

sant, unwholesom mixtures of Wine, Ale, &c.

Banbury-story, of a Cock and a Bull, silly chat.

Banditti, Highwaymen, (Horse or Foot) Rogues of any kind, now, but strictly Italian Outlaws.

Bandog, a Bailiff, or his Follower, a Sergeant, or his Yeoman; also a very fierce Mastive.

Bandore, a Widows mourning Peak; also a Musical Instrument.

Bandy, a play at Ball with a Bat; also to follow a Faction.

Bandy-legg'd, crooked.

Bang, a blow, *to Bang*, to beat.

Banillas, a Seed growing in a Cod, somewhat resembling a Kidney-bean, on Trees in the *Indies*, much us'd in Chocolate.

Banter, a pleasant way of prating, which seems in earnest, but is in jest, a sort of ridicule, *What do you banter me?* i. e. do you pretend to impose upon

B A

upon me, or to expose me to the Company, and I not know your meaning.

Bantling, a Child.

Barker, a Salesman's Servant that walks before the Shop, and cries, Cloaks, Coats, or Gowns, what d'ye lack, Sir?

Barketh, the Noise a Fox makes at Rutting time.

Barnacle, c. a good job, or a snack easily got, also Fish growing on Ships sides when foul, and a Brake for unruly Horses Noses, also the Gratuity to *Jockeys*, for selling or buying Horses.

Barnacles, c. the Irons Fellons wear in Goal.

Bar-wig, between a bob and a long one.

Basset. a Game at Cards.

Baste, to beat, as, I'll baste your sides *Sirrah*, I'll bang you lustily.

Bastinado-ing, a Cudgelling.

Batten, c. to Fatten.

Battner, c. an Ox.

B A

Batter, the Ingredients for a Pudding or Pan-cake, when they are all mixt and stirred together.

Battery, beating, assault, also, striking with the Edge and *feble* of one's Sword, upon the edge and *feble* of his Adversaries.

Batter'd-bully, an old well cudgell'd and bruised huffing Fellow.

Baabee, a half-penny.

Baubels, c. Jewels, also trifles and Childrens Play-things.

Bawdy-baskets, c. the Twenty third Rank of Canters, with Pins, Tape, Obscene Books, &c. to sell, but live more by Stealing.

Bawdy-bachelors, that live long Unmarried.

Bawdy-house-bottle, a very small one.

Bay-windows, embowed, as of old, standing out from the rest of the Building. *Stand at bay*, as Deer will, when closely pursued, or being

B. + hard