

or expansion, it is much used to indicate magnitude or extravagance. Thus to go "*bulging* about" conveys the same idea as "splurging" (which see).

**Bulger.** This English word, signifying a large object or creature, is much more extensively used in the United States than in the mother-country. "New York is a *bulger* of a place," said Colonel Crockett in 1835. At Princeton College (New Jersey) the largest and heaviest of the students is familiarly called *būlger*. The negro minstrel word *būlgine*, for a locomotive, appears to be a compound, the first part of which is derived rather from *bulge* than "bull," as implying bigness.

I got on board de telegraf an' floated  
down de ribber,  
De 'lectric fluid magnified and killed five  
hundred nigger.  
De *bullgine* burst, de steam went off, I  
really tought I'd die ;  
I shut my eyes to hold my breath—  
Susanna don't you cry !  
—*Song of O Susanna.*

**Bulk and file** (old), two thieves working together. The *bulk* jostles the victim against the *file*, who robs him of his money or watch.

**Bulker** (old cant), a street-walking prostitute; from "bulk," that formerly signified the body.

She must turn *bulker* (when her clothes are worn out), at which trade I hope to see you suddenly.—*Ravenscroft, 1670.*

**Bulky** (Winchester College), generous, open-handed, as opposed to "brum."

**Bull**, now recognised and applied to a blunder, formerly meant any kind of rough, blundering, or foolish jest or trick, and is of the same root with *bully* in its sense of a clown or merry-maker. Old Dutch *bollaert* (Skeat) "a jester or a gyber." Swedish *bullra*, to make a noise. *Buller* in Anglo-Norman means an equivocator or deceiver, which unmistakably indicates the existence of *bull* in the modern sense.

The sexte case is of fals *bullers*,  
Baith that tham makes and that tham wers.  
—*MS. Cottan. Vespasian*  
(Halliwell).

The term *bull-calf* itself (Shakspeare), and *bull-finch*, a stupid fellow (North Country), all indicate the association with blundering and stupidity which is implied by *bull*. The word was first specially identified with Hibernian mistakes by Miss Edgeworth in her "Essay on Irish Bulls." (Popular), a roaring horse.

(Popular and thieves), a crown, an abbreviation of its former appellation, a bull's eye.

. . . Then giv' me a little money, four half *bulls*, wot you may call half-crowns, and ses, hook it !—*Charles Dickens.*

(Prison), rations of meat ; an uncomplimentary reference to the toughness of the beef supplied. The French slang has