

a row or rank, a house of business. It is particularly applied to trading establishments, foreign or native. The latter were the so-called *hony* merchants who had the monopoly of foreign trade. This monopoly was abolished in 1842.

A society of *hony* or united merchants who are answerable for one another, both to the Government and to foreign nations.—*Sir G. Staunton: Embassy to China.*

**Honour bright** (common), on my honour.

**Hoodlum** (American), a vagabond or rough, a loafer. It was for a long time a Californian word, and is probably of Spanish origin. It may possibly be the pidgin English, *hood lahnt*, good, *i.e.*, very lazy; *lahnt'o*, Mandarin.

Two *hoodlums* knocked down and nearly killed an aged priest in the streets of Versailles, France, the other day.—*Chicago Tribune.*

In San Francisco *hoodlums* are a class of young fools, corresponding in some degree to the English 'Arries. The *hoodlums* walk the streets arm in arm, upsetting everything in their passage "just for the sake of a lark."

**Hoodman** (London slang), blind, drunk.

"Yes," he said, explaining with some amount of regret his curious behaviour of the night before: "but haven't you noticed that whenever I am a little *hoodman* I invariably go on in that way?"

"Well, I can't say that I have," was the straightforward answer of the candid friend.

"Why not?"

"Because I have never seen you a little *hoodman*. I have always seen you so ballyhooly blind that—"

Several bystanders left on the spot without paying for their drinks.—*Sporting Times.*

He had shunted a quantum of whisky immense,

But that *hoodman* he was he denied;  
Though he cast on the lamp-post a look  
so "intense"

That it might have been meant for his  
bride.

They passed over this, but when fivers  
galore

To the Tealeaf he offered to lend,  
That he really was boozed, to a man they  
all swore,

Had appeared sure enough in the end!  
—*Bird o' Freedom.*

**Hoodooed** (American), *voodooed*, *i.e.*, killed, done for, used up; *voodoo*, a term applied to the magic or secrecy practised among the blacks.

"Laps," said Mrs. Potter, laying her hand on my shoulder, "I'm *hoodooed* as sure as eggs are eggs. I've been training to do that death all summer, and I had a new play written to lead up to it, and now Lil has gone and gobbled my business"—*New York Morning Journal.*

**Hoof it, to** (thieves), to run away.

**Hoof one's bum, to** (common), to kick one in the lower part of the back.

**Hook** (popular and thieves), a pickpocket.

Take my tip and turn square, from a *hook* who is going to be lagged, would be, in common parlance, take my advice and get your living honestly, says a pickpocket who is expecting penal servitude.—*J. W. Hersley: Jottings from Jail.*