

Abraham work (popular), ill-paid trumpery work; trading shams; showy swindles.

Abraham's willing (rhyming slang), a shilling.

Abregoyms (American). Bartlett spells this corruption of "aborigines" as *Abergoins* or *Abrogans*.

I have often heard *Ab-ree-goyms* used in jest for aborigines, especially by Virginians, but never *Abrogans* or *Abergoins*.—*C. G. Leland*.

Abridgments (old), knee breeches, small-clothes.

Frantz (producing a pair of small-clothes which *Toke* examines)—"Your master is von beggar," &c.

Toke—"I accept the *abridgments*, but you've forgotten to line the pockets."—*Lytton: Money*.

Abroad (Winchester), a boy is said to be *abroad* when his name is taken off "Continent Roll" or Sick List, and he returns to school duties.

Abroaded (society), a noble default on the Continent to avoid creditors. It is the police officials' slang for convicts sent to a colonial or penal settlement, but applied by thieves in this country, and formerly in the colonies, to imprisonment merely.

A.B.S. First-class sailors are rated as A.B.S., "able-bodied seamen." Sometimes facetiously translated as "a bottle-sucker."

The Albatross
Is the captain and boss,
The sea-gull queers
Are the offi-cers;
And the Carey chickens, as I guess,
Is every one an A.B.S.
—*From a MS. of Sea Ballads*.

Abs. (Winchester), abbreviation for absent. To get *abs.* is to get away.

Absocthalater (thieves), one who is hiding away from the police. From the American *absquatulate*, to run away.

Absence (Eton). This word in the slang of the boys is meant to convey just the opposite meaning. It signifies also roll-call.

Absent without leave (thieves), broken out of gaol; escaped from the police. (Common), not forthcoming when wanted for some crime, debt, or difficulty; absconded.

Mr. Roupell, the member for Lambeth, was reported *absent without leave*.—*Morning Star: Parliamentary Summary*.

At no former period on the expiration of the racing season were there so many speculators *absent without leave*.—*Sporting Life*.

Absit (university), a permit to be absent from college, hall, or chapel for the day.

Abskize, abschize (American). In a sketch of Western life published in 1833, in a Philadelphia newspaper, this word occurs as meaning to depart or go away. It would seem to be