

in their vicinity.—*Ferguson: Indian and Eastern Architecture, Anglo-Indian Glossary.*

Bows (nautical), wide in the bows, having large hips and posteriors. To have a large "barge," same meaning.

Bowse, or **bouse up the jib** (nautical), an old phrase, meaning to tittle. "Bowsing his tib or jib" is said of a man who has been drinking freely.

Bowsprit (old), the nose. The analogy is evident between the most prominent part of the face and the bowsprit of a vessel. More modern are the "boko," "conk," and "smeller."

Bow-wow (old), a contemptuous term for a man born in Boston, Mass. It is possible that this meaning was in the first place derived from *bow-wow*, a servile personal attendant.

Box (common), to be in the wrong *box*, to be mistaken. The expression is old, and has passed into the language.

"Sir," quoth I, "if you will hear how St. Augustine expounded to that place, you shall perceive that you are in a *wrong box*."—*Ridley, 1554.*

(Thieves), cell.

In a *box* of the stone jug I was born,
Of a hempen widow the kid forlorn,
Fake away!

—*Ainsworth: Rookwood.*

To *box* (Australian station slang), to join, or mix.

It now was time to mark the lambs,
And make young ewes distinct from rams.

While he the overseer would come
With full hands from the station home,
From which they'd start at break of day,
And do the marking in a day;
And still he cautioned each to heed,
And look out as he did proceed.

"Now, mind yourselves, for if you *box*,
You'll play the mischief with the flocks."
—*Dugald Ferguson, N.Z.: The Lambs,*
in "*Castle Joy and other Poems.*"

Boxed in (thieves), explained by quotation.

When there were three in a job there would always be one outside to look out, not only for any person coming along, but for lights in the windows, showing that somebody had been disturbed, in which case it was easy for him to whistle a warning to his pals to clear out. But the single-handed man lacked these various advantages. It was neck or nothing with him when he was once *boxed in* (when he entered a house), and a revolver was his best safeguard.—*J. Greenwood: A Converted Burglar.*

Box Harry, to (commercial travellers), to go without dinner for want of the money to procure it, or having dinner and tea at one meal to save expense. Formerly, it is said, truants confined at school, without fire, fought or boxed a figure nicknamed *Harry* (probably the devil), which hung in their room, to keep themselves warm. That may be the origin of the phrase. In Lincolnshire, to *box Harry* is to be careful after being extravagant. To *box* the devil on account of one's poverty strongly reminds one of the French "*tirer le diable par la queue*," to be "hard up."