

Oh, the shades are most charmingly blended,  
And the fit without flaw,  
And the hat quite a *draw*.  
—*Bird o' Freedom*.

(Cricket), a *draw* is a hit made with the surface of the bat inclined.

(American), a Western term applied to the cattle which a cowboy employé could pick up, or plainly steal, for his master.

I could have raised quite a nice bunch of cattle in a twelvemonth. Half the *draw* was worth something those times!  
—*F. Francis: Saddle and Moccasin*.

Small glades, glens, or valleys.

We had left the flats behind, and were now in a rolling country, intersected by grassy *draws*, or miniature valleys, which afforded the finest kind of shelter for cattle.—*F. Francis: Saddle and Moccasin*.

(Common), to *draw*, to take in, circumvent.

(Military), to *draw*, an abbreviation of "to *draw* the badger," explained by quotation.

A young officer on first joining was subjected to all sorts of practical joking. . . . Practical joking was indeed a recognised institution. . . . Its usual manifestations were *drawing* a man who had returned from mess early, and "making hay" of his furniture and property. . . . A party of half-a-dozen wild young subalterns, led probably by a festive captain, would, after a heavy guest night, proceed to the victim's room. . . . Perhaps the inmate would be made to stand in the middle of the room in his night-shirt, and sing a comic song. Occasionally, he would be carried downstairs, where he was made to stand on the mantelpiece of the ante-room, and order drinks all round. . . .

We know of one officer, who, in his night-shirt, was made on a cold winter's night to stand outside the window, on the ledge.  
—*Colburn: United Service Gazette*.

(Boxing and popular), to "*draw* or tap the claret," to "*draw* the cork," to make the nose bleed.

This is technically called *drawing* the claret, and is followed up by "practice in the school-room" by a black eye and a bloody nose.—*Diprose: Laugh and Learn*.

(University and popular), to vex, to infuriate. It is undoubtedly a metaphor from "drawing a badger," *i.e.*, sending him out: which in its turn is probably a metaphor from the badgers being occasionally dragged out by the bull-dog or badger-hound. So in Australia one speaks of "drawing a 'possum."

**Draw a bead, to** (American), the Western hunter or trapper in taking aim does so with deliberate precision. He slowly raises the "front sight," which in appearance is like a bead, to a level with the back sight, and when the two are in a line he immediately fires—hence the expression, and in colloquial use it has come to signify an attack upon one.

**Draw blanks, to** (American), to fail, miss, or be disappointed.

"Have you any invisible ink?"

She sighed

In a whisper

To the clerk.