



Slang; a dictionary of the turf, the ring, the chase, the pit, of bon-ton, and the varieties of life, forming the compleat Lexicon balatronicum interspersed with anecdotes and whimsies

John] [Badcock

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1823 Excerpt: ...Lair' by Somerville: " Fierce from his lair, springs forth the speckled pard, Thirsting for blood, and eager to destroy. Unharboured now the royal stag forsakes His wonted lair; he shakes his dappled sides, And tosses high his beamy head. Lead Towels--pistols: nearly gone out of use, along with the practice of highway-robbery, except in the song of George Barnwell; where it says, Make Nunky surrender his dibs, Rub his pate with a pair of lead tovoelt, Or stick a knife into his ribs, I'll warrant he'll then show some bowels. Rum-ti-iddity-ti. Lxary--fly, or up to a thing or manoeuvre. Zegs--i. e. blacklegs. The monosyllable is, however, most elegant, as it leaves something to be guessed at. They are well dressed, sometimes well educated, sharpers at gambling-houses or race-courses, &c.; but legs appear in private parties frequently, assuming much the surface of gentility. Animal courage they possess, nine pair having fought duels in the year 1822, and they possess skill too, everyone having missed manslaughter. "Oh, ray leg!" is a hint to a discharged convict; and gave name probably to the legs. Leger St.) Stakes--are a payment of 25 guineas each, by the owners of 3-year olds, (horses and mares) to be run for over a course of about 2 miles, more or less; the winner takes or sweeps off all--whence ' sweepstakes.' Colts carry 8st. 21bs; fillies 8st. They were begun at Doncaster in 1776, before which time, the fashion of running 3 yr-olds was limited; the application of names to the several stakes, as Derby, Craven, and St. Leger, began soon after then--Legere is French for light weights. In 1822, 73 horses were named, and 23 started. Let-loose--that part of the ring at a bull-bait, where the dogs are slipped, or let loose. ' The let-loose,' o...

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