

## THE-SUB-AUDIENCE

by  
orlando mezzabotta

=====

### Disclaimer

These are tentative annotations, liable to be adjusted, modified or discarded. Many of them are highly questionable, definitely far-fetched and a few on the verge of insanity. So use them at your own risk. My aim is trying to put together controversial data in order to build a possible system. The results may not be satisfactory, but I am convinced that the strategy is the right one. McHugh's Annotations and Fweet should be always at hand.

=====

So Kersse addresses the three clients making it clear that the Captain doesn't know anything about "horses". He uses a pidgin that hides amusing allusions.

**322.25:** -- Same capman no nothing horces two feller he feller go  
**322.26:** where.

First of all we should ask: why pidgin? That could be in fact AAE (*Australian Aboriginal English*), hinting obliquely at the "native" (Irish) speaker, whose expertise is more reliable than the invader's one. The Captain (*capman*), who is in fact a base "*peddler*" (*capman* → *chapman*) and a nullity (*no nothing*), does know anything (*no nothing*) about horses (*horces*) and their capabilities (*horces* → *forces*). He does not know which one (*he feller*) of the two contenders (*horces two feller*) shall have the lead (*go where*). Taking

for granted, of course, that it's the Captain (**he feller**) who does not know where he goes. Which is a way for Kersse to show his superiority.

But, as in the previous paragraph, there is also a “*sartorial*” side. For what concerns trousers, Italian “*cavallo*” (horse) is the “*crotch*”. So, that base peddler does not know anything about trousers as well and how horses should be manufactured. In this particular context we might even suggest a far-fetched XXX rated “*cocksucker*” (**two feller he feller** → *fellatio*).

Then Kersse asks for the three clients' approval.

**322.26:** Isn't that effect? **gig** for **gag**, asked there three newcom-

**322.27:** mers till knockingshop at the ones upon a toppers

Is it not a factual truth (**effect**) what he has just said? That's his reply (**gig**) to the version of the facts given by the Captain, which was no more than a practical joke, a hoax (**gag**). The term “**gig**” contains a lot of allusions. Talking about horses, it is a two-wheeled carriage.



In nautical terms it is a long boat for the ship's captain own use:



Talking of “textiles” it is a machine used for raising the nap of a fabric:



But it is also a pronged spear for fishing or catching frogs:



Perhaps for catching the Frog Prince we already talked about? And, last not least, in military terms it is a “*demerit*”. In conclusion: Kersse's “*gig*” is the pronged spear with which he catches the frog-like Captain; and the tool he uses to give him a good “*carding*” and show how “*unworthy*” he (the Captain) is. In other words how the tailor's “*horce*” is superior to the sailor's boat.

But how come that the clients are called “*newcom-mers*”? It's possible that they are defined in that manner because they are “*new*” to the facts, the fresh news which Kersse reports. But I think that in “*com-mers*” (with a possible resonant “*commerce*”) we might pick the French “*commères*”, plural of “*commère*”, which is “*godmother*” and “*next-door female neighbour*” and the derogatory “*gossip*”. Thus they are in fact three close gossip comrades, making quite a fuss (*knockingshop*), one on top of each other (*at the ones upon a toppers*), dead drunk (*toppers*). “*knockingshop*” is “*brothel*” and both French “*foutre le bordel*” (fuck the brothel) and Italian “*far casino, far bordello*” (make brothel) mean “*to make a big mess, to screw things up*”.

**322.27: who, while in**

**322.28: admittance to that impedance, as three as they were there, they had**

**322.29: been maltreating themselves to their health's contempt.**

The sense is clear: while listening to Kersse's speech the three clients kept drinking like mad (*maltreating*), not giving a fig about the damage that liquor could cause to their health.

But “*admittance*” and “*impedance*” need a little elucidation.

“*admittance*” is : “*the measure of the ability of a circuit or component to allow current flow when exposed to AC voltages (its AC conductance). It is equal to the reciprocal of the impedance of the circuit, just as conductivity is equal to the reciprocal of resistance, and is similarly measured in mhos.*”

“impedance” is: “*the measure of the total opposition to current flow in an alternating current circuit.*”

What we should point out is the “*AC : alternating current*”. The Captain's version and Kersse's one flow in opposite direction. Kersse has been so generous as to “*admit*” the three clients, to permit them (*admittance*) to follow his narrative that “*contradicted*” (*impedance*) the “*impudent*” one (*impedance*) of the Captain's. But, as said above, it doesn't seem they gave a fig about it.

**322.30:** -- That's fag for fig, metinkus, confessed, mhos for mhos, those  
**322.31:** who, would it not be for that dielectrick, were upon the point of  
**322.32:** obsoletion, and at the brink of from the pillary of the Nilsens and  
**322.33:** from the statutes of the Kongbullies and from the millestones of  
**322.34:** Ovlergroamlius libitate nos, Domnial!

This section too doesn't pose particular problems. It reports the caustic comment of the three clients, who, as noted above, do not care a fig about that base controversy, since their interest lies in the field of politics.

“fag for fig” hides nasty allusions. “fag” is “*faggot*” and “fig” is Italian “*figa*” (cunt). “tinku” is a ritualistic combat of the Bolivian Aymara tradition. Thus a way to say that they don't care a “fig” about that “fucking” combat of “faggots”. And they say that quite clearly, word for word ( *mhos for mhos* → French “*mot for mot*” ), words that flow without resistance ( *mho* → *measure of electric conductivity*). In fact, if they would not have been disturbed by Kersse's speech, that could not flow through them ( *dielectrick* → *no ability to conduct electricity*), so resistant to it (note that the measure of resistance is “*ohm*”, the reverse of “*mho*” - further “*ohm-osexual*” derisory allusions); were it not for that, they certainly would have continued in their arguments about ancient history (*obsoletion*), with their patriotic toasts (*libitate nos*) to Daniel O' Connell (*Domnial*), the Liberator,



he who shall free them from the English Nelson (the pillar of the Nilsens);



King William the Third of Orange, alias King Billy (Kongbullies),



aka King Kong;



and Wellington, with his “overgrown milestone” (**millestones of Ovlergroamlius**),



the Iron Duke, who, though an Irishman, was in fact an English man, like the despised Oliver Cromwell (**Ovlergroamlius**). A choral “damn all” (**Domnial**) and “down all” with all their monuments.



Asking forgiveness and absolution (**obsoletion**) for their “*murderous*” wish.