

Fancy pieces (common), prostitutes.

Fancy, the, the favourite pastimes of sporting men.

That boxing and ratting, and other forms of the *fancy*, still exist as part of the amusements of the lower orders is perfectly true, but they can no longer be classed as among the amusements of those who cannot afford to pay high prices of admission to illegal entertainments.—*Sims: How the Poor Live.*

The word very soon became specialised with reference to the devotees of the prize ring.

They hurried to be present at the expected scene with the alacrity of gentlemen of the *fancy* hastening to a set to.—*Scott: St. Ronan's Well.*

Other meaning explained by quotation.

His father took a great deal to the *fancy* . . . it meant dealing in birds, and dogs, and rabbits.—*J. Greenwood: The Little Kaganuffins.*

Fancy work, to take in (common). In general use among milliners, dressmakers, and shop girls, who resort to secret prostitution to eke out their scanty earnings at legitimate work. If a girl known to be receiving small wages dresses well and seems to have plenty of money, it is said of her, "Oh, she takes in fancy work."

Fanning (thieves), a beating, also stealing. *Cross-fanning*, stealing from the person with the arms crossed, the right hand operating under the left armpit.

Fanny (common), the fem. pud.

Fanny Adams (naval), tinned mutton.

Fanny Blair (rhyming slang), the hair.

Fanqui (Anglo-Chinese), a European; literally foreign devil.

Fanteeg (popular), to be "in a regular *fanteeg*," to be perplexed, embarrassed, to be at one's wits' end (provincial English).

Far back (tailors), an indifferent workman or an ignorant person.

Farm (common), a place where illegitimate children are boarded, or rather starved, for a given sum.

There can be no question that he has a better chance . . . though his treacherous "adopter" deserts him on a door-step, than if he were so kindly cruel as to tolerate his existence at the *farm*.—*Greenwood: Seven Curses of London.*

(Prison), the prison hospital.

He . . . first entered into a critical description of the dietary system of the *farm* infirmary.—*Evening News.*

To "fetch the *farm*," to obtain infirmary treatment and diet.

. . . The dodges which would take place to "fetch the *farm*."—*Evening News.*

Farmer (common), one who keeps a "farm," which see.

These are not the *farmers* who append to their advertisements the notification that children of ill-health are not objected to.—*Greenwood: Seven Curses of London.*