

ceed, go. As going out of a rage. German *vergehen*. When a man is cooling down from intense excitement or passion he is said to *ferg*.

Ferguson (common), generally heard expressed as, "It's all very well, Mr. *Ferguson*; you're very good-looking, but you can't come in." Said to be addressed to men who are not known attempting to obtain admission to "close" gambling-houses, or other haunts of dissipation, where close watch is kept for fear of the police. There is a song which has this sentence for a refrain. It was very common, and used with many applications from 1845 to 1850.

Ferret (thieves), a young thief who gets into a coal barge and throws coal over the side to his confederates. (Old), a tradesman who, having supplied goods at ruinous prices on credit, continually duns his customers for payment.

Ferricadouzer, a knock-down blow, a good thrashing (Hotten). Evidently derived from the Italian *far cadere*, to cause to fall, and *dosso*, back.

Fess, to (American university), to fail in reciting the lesson, together with a mute appeal for no further questions to be put. The military cadets at West Point also use the word in a similar way. Old English *fese*, to frighten, make afraid.

And when you and I and Benny and General Jackson too,
Are brought before a final board our course
of life to view,
May we never *fess* on any point, but then
be told to go
To join the army of the blest, with Benny
Havens, O!

—*Song: Benny Havens, O!*

Fetch (common), a success; to *fetch*, to please, to arouse lively interest, excite admiration.

"You come up to the window and touch your hat, and say, 'Luggage all in, my Lord;' that will *fetch* 'em."—*Bird o' Freedom*.

(Theatrical), is said of a play or entertainment which finds great favour with the public and attracts large audiences.

The masher's ballet is one of the features of the show and ought to *fetch* north London.—*Evening News*.

(Thieves), to *fetch* the farm.

Vide FARM.

Fetch a lagging, to (thieves), to be serving out one's sentence at a convict establishment.

Millbank for thick shins and graft at the pump,

Breadmoor for all lags as go off their chump,

Brixton for good toke and cocoa with fat.

Dartmoor for bad grub but plenty of chat,

Portsmouth a blooming bad place for hard work,

Chatham on Sunday gives four ounces of pork,

Portland is the worst of the lot for to joke in,

For *fetching a lagging* there is no place like Woking.

—*A Thief's Production, quoted by Horsley: Jottings from Jail.*

Fetch up, to (popular), to startle. (American), to come to light,