

Attorney-General's devil (legal).

This is a barrister, who, not being a Queen's Counsel, is appointed by the Attorney-General for the time being to be his "junior" in Government cases. He is always one of the best men at the junior bar, and as such is chosen by the Attorney-General.

Attory, venomous, from *adder*, a poisonous little serpent, originally spelt and pronounced *ad-dery*. Chaucer in the "Person's Tale" speaks of *attry anger*; Anglo-Saxon *attor*, poison.

Auctioneer (popular), to tip him the *auctioneer*, is to knock a man off his legs. Derived from the saleroom phrase to knock down.

Audit (Winchester), the day on which the students receive their pocket-money, called also "apple-pie day."

Audit ale (Cambridge), very strong ale supposed to be drunk on audit day. It is peculiar to Trinity College. About two centuries ago, some ale was brewed for that college which was so strong and good that the recipe was preserved with care, and the ale has ever since been made every year in a limited quantity. Professors and undergraduates are allowed to purchase a certain number of bottles. This ale will burn like spirits when thrown into the fire.

The table was spread with coffee, *audit*, devils, omelets, hare-pies, and all the other articles of the buttry.—*Ouida: Held in Bondage*.

Audley or **orderly** (theatrical), a term used by theatrical showmen when they wish to abridge the performance, in consequence of there being a sufficient number of persons waiting to fill "another house." The manager or parade master will then call out, John Orderly!

Auger (American), a prosy fellow, a bore.

Aul. præ. (Winchester), an abbreviation which stands for *Præfectus Aulæ*, that is, Prefect of Hall.

Auly-auly (Winchester), a game played on "grass court" on Saturday afternoons after chapel. It is played by throwing a small cricket ball at your opponent.

Aunt. This term, as used in the phrase at "my *aunt's*," in a brothel, is obsolete. The old slang of the Elizabethan era, *aunt*, had the signification of a concubine, a prostitute, or a woman of loose morals, or, worse, a procuress. "Mine *aunt* will feed me," was a common phrase at one time, meaning an agent who would procure virgins for the purposes of debauchery. Shakspeare and Ben Jonson use the word.