

mouth. From *pecker*, a bird's bill.

Each one is carefully guarded to the door by a policeman, and a voice may be heard crying out, *Keep your pecker up*, George, or 'Arry.—*Diprose: London Life*.

Keep your weather eye lifting (nautical), keep a sharp lookout.

Keffel (American thieves), a horse. From the German *keppel*.

Kelter (thieves), money. Probably from *gelt*. Vide GILT.

Kemesa. Vide CAMESA.

Ken (thieves), a place, house.

Nancy shall go to the *ken*, and fetch it to make all sure.—*Dickens: Oliver Twist*.

Also a bed.

Trim a *ken* for the gentry cove.—*Disraeli: Venetia*.

From *khana*, *khan*, gypsy and Oriental. This word generally has a prefix, as "boozing-*ken*," "speel-*ken*," &c.

Ken-cracker, or **ken-miller** (thieves), a housebreaker.

Kennedy (St. Giles), a blow on the head inflicted with a poker, supposed to be derived from the name of a man who was killed in that manner, in an encounter among Irish roughs in one of the slums of London. Compare the expressions derived from proper names: to "burke," to "boycott," and the French "watriniser" (vide Barrère's "Argot and Slang").

Kennurd (back slang), drunk.

Kent rag (popular), a cotton handkerchief.

Kerb-stone broker (common), an outsider, unofficial stockbroker.

Kerflop (American), another form of "kerslap, kesouse, keslosh, keswosh, kewosh, keswollop," and similar onomatopoeic words expressive of the falling of stones or the jumping of frogs into water.

It was a treat to hear him sling it blindly around, prefixing adjective after adjective to it as he did so, until with the accumulated weight and impulse, he at last brought the whole tautological string down *kerflop*, full and fairly, upon the devoted crown of his auditor.—*F. Francis: Sadie and Moccasin*.

Kerr'b to, (tinker), to hit, strike, punch.

My name is Barney MacAfee,
With my borers and jumpers (tinker's tools)
down to my thee (thigh),
An' it's forty miles I've come to *kerr'b* yer
pee (punch your face).
—*Tinker's Song*.

Kerslap (American), a word expressive of falling flat on the ground, straight onward, ahead.

Other people was sinful as they could be, but Shakers was all right. Shakers was all goin' *kerslap* to the Promist Land, and nobody wan't goin' to stand at the gate to bar 'em out, an if they did they'd git run over.—*Artemus Ward: The Shakers*.

Kettle (thieves), a watch; *red kettle*, gold watch.