

Baum, to (Univ., American), to fawn, to flatter, to curry favour.

Bávo, bávol (gypsy), air, breath, breeze, wind. "O shillo *bávol* puderla 'dré ye hevyor"—"The cold wind is blowing through the holes." *Bávol* is sometimes used for dust.

Bawbells (old slang), the testicles, a corruption of *bobble*, a provincialism signifying stones and testicles.

Bawdy banquet (old cant), whoring.

Bawdy baskets (old slang), women who sold pins, &c., to servant girls, or exchanged these articles for eatables, and occasionally stole linen off hedges. Also applied to the itinerant vendors of obscene and ribald literature, and to a prostitute.

Many a faire lasse in London towne,
Many a *bawdie basket* borne up and
down.

—*Pattenham: Art of English Poesie.*

Bawhawder (Anglo-Indian), from the Hindu *bahadúr*, a hero, a champion. A word applied in Anglo-Indian to any great swell or soldier. It is a title of honour for bravery, which is found in one form or another all over the East.

There is nothing of the great *bahawder* about him.—*Athenæum*, No. 2670, p. 851: *Anglo-Indian Glossary.*

Bayadere. This word, though generally supposed to be Hindu

for a dancing-girl, is only a French form of the Portuguese *bailadeira*, from *bailar*, to dance.

"Come, an hour of rapture prove!"
"And what art thou?" "A *bayadere*,
And this the joyous home of Love."
—*Goethe.*

Bayard of ten toes, to ride (old slang). The old equivalent of "Shanks' mare" (German *Schusters Rappen*, cobbler's black horses), i.e., to go on foot. In the old romances *Bayard* was a celebrated horse.

Bay-window (American), pregnancy, with a big belly. New York Slang Dictionary: "She has a *bay-window* to her toy-shop." The French argot expresses the same by the phrase, "Elle a un polichinelle dans le tiroir," the *tiroir* being in this phrase a "toy-shop."

B.C. has become the stereotyped exponent of a ridiculous charge of libel. A genteel young woman complained to Mr. Ingham of having been abused by a person who called her a *B.C.* The magistrate asked what *B.C.* meant, when he was told that *C.* meant "cat," but *B.* was too shocking to be uttered aloud. She consented, however, to whisper the naughty word in his worship's ear. Mr. Ingham heard the mysterious "libel," and though he could not grant the summons, *B.C.* has acquired the signification given above.—*Dr. Brewer: Dictionary of Phrase and Fable.*