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FRENCH POLICE SPIES.

How the Government Manages to Secure Information Privately.

After all that has been said about the violence of the police system under the empire, which rendered it almost impossible for any one to be safe from espionage, even in private life, it might well be supposed that the republic had done away with this machinery for discovering and weaving plots so much more suited to the age of Louis XI than to the nineteenth century.

Governments go, and the forms of government, and these are succeeded by others, but the good old abuses—others must be thought good by some people—cling to the ship with barnaclelike tenacity. French official organization is about the most steadfast thing in the world, although all French people to whom you may speak on the subject agree that it is very bad.

All over the country there are mouchards—a term expressing something stronger than spies. I have been inconvenienced by them myself in the provinces. On one occasion I made a rather long stay in a little place where there were two hotels in fierce rivalry.

He did not trouble me, but he questioned various people as to how I passed my time, about how much I spent a day, what sort of meals I had, and whether I appeared to have more money than I knew what to do with.

I soon discovered that an informer had been at work and that the informer was no other than the keeper of the rival hotel, who for years had been receiving pay as a member of the secret police.

It is especially in Paris, however, that the secret police is supposed to be indispensable. Every government wishes to be kept well informed as to all that goes on in an enemy's camp. Such information can only be obtained from those who are willing to play the part of a traitor or whose position enables them to observe what is going forward without exciting suspicion.

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An Obtuse Englishman. A Mr. Kirbell, who had never been out of England, went to Vienna, and seems to have been a typical Briton and stubbornly insular to the extent of refusing to alter the time of his watch as he traveled eastward from England.

Getting on a Street Car. Did you ever notice a man who is going to get on a street car while it is in motion? He comes down off the sidewalk and stands along the side of the track quietly till the car almost reaches him.

A Matter of Time. Wagleigh—How did you like that dinner service I sent you today, dear? Mrs. Wagleigh—Oh, it is perfectly lovely, but there are only 91 pieces in it, and you know the set mamma has consists of 117 pieces.

Standards of Measurement. The "foot" is named from the length of that member in a full grown man. Some say that it was so called from the length of the foot of a certain English king, but it is believed to have been a standard of measurement among the ancient Egyptians.

The last words of Marie Antoinette were: "Lord, enlighten and soften the hearts of my executioners. Adieu forever, my dear children; I go to join your father."

I wonder why it is we are not all hindus than we are. How easily it is done. How instantaneously it acts. How inflexibly it is remembered.—Drummond.

Oxford, England, which is by many regarded as the greatest university, has 21 colleges and five halls.

FEMALE, WOMAN, LADY.

The Distinction Between Several Words and How They May Be Used.

An interesting discussion is going on in the columns of some newspapers over the use of the words "lady" and "woman." There is no real difference as to the occasions upon which each word is to be used, but there is a frank acknowledgment upon the part of some that they do not use the word "woman" where their good sense tells them that they should, for fear that it might give offense to the person to whom it was directed.

There are certainly no words so abused as "woman," "lady" and "female." Among certain people the use of the second of these terms is like the wearing of fine clothes or jewelry. Originally belonging to a superior class they insist on appropriating it to themselves as proof that they are the equals of any other social body.

As absurd things as that may be heard in any one of the large dry goods stores in town any day, and almost any newspaper will yield a rich specimen or two. Bishop Warren, referring to this same point, says that he glanced at the wall opposite him at the moment and saw a diploma from the "Female academy," and then turned to a bookcase and read as the title of one of the volumes there, "Female Holiness."

Now the proper word in all this is "woman." That is always and ever right. Than it there is no nobler or stronger word in the English language. "Man" is a general word as well as a particular one, and as such includes both sexes, so that the term "chairman" signifies no subservience of one sex to the domination of the other.

Old Time Cures. In medieval times if a child did not learn to walk with readiness the wise wizard would direct it to creep through a blackberry bush which had the came bent down to the earth and rooted by their tips.

What a Had Digestion Does. All life looks black to a miserable man with a stomach in which his food lies like lead. Woe to his companions if they expect good fellowship from him!

Natural. Castleton—I hear you are engaged to Miss Biggerolle, the girl you went horseback with so much last summer. How on earth did you manage it? Summit—I couldn't help it, old man. We were thrown together so much.—Truth.

Attention. In time to any irregularity of the Stomach, Liver, or Bowels may prevent serious consequences. Indigestion, costiveness, headache, nausea, biliousness, and vertigo indicate certain functional derangements, the best remedy for which is Ayer's Pills.

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Color Protection From Intense Heat.

With reference to the protective effect of certain colors against the sun's rays, years ago on my way to India the second time, having already been invalidated home once from the effects of the sun, it occurred to me to try the photographer's plan.

Years ago we used to smile with conscious superiority at the idea of the Dutch sleeping under a feather bed instead of over it. The idea of sleeping upon a hard mattress and climbing under a soft one seemed rather an anachronism and a singular perversion of common sense.

Velocity of the Earth. The highest velocity attained by a cannon ball has been estimated at 1,623 feet per second, which is equal to a mile in 3.2 seconds.

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