

Area sneak (popular), one who sneaks into kitchens to steal. Other varieties of malefactors go by the appellations of "prig, cracksman, crossman, sneaksman, moucher, hooker, flash-cove, bug-hunter, cross-cove, buz-faker, fogle-hunter, stook-hauler, toy-getter, tooler, prop-nailer, palmer, dragsman, buz-gloak, amuser, bob-sneak, bouncer, bully-prigger, thimble-twister, gun, conveyancer, dancer, pudding-snammer, ziff, drummer, knuck, buttock-and-file, poll-thief, little snakesman, mill-ben, a cove on the cross, flashman, finder, gleaner, picker, tax-collector," and formerly "a good fellow, a bridle-cull, a sampsman, an angler."—*Barrière's Argot and Slang*.

Argify (popular), a jargon corruption of to argue.

"The European league of Peace and Liberty have just held a congress at Geneva. The first sitting was very noisy. Most 'leagues' prefer liberty to peace, when it comes to *argifying*."

Do you want to *argify*, you little beggar.
—*Leck's Cartoons*.

Argol-bargol. According to Hot-ten this is a Scotch phrase signifying "to bandy words." It is possible that it has a Hebrew derivation. *Bar-len* in Yiddish is, "to talk or speak in any way," and *bargolis* is one who goes about in misery and poverty, perhaps a fluent beggar. *Argol* is the popular pronunciation of *ergo*—as given by Dame Quickly—a word which

of old was continually used in argumentative conversation.

Aristippus (old), a diet drink much in vogue in the latter part of the last century. It was made of sarsaparilla and other drugs, and sold at the coffee-houses.

Ark (thieves), a boat or vessel. (Military), a box in the barrack-room used for holding extra articles of a man's kit. In America a large boat used on rivers to transport produce to market.

It may be noted, that in the northern counties the large chests in farm-houses used for keeping meat or flour are called *arks*. Villon, the old French poet, in his Jargon Jobelin, terms *arque* a coffer or money-box, and in the modern French argot "aller à l'arche" means to go frequently to the money-box, to spend one's money freely.

Ark and dove (masonic), an American degree preparatory to the R.A.

Arkansas toothpick (American), a large bowie knife which shuts up into the handle. It is a piece of savage irony which thus dubs it, as the blade, which has a point of half its length, is over a foot long and two inches broad.

Straightway leaped the valiant Slingsby,
Into armour of Seville,
With a strong *Arkansas toothpick*,
Screwed in every joint of steel.
—*Ben Gaultier: American Ballads, B.*