

changes." It is supposed to be partly derived from "flimsy," a bank-bill, and "flam," to cheat. But "flim-flam," for a shiny, deceptive cheat or trifle, is an old expression.

**Flimp**, to (thieves), to hustle and rob. Also refers to highway robbery, "to put on the *flimp*."

*Flimping* is a kind of theft which I have never practised, and consequently of which I know nothing.—*H. Kingsley: Ravenshoe*.

Also to steal by wrenching off.

He told me as Bill had *flimped* a yack, and pinched a swell of a fawney.—*Ducange Anglicus: The Vulgar Tongue*.

**Flimsy** (journalistic), paragraphs, items of news, comments; from the name of their prepared copying-paper, used by newspaper reporters for producing several copies at once.

I wonder who supplies the *flimsy* about naval matters to the *Times* and other dailies. Occasionally the mistakes are grotesque in the extreme.—*Sunday Times*.

(Thieves), bank notes.

In English Exchequer bills full half a million,

Not kites manufactured to cheat and inveigle,

But the right sort of *flimsy*, all signed by Monteaule.

—*Ingoldsbys Legends*.

The term is now in common use.

"Well, I shall have a fiver on White Wings, and chance it," and the Correspondent put down his *flimsy*, and everybody jeered.—*Sporting Times*.

(Printers), an expression used for telegraph forms, or anything written on thin paper.

**Fling** (common), properly a kind of dance. "To have his *fling*," to lead a merry life.

In London he has settled down;  
He means to have his *fling* in town,  
A little king without a crown.

Who finds the money?

—*Dagonet: The Great Mystery*.

In the above the reference is to General Boulanger.

**Flint** (workmen), an operative who works for a "society" master, *i.e.*, for full wages. In the early part or middle (1836–7, C.W.S.) of the present century, a strike for higher wages took place in London. The men who "held out" were known as "flints," while those who succumbed received the opprobrious name of "dungs." Both these names are used in Foote's play, *The Tailors*.

**Flint into**, to (American), varied to pour in, fire away, tumble on to, pitch into. There may be possibly fifty such words more or less in use, meaning to go at something, to begin to act, to tackle anything.

**Flint it out**, to (tailors). *Vide* FLINT.

**Flip-flap** (popular), a peculiar rollicking dance indulged in by costermongers when merry or excited. Also a kind of somersault in which the performer throws himself on his hands and feet alternately (Hotten). (Nautical), the arm.