

## GLOSSARY

- Absquatulate* – take leave, disappear  
*Alderman* – stomach, big stomach  
*Appleknocker* – travelling farmhand  
*Backstick* – back/backlong  
*Ball* – war/battle  
*Barrelman* – sailor stationed in the crow’s nest  
*Beholden* – owing gratitude, indebted  
*Bister* – yellowish-brown  
*Blackbirding* – kidnapping people to work as slaves  
*Boneyard* – cemetery  
*Bowse* – to pull or haul  
*Breadbasket* – stomach  
*Brickle* – brittle  
*Buck* – log pile  
*Bumbershoot* – umbrella  
*Burrheaded* – having tightly-curved hair  
*Buster* – plow, breaking plow  
*Butt* – ridge that stands out prominently from  
surrounding area  
*Button* – young, inexperienced man  
*Buzzwhig* – big shot  
*Calf-rope* – surrender  
*Chat* – gravelly tailings  
*Chist* – bag  
*Chizzly* – chilly and damp  
*Chowderhead* – idiot

*Clackers* – teeth  
*Clodhopper* – awkward person  
*Clunch* – hardened clay, chalky limestone  
*Coffin nail* – cigarette  
*Coltsfoot* – perennial with yellow flowers  
*Coonjine* – rhythmic gait for loading freight  
*Copperhead* – Northerner with Southern sympathies  
*Coydog* – hybrid between coyote and wild dog  
*Cracker line* – supply line for troops on the move  
*Cradle knoll* – mound with a cradle-like depression  
    next to it  
*Craunch* – chew noisily, crush  
*Crocked* – crazy  
*Daddles* – hands  
*Deacon* – learn, acquire through knowledge  
*Dog watch* – a short watch period  
*Dog-town* – poor section of town  
*Drindle* – weaken, diminish, waste away  
*Drisk* – drizzle  
*Duds* – clothing  
*Evenfall* – the onset of evening  
*Fallfish* – freshwater fish  
*Fire and tow* – excitable  
*Flake* – dead  
*Fluking* – sailing  
*Footlog* – log serving as a bridge  
*Forenoon* – morning  
*Forked* – violent  
*Foundling* – abandoned infant

*Fraid hole* – cave  
*Free stall* – dairy barn  
*French leave* – to go absent without leave  
*Fush out* – fail, die  
*Fuss up* – dress up  
*Gadabout* – drifter  
*Gaffle* – cheat, swindle  
*Gibble-gabble* – senseless chatter  
*Glim* – a look/glimpse; a lamp/lamplight  
*Glimstick* – candle  
*Go on the prod* – irritable, offensively angry  
*Goosecap* – fool  
*Greybacks* – lice, derogatory term for  
    Confederate soldiers  
*Gulley washer* – heavy rain  
*Hammer-headed* – stubborn  
*Hangdog* – ashamed, unhappy  
*Hantle* – crowd  
*Hayseed* – unsophisticated person  
*Hitching strap* – the connection between a  
    wagon/buggy and a horse  
*Idea-pot* – head  
*Intervale* – low-lying land  
*Jawing* – talking  
*Jib* – foremost frontward triangular sail  
*Jimberjawed* – protruding, lopsided lower jaw  
*Kedge* – to drift  
*Keel-up* – kill  
*Knot* – a swelling, lump; a boil.

*Lady boss* – wife  
*Maiden cane* – large grass  
*Milk gap* – opening where cows are let in for milking  
*Minie balls* – deadly advanced bullets used in Civil War  
*Minies* – minie ball bullets  
*Mow hole* – opening in hayloft floor for throwing down hay  
*Mud hen* – black-crowned night heron  
*Nipper* – tooth  
*Off soundings* – out of one's depth, in deep water  
*Owly* – angry  
*Paddy* – woman, tramp  
*Pap* – grandfather  
*Paplaps* – babies  
*Pawky* – sneaky, sly  
*Pepperbox* – multiple-barrel revolver  
*Pigboat* – lake steamship  
*Pignut* – hickory chair that bears nuts with thin husks  
*Pin-basket* – child  
*Pip jenny* – pimple  
*Piroot* – whirl around  
*Play-pretty* – toy  
*Plocking* – a short, low clicking sound  
*Poke* – money pouch  
*Pop* – grandfather  
*Pop-call* – unexpected visit  
*Pope's nose* – rump of a cooked fowl  
*Potlicker* – contemptible person  
*Proggng* – foraging  
*Puckerbrush* – land with scrub brush

*Quarter* – surrender  
*Quick-step* – diarrhea  
*Quile down* – settle down  
*Rawbone* – bony  
*Ribble-off* – recite by rote  
*Rick* – wood bundle  
*Riley* – angry  
*Rippet* – fight, noisy disturbance  
*Rooter* – nose  
*Rubboard* – unpaved road  
*Runnel* – a small stream  
*Sandlapper* – someone from South Carolina  
*Sawbones* – surgeon  
*Scow* – large foot  
*Scrimy* – dirty, stingy  
*Scrog* – damage  
*Seed-folk* – ancestors  
*Serry* – packed crowd  
*Shammock* – walk in a shambling or idle way  
*Shanks* – without  
*Shiner* – black person  
*Shirrtail* – boy, child; small amount  
*Skew* – suddenly change direction  
*Skimble-scamble* – rambling and confused, senseless  
*Skimmer* – bird that skims the water  
*Skipjack* – fish that leaps above the water  
*Skite* – leave quickly, to hurry  
*Skyroot* – fast, go quickly  
*Sloop* – small warship

*Smurry* – hazy, cloudy, overcast  
*Snowball* – poor white person  
*Sozzle* – idle, splash  
*Spalt* – decayed wood  
*Spill pine* – needle pine  
*Spleeny* – sickly  
*Sposh* – mud  
*Sproutland* – land covered with saplings  
*Spudge along* – mosey along  
*Squeaker* – child  
*Stiver* – stagger  
*Stoneboat* – sled for transporting stones  
*Stone-row* – stone fence  
*Stub-up* – uncooperative, sullen  
*Stump-mover* – heavy rain  
*Sugar off* – to finish off, bring to a conclusion  
*Swale* – low-lying tract of land, meadow  
*Swamp Yankee* – old fashioned rural New Englander  
*Swarp* – to beat  
*Swinged* – singed, burnt  
*Swoo* – cow/cow call  
*Tacker* – child, tyke  
*Tag sale* – sale of used household items  
*Ticker* – heart  
*Tippet* – rump  
*Toonerville trolley* – rundown or unreliable railcar,  
trolley, etc.

*Trill* – quavering warbling sound  
*Trim* – to beat  
*Tumblebug* – dung-rolling beetle  
*Tumbleset* – somersault  
*Tump* – small hill, clump of marshy vegetation  
*Tumpline* – headstrap used to ease the weight of a  
load carried on the back  
*Tunket* – an informal party  
*Tunkup* – mashed potatoes  
*Turkey-turd beer* – fertilizer made of water and  
manure  
*Tush hog* – tough, aggressive person  
*Underlay* – something placed under or beside  
something else  
*Up a tree* – drunk  
*Upping block* – mounting block  
*Wamble-cropped* – sick  
*Wen* – lump or swelling under the skin  
*Whay* – command to a cow  
*Whippletree* – part of a wagon attaching the horse  
*Whook* – call to animals  
*Willywag* – underbrush  
*Withy* – strong, wiry  
*Wizzle* – weaken, shrivel up, die  
*Wopse* – wollop, beat  
*Wudget* – bundle  
*Yee-yawed* – askew