

Some Cape Dutch Idiomatic Words and Expressions.

Aanstèllërig,	<i>Affected.</i>
Afdra'ënd,	<i>Down hill.</i>
Opdra'ënd,	<i>Up hill.</i>
Aja,	<i>Nurse maid.</i>
Albastër,	<i>Marble.</i>
Assëmbliëf,	<i>If you please.</i>
Baaitji,	<i>Jacket.</i>
Bakklei,	<i>To fight.</i>
Bees(t),	<i>Cow or ox.</i>
Blatjang,	<i>Pickled green peaches.</i>
Bog,	<i>Bedding for kraals, (also) non-sense.</i>
Bottërkop,	<i>Stupid fellow.</i>
Bulpèrd,	<i>Very fine horse.</i>
Dalkies,	<i>Presently.</i>
Dam,	<i>Reservoir.</i>
Dop steek,	<i>To have a drink.</i>
Drif(t),	<i>River ford.</i>
Fris,	<i>Healthy.</i>
Gantang,	<i>Sweetheart.</i>
Halfnaatji,	<i>Half-caste.</i>
Hartëbees,	<i>Deer.</i>
Hondbly,	<i>As pleased as Punch.</i>
Jas,	<i>Lady's jacket.</i>
Jongëtjiis,	<i>Young of animals.</i>
Kapok,	<i>Snow, to snow.</i>
Karmastë,	<i>Leggings.</i>
Karoo,	<i>Waste.</i>
Keil,	<i>Top hat.</i>
Kirie,	<i>Club.</i>
Klaas Waarzëggër,	<i>Name for a story-teller.</i>
Klafir,	<i>Piano.</i>
Kleinneef (-nicht),	<i>Second cousin.</i>
Klonk (klonki),	<i>Little coloured boy.</i>
Knihaltër,	<i>Knee strap (of horses).</i>
Koppi,	<i>Bare rock on top of a hill.</i>
Kraal,	<i>Cattle pen, (also) Kafir village.</i>
Krans,	<i>Rocky ridge on a hill.</i>
Kwippër,	<i>Quince.</i>
Lat,	<i>Stick.</i>
Leeg (laag),	<i>Low-lying.</i>

Likkēwaan,	<i>Alligator.</i>
Lol,	<i>To bother.</i>
Lunsrien,	<i>Piece of leather preventing wheel from slipping off the axle. A good-for-nothing fellow.</i>
Matraskop,	<i>Curly head.</i>
Meebos,	<i>Dried apricots preserved with salt and sugar.</i>
Mukstok,	<i>Forked piece of wood placed as a support under the shaft of a cart.</i>
Ondërduims,	<i>Underhand.</i>
Oudërwëts,	<i>Precocious.</i>
Ou'tata,	<i>Name for an old coloured man.</i>
Padda,	<i>Toad.</i>
Parrak,	<i>Frog.</i>
Patat,	<i>Sweet potato.</i>
Pépërrkorrëlkop,	<i>A Bushman's head.</i>
Përskiis,	<i>Peaches.</i>
Poort,	<i>Narrow defile between mountains.</i>
Priëel,	<i>A trellised vine.</i>
Rëg maak,	<i>To settle.</i>
Rissiis,	<i>Cayenne pepper.</i>
Ronddawël,	<i>Circular building with thatched roof.</i>
Sjambok,	<i>Strip of rhinoceros hide.</i>
Sëroet,	<i>Cigar.</i>
Sausati	<i>Spiced bits of meat roasted on small iron spikes.</i>
Rëgtig,	<i>Really.</i>
Skerm,	<i>A straw shed annexed to a hut.</i>
Skoenlappër,	<i>Butterfly.</i>
Smous,	<i>Peddler.</i>
Snaaks,	<i>Odd, queer, out of the way.</i>
Soetriet,	<i>Sugar-cane.</i>
Spaansspëk,	<i>Mush melon.</i>
Struis,	<i>Straw hut.</i>
Tamaai,	<i>Very large.</i>
Togtgangër,	<i>Transport rider.</i>
Tronk,	<i>Prison.</i>
Twak,	<i>Tobacco.</i>
Plakpampier,	<i>Wall paper.</i>
Farkblom,	<i>Arum lily.</i>
Fuurhcutjiis,	<i>Matches.</i>
Fyftiin da'ë,	<i>A fortnight.</i>
Wërdeld,	<i>World; any particular part of the country.</i>
Hy stël banjë fër hom an,	<i>He is very conceited,</i>

Ek foel so arig,	<i>I feel so queer.</i>
Da's 'n arigē ding,	<i>That's a nasty thing.</i>
Hy is angēklam,	<i>He is tipsy.</i>
Hy hēt syn hand in di as gēslaan,	<i>He has been refused (in courtship).</i>
Hy hēt bakēn gēsteek,	<i>His horse has thrown him.</i>
Hy blaas,	<i>He tells stories.</i>
Waar b'ly jy?	<i>Where do you live?</i>
Di perd syn blus hang,	<i>The horse is tired out.</i>
Hy hēt boedēl o'ērgēgē,	<i>He turned sick.</i>
Bokki,	<i>Buggy.</i>
Hy is bokfēld toe,	<i>He is dead.</i>
Sy hēt fēr haar opgēdons,	<i>She has tricked herself out.</i>
Hy hou dop by di mysi,	<i>He is courting that girl.</i>
Een fris man,	<i>A stout man.</i>
Ek geef ni om ni,	<i>I don't mind.</i>
Di goed groei gyl,	<i>The things grow luxuriantly.</i>
Laat gons,	<i>To run.</i>
Hy loop tot di stof so staan	<i>He runs as hard as he can.</i>
Da's 'n grap en 'n half,	<i>That's a capital joke.</i>
Haak af, kērēls,	<i>Fire away, boys.</i>
Hy is hēmpi,	<i>He has lost his all.</i>
Loop naar di hoendērs,	<i>Go to Jericho.</i>
Wat sē Horak?	<i>Don't exaggerate.</i>
Hottentotsgod,	<i>Mantis.</i>
Jantji-trap-suutjiis,	<i>Cameleon.</i>
Kaalfoet, kaalkop,	<i>Bare-footed, bare-headed.</i>
Hy is kampta mooi,	<i>He fancies himself handsome.</i>
Hy het uitgery met Jan tuisbly	<i>He intended going out, but was</i>
syn karretji,	<i>prevented.</i>
Hy gaan kasta post toe,	<i>He pretends to go to the post.</i>
Sy is kits,	<i>She is silly.</i>
Hy bak kluitjiis,	<i>He tells fibs.</i>
Een kniidiip foor dag,	<i>Shortly before daybreak.</i>
Hy wil ni kop gé ni,	<i>He won't give in.</i>
Hy is kort gēsplan,	<i>He is quick-tempered.</i>
Syn matērs is morsdood,	<i>He has no equal.</i>
Waar kan 'n mēns hier 'n winkēl	<i>Where can one find a shop here?</i>
find?	
Ek is in di middēl,	<i>I am in a muddle.</i>
Hy moekēr fēr hom,	<i>He gives it him.</i>
Hy hēt di ding agtēr di na'ēls,	<i>He is finished with that.</i>
Hy het fēr hom in di nēk laat	<i>He has allowed himself to be</i>
kyk,	<i>taken in.</i>
Nēt nou maar,	<i>Presently.</i>
Een gawē noy,	<i>An accomplished woman.</i>
Na froolikhed kom oolikhed,	<i>Merrymaking ends in sadness.</i>
Een ou' tysē mēns,	<i>An old-fashioned person.</i>
Sy hēt 'n paadji in haar harē,	<i>She wears her hair parted.</i>

Pasganger,
 Hy hou syn lyf pen,
 Hy is gauw op syn pèrdji,
 Hy ry dat dit so gons,
 Ons hèt daar gistèr a'ènd met
 sononder laat fat,
 Dit was al ampèr kèrs opsteek
 tyd,
 Hullè hèt dit mooi o'èrlè,
 Jan hèt di pèrd skrik gëmaak,
 Du kalfèrs hèt freeslik rondgëbal-
 jaar in di tuin,
 Teunis moet fan a'ènd 'n skaap
 loop uitfang,
 Sê fër Hans, hy moet di ésëls
 ankeer,
 Hy hèt syn broer daar mooi 'n
 streep gëtrèk,
 Gaat jy morrè briewè skry fër Piet
 hullè?
 Di froumènsè hiir stry al tē
 danig,
 Ek is règtè skaam fër hom,
 Hy spog met syn wit broek,
 Ek maak maar spullètjiis.
 Hy het laat stap,
 Stadig o'ër di klippèrs!
 Di ou pèrdè is steeks,
 Di kèrèl syn stèrt wil affal,
 Stokkiis draai,
 Jy kan maar gèrus touw opgooi,

 Ons sal moet fastrap,
 Jy kan nou maar trèk,
 Ons hèt di Kaffèrs uitgèklop,
 Hy kan ni fark fang,
 Fèrkleurmannètji,
 Jy is fèrspot,
 Da's 'n fuislike ding,
 Ek hèt fininig gèhardloop.
 Al is dit nou wat,
 Hy is deur di wind,
 Een yslikè stuk koek,
 Di pèrd is gesout,

An ambling horse.
He holds himself straight.
He is easily offended.
He rides as hard as he can.
We started from there last night
at sunset.
It was almost sunset.

They planned it beautifully.
John startled the horse.
The calves careered about terribly
in the garden.
Teunis must go to-night and
select a sheep from the kraal.
Tell John to drive the mules this
way.
He played his brother a nice trick
there!
Will you write to Peter and the
others to-morrow?
These women argue too hotly.

I am really shy of meeting him.
He shows off in his white trousers.
I am only joking.
He is dead.
Be careful what you do!
These old horses jib.
That fellow is mad with rage.
To play truant.
You need not trouble yourself any
further.
We shall have to do our best.
You had better go now.
We gave the Kafirs a beating.
He is bow-legged.
Cameleon.
You make yourself ridiculous.
That is a disgusting thing.
I ran all I could.
Let it be what it may.
He is off his head.
A very large piece of cake.
That horse is salted (has had
horse-sickness).