

gamblers to fellows who "skin suckers" (cheat the ignorant), when and where they can. They do not like the regular gamblers, but try to beat them (*i.e.*, get the better of them), inform on them, and tell the suckers that they have been cheated.

**Guess what** (American), a game. Also applied humorously to suspicious food, such as sausages.

Baltimore has *guess what* socials, which are well attended and very popular. The refreshments probably consist of sausage hash and mince pie.

**Guiders** (popular), reins. This word seems to have come from the gypsies, who derived it in turn from the Slavonian or Wallachian *voidas*. An English gypsy, on being asked what he supposed *voidas* meant, suggested that it was the same as *ryders* or reins. The French for reins is *guides*.

**Guinea-hen** (old cant), a prostitute.

**Guinea-pigs** (Stock Exchange), directors of a public company. (Common), special jurymen. Also others whose fee is a guinea, such as doctors, veterinary surgeons—

"Oh, oh," cried Pat, "how my hand itches, Thou *guinea-pig*, in boots and breeches, To trounce thee well."

—*Combe: Dr. Syntax.*

(Anglo-Indian), a nickname given to midshipmen on board Indianmen in the last century, and still occasionally used.

**Guire cove** (old cant), a rogue. Probably a corruption of queer cove.

**Guiver** (theatrical), flattery, artfulness.

**Gulf** (Cambridge), those to whom the degree was allowed, although inferior to junior optimes, but superior to poll men. Such were formerly disqualified for the classical tripos.

**Gulf spin** (American cadet), a man who is without principle of any kind, a worthless fellow.

**Gull** (common), one who is easily cheated.

The most notorious geck and *gull*  
That e'er invention played on.

—*Shakespeare: Twelfth Night.*

Hotten derives it from "the easy manner in which the bird of that name is deceived." In French slang a "gullible" man is *pingouin*, a bird more easily deceived than the *gull*. In Dutch, *gull* means soft, good-natured, easy to impose on. "Hy is al te *gull*," he is far too yielding. From *gul*, soft. "De weg is *gul*," the road is soft and yielding. To *gull*, to cheat, deceive.

**Gull-sharper** (nautical), one who preys upon simple or inexperienced people or "gulls."

**Gully hole** (costers), the throat, or gullet; termed also "red lane," "gutter lane." (Gypsy), *gullo*, the throat.