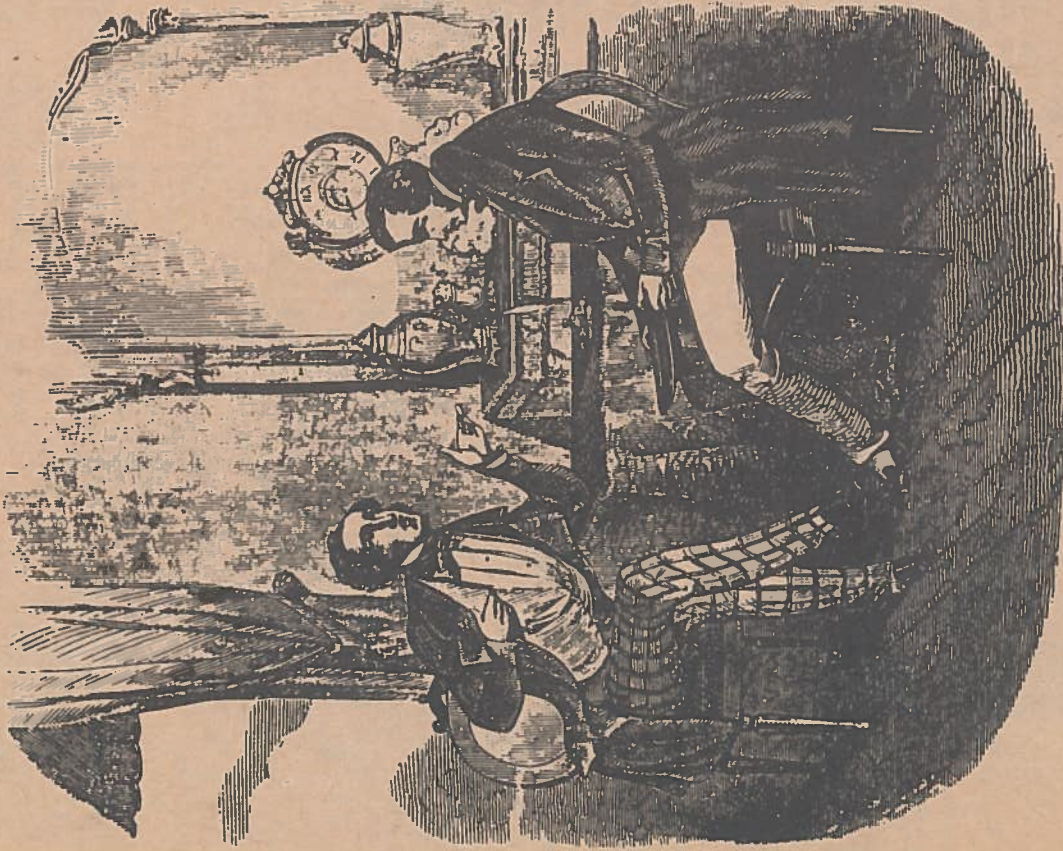


Bethinking of Old Orleans

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County
Historian

8-18-82



ABANDONED TERMINOLOGY AND ITS MEANING
 Times are ever changing and so likewise is our language. There are many words that our ancestors used which for one reason or another have become obsolete or their meaning different. For instance, if someone asked you "What is a gimlet?" You might nowadays say "It is a drink made with lime juice and gin." But not so, one hundred years ago. Here is a list of words or terms which would have been a part of our ancestors' everyday vocabulary. Some of these words were certainly slang terms in their day while others were proper Kings' English. See if you can match the term with its correct meaning. The answers appear below if you become frustrated.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Joiner | A. Doorway drapes |
| 2. Horse block | B. Arbor |
| 3. Inglenook | C. Mattress |
| 4. Saleratus | D. Bundle of Sticks |
| 5. Switchel | E. Trolley operator (driver) |
| 6. Larder | F. Quarry worker |
| 7. Antimacassar | G. Dish for salt |
| 8. Piazza | H. Baking Soda (sodium bicarbonate) |
| 9. Gig | I. Large pitcher with lid |
| 10. Tick | J. Fireplace alcove |
| 11. Cow catcher | K. Carriage stepping stone |
| 12. Bower | L. Lye of wood ashes |
| 13. Ragamuffin | M. Summer-time vinegar drink |
| 14. Faggot | N. Chamber pot |
| 15. Portiers | O. Doily for furniture |
| 16. Gimlet | P. Stupid fellow |
| 17. Motorman | Q. Poorly clothed dirty child |
| 18. "Thunder mug" | R. Eatable woods greens |
| 19. Block Breaker | S. Storage place of food |
| 20. Potash | T. Carpenter |
| 21. Saltcellar | U. Quibbling lawyer |
| 22. Dolt | V. Porch |
| 23. Pettifogger | W. Little boring tool |
| 24. Flagon | X. Buggy |
| 25. Cowslips | Y. Barrel maker |
| 26. Cooper | Z. Front of locomotive for clearing track |

For those of you who have become frustrated, here then are the answers:
 1-T, 2-K, 3-J, 4-H, 5-M, 6-S, 7-O, 8-V, 9-X, 10-C, 11-Z, 12-B, 13-Q, 14-D,
 15-A, 16-W, 17-E, 19-F, 20-L, 21-G, 22-P, 23-U, 24-I, 25-R, 26-Y.

Ask the Old Farmer: Not too long ago garden hoses were connected to a "silcock." Seems like a funny name. Any reason for it? D.P., Greenville, S.C.



You could have figured this out for yourself. It's a faucet placed outside the house, and a white back they placed them at about the height of the sill.

Home Hint: Put butter on a pill and a dog will eat it like candy.