

bush all the heavy hauling is done with bullock-drag. It is quite a common sight up the country to see teams of a dozen and upwards. *Bullockirs* in Australia are as proverbial as bargees or Billingsgate fishwives in England for the forcibleness of their language.

"When you make Mokepilly," quoth one of the sunburnt *bullocky* men, "keep on by the brush fence, and that will take you right into the gap. Gee hup, Streaky; ya-hoy-ya, Strorb'ry."—*T. C. Work: Australasian Printer's Keepsake*.

Bull party, an assembly, gathering, or dinner party of men only.

Bull puncher (American), a word defined as follows by one who was himself of the calling:—

He followed the profession of a *bull-puncher*; that is, he went in charge of the cattle destined for slaughter and "canning" in the distant North, and made money at it, being steady and trustworthy, and no drinker.—*Morley Roberts: The Western Avernus*, 1887.

Bull's-eye villas (military), the small open-air tents used by the volunteers at their annual rifle contest held on Wimbledon Common.

Bull's feathers, horns. To describe a man as wearing *bull's feathers* was to represent him as a cuckold.

Three crooked horns, smartly top-knotted with ribands; which being the ladies' wear, seem to intimate that they may very probably adorn, as well as bestow, the *bull's feather*.—*Richardson: Clarissa Harlowe*.

The attribute of horns to a cuckold is of remote antiquity, and is supposed by symbolists of the school of Creuzer and Faber to be derived from the horns of cattle, also of the new moon, at which time festivals were held in Assyria, where all women were in common, and men who were among the initiated bore the symbol and were compared to oxen. Horns as worn on the head were suggestive of feathers in a cap, hence *bull's feathers* (Charles G. Leland, U.S. Notes).

The French have a corresponding expression: "planter des plumes de bœuf."

On me dit qu'elle est bien gente
Qu'elle est douce comme un agneau.
Par ma foi! j'ai peur que'implante
Plumes de bœuf à mon chapeau!
—*Song*.

Bull the cask, to (nautical), to pour hot water into an empty rum puncheon, and let it stand until it extracts the spirit from the wood. The mixture is drunk by sailors in default of something stronger.

Bull-traps, thieves or swindlers who personate policemen (New York Slang Dictionary).

Bully (American), often applied in a commendable sense by the vulgar; as, for instance, a *bull* fellow, a *bully* horse.

Hope you had a pleasant nap, *bully* place for a nice quiet snooze.—*Bret Hart: Poems and Prose*.