

prove very apt teachers, and will not be found slow to try and inveigle some of the inexperienced into their "boosing schools."
—*Brunlees Patterson: Life in the Ranks.*

Vide BLOKE.

Knowing cove (popular), a well-informed person, one in the secret.

Dame Rumour had given the office to some of the *knowing covs*.—*Punch.*

Vide COVE.

Know, in the (turf), to be in the know is to have a knowledge of the secrets of some particular stable. Sometimes to be generally *au fait* in turf mysteries.

Knowledge box (popular), the head.

Know one's way about, know one's way round, to (used in Australia more than in England), to be capable, knowing; a metaphor suggested by the helplessness of the man who does not know his way; or perhaps by the facilities offered to one who knows his way round to an unguarded point, such as a private entrance, or a flank.

But grant he *knows his way about*,

Or grant that he is silly,

There cannot be the slightest doubt,

Of Billy's faith in Billy.

—*H. Kendall: Billy Vickers.*

Knows the ropes (popular), is said of an old experienced workman, or any one who is well informed. Originally a sailors' phrase.

Know the time of day, to (popular and thieves), to be experienced, cunning.

The message must have found her, for a "dossy"-looking bouncer,

Who appeared as if he *knew the time of day*,

Was the bearer of this answer, "If you want to see the dancer,

I can introduce you to her right away."

—*Sporting Times.*

Know your book, to (popular), to be correctly informed, to be right.

Ain't you glad sometimes to know,

A second thought you took

About a subject, upon which

You thought you *knew your book*.

—*Song: Ain't you glad you didn't.*

Knuckle down, to (schools), to kneel down, properly to submit to.

Knuckled (tailors), hand sewn.

Knuckleduster (common), originally American. A piece of metal with holes for the fingers which close over it, and which covers the knuckles. This instrument, while protecting the knuckles, adds force to a blow struck with it.

Struck by one of the fellows with a *knuckleduster*, M— was stunned for a moment, but he speedily recovered.—*Daily Telegraph.*

Also a heavy or gaudy ring.

Knuckler (thieves), a pickpocket.

The commons crowd around the Bar—

A rush—a hustle—merrily then

Begins the *knucklers'* war.

What are you thieves about?

—*Punch.*

Knuckle, to (thieves), to pick pockets.

Knucks (thieves), pickpockets, a contraction of "knucklers."

The *knucks* in quod did my schoolmen play.—*Ainsworth: Rookwood.*