

duelling pistols, which French soldiers call "pieds de cochon."

Barkshire, a word applied by the low English to Ireland; from *bark*, a contemptuous and derisive name for an Irishman or Irishwoman. A member for *Barkshire* is a noisy, howling, troublesome fellow, who attempts to cough down his opponents, *i.e.*, bark at them.

Bark up the wrong tree, to (American), is said of a man who vainly endeavours to accomplish a thing for which he is not fitted, or who addresses himself to the wrong person for assistance.

"You didn't really go to old Bullion," said a politician to an office seeker; "why, he has no influence there, I can tell you; you barked up the wrong tree there, my friend, and you deserve to fail.—*Richmond Enquirer*."

Barnaby (common), to dance *Barnaby* is to move quickly and irregularly. See Cotton in his "Virgil Travestie," where, speaking of Eolus, he has these lines—

"'Bounce,' cries the portholes, out they fly,
And make the world dance *Barnaby*."

Barnacle (old cant), pickpocket.

The man that stood beside thee is old Crookfinger, the most notorious setter, barnacle, and foist in the city.—*Mark Lemon: Leyton Hall*.

Barnacles (common), spectacles; termed also "gig-lamps" or "bosses." From *barnacle*, a kind of shellfish, or from *barnacles*,

an instrument consisting of two branches joined at one end with a hinge, to put upon a horse's nose, to confine him for shoeing, bleeding, or dressing.

Your eyes dasell after your washing;
these spectacles put on;
Now view this raysour; tell me, is it
not a good one?

They bee gay *barnikles*, yet I see
never the better.

—*Edwards: Damon and Pithias*.

Barndoor practice (society), the fashionable but indefensible system of battue, by which the birds are brought all within a limited range, where they fall an easy prey to the "sportsman!"

Barnet fair (thieves), rhyming slang for hair; called also "thatch."

Barney (popular), a mob or a crowd, disturbance.

'Ard lines, ain't it, Charlie, old hoyster?

A *barney's* a *barney*, dear boy,
And you know that a squeeze and a sky-lark
is wot I did always enjoy.

A street-rush is somethink splendacious
to fellers of speerit like me,
But dints and diakkylum plaster will
spile the best sport, dontcher see.

—*Punch*.

This word has several meanings, and apparently two distinct roots—one Aryan, and the other Semitic. *Barney*, a mob or crowd, may be derived from the gypsy *biro*, great or many, which sometimes takes the form of *barwo* or *barni*, and which suggests the Hindu *bahrna*, to increase, proceed, to gain, &c.,

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