

**Counter-jumper** (common), a shopman, a draper's assistant.

"Sir, you should know that my cheek is not for you." "Why," said he, stifling his anger, "it seems free enough to every counter-jumper in the town."—*C. Kingsley: Westward Ho.*

**Counter-skipper** (popular), a variant of "counter-jumper," a shopman.

**Counter, to** (pugilistic), to strike.

His kissing traps *countered*,  
His ribs roasted.  
—*C. Bede: Verdant Green.*

**Count noses, to** (parliamentary), to take the number of a division.

**County crop** (prison), hair shortened to about an inch, which used to be the rule in all prisons, but is now confined to convicts. The expression is therefore now a misnomer, as county prisons no longer exist since the Government took all over in 1877, and prisoners are not thus cropped, as it would continue their punishment by marking them out after their discharge.

**Couple-beggar** (old cant), a low fellow, who officiated as a clergyman in performing marriages in the Fleet prison.

**Couranne** (theatrical), from *couronne* or *corona*, five shillings.

**Court card** (old slang), a beau.

**Court martial** (schoolboy), the practice of tossing in a blanket for a practical joke.

**Couter** (popular), a sovereign. From gypsy, *cutto*, literally a piece.

**Cove** (popular and thieves). In old cant, "cofe," "cuffin," a man; also landlord.

He's a rum dog. Don't he look fierce at any strange *cove*.—*Dickens: Oliver Twist.*

Besides, I am that sort of *cove* the swells so much admire.—*Toby.*

This word Hotten connects with "cuif," a North of England word for a lout or awkward fellow. This seems to be borne out by the circumstance that in most cant languages man and fool are synonymous, but it has been suggested to be more probably from the Romany *cova*, a thing, the term being almost indefinite in its applicability. "It is," says Pott, "a general helper on all occasions, is used as a substantive and an adjective, and has a far wider scope than the Latin *res*. Thus *core* means that man; *cori*, that woman." The derivation from the German *kopf*, a head (not applied directly to individuals except as in English), has also been suggested. (Australian station), the *core*, the master, or overseer.

**Covent Garden** (old slang). This place seems to have acquired at