

ODD SECRET SOCIETY.

Indiana Women Have a Secret and Won't Tell It.

Men of the Town Have Been Trying for Twenty-Two Years to Learn the Meaning of S. T. J. M., But in Vain.

A peculiar society, which for 20 years has been a standing contradiction of the old belief that a woman cannot keep a secret, exists at Westfield, Hamilton county, and bids fair to prosper for another 20 years, despite the shafts of ridicule which from time to time have been hurled against it, reports the New York Sun.

Twenty-two years ago a number of the men of the village formed a literary society. Just for fun they decreed that no woman should ever become a member. A clubhouse was built, meetings were regularly held and the leading periodicals were read and discussed. The organization limited its membership to the intelligent class and soon began to exercise a decided influence.

After the first year some of the women in the community applied for membership, but none was ever admitted. It was always explained that it took a unanimous vote to elect a new member, and that there "was just one dissenting voice" when the name of the woman applicant was presented.

Two years later a company of ladies met and formed the S. T. J. M., and they decreed that the meaning of these letters should never become public. Each member was solemnly pledged not to reveal the secret, and for 20 years the S. T. J. M. has been in existence, and there is not a man in Westfield who has any idea what the four letters mean.

From time to time the membership has changed as the women married and moved away and other members have been added, but no one yet found, be she mother, wife, daughter or sweetheart, has revealed the meaning of the mystic symbols.

When Mrs. Sarah Jackson applied for a divorce, charging neglect, and the husband contested the suit, alleging among other things that she had concealed from him the meaning of the letters S. T. J. M., and had spent too much time at the meetings of the society, it was thought that the mystery would certainly be solved at the trial. But Mrs. Jackson refused to state what the letters stood for and the court ruled that the name of the society was not material to the testimony.

Mrs. Jackson got a divorce and alimony, and her ex-husband declared that the letters stood for the "Society of Tatting, Jabbering Matrons." But this definition was not accepted by any but the soreheads of the community.

Several years ago a young man named Crawford went to Westfield and was employed in one of the stores. He invested his earnings in a horse and buggy and was the envy of many of the other young men because they could not afford such a luxury and the newcomer could command the company of any young lady or a Sunday afternoon drive. But when Myrtle Taylor turned away from him and married John Wingate, a farmhand near the village, the other boys taunted him by asking him how he liked the Society of Thankless, Jilting Maidens.

For years this was the accepted name of the society among the younger class. Every initial in the name has been tortured into something derogatory to the society, according to individual taste. "J" has been made to stand for jealous, jaunt, jilting, jabbering, jaundiced; "T" for treacherous, tattling, teasing, troublesome, tiresome, and "M" for mothers, matrons, maidens, misanthropes, makeshifts, martyrs, match-makers and the like.

But the name is still a secret, and no amount of coaxing or threatening has sufficed to induce a member to reveal it.

ETIQUETTE ON THE LINKS.

Facts to Be Learned by American Players from English Cousins—Consideration for Caddies

Not only in the actual playing of golf, but in the etiquette of the game, the American players, or some of them, might well learn something from the visiting Englishmen, says the Boston Transcript. An observer of all the games, and a participant in the practice rounds, states that there was a marked difference between the Americans and the Englishmen in their bearing toward the caddies. The Americans, especially the college boys, were impatient if the caddie did not at once find the ball after the drive. The Englishmen did not hurry or worry at all. They almost invariably said "Thank you" when the caddie did a service for which he was being paid. They consulted with the caddie and usually accepted his judgment as of value, even if it was sometimes in error. And they did not run. One of the caddies was sent up the hill at Myopia to indicate the direction of the hole. He started to run up the hill with his heavy bag of clubs, after a sharp command from one of the college boys.

"Don't run, my lad," called out the Englishman for whom he was doing the service, "we've got all the time that there is."

MAY MAGNIFY TIME.

The Stroboscope Enables the Careful Examination of Anything in Motion.

Just as there are things so small that the naked eye cannot see them, and we use a microscope, so there are other things that move so quickly that we cannot see them. It is to enable us to magnify the time taken by very rapid motions that the stroboscope has been invented—an instrument described before the institution of electrical engineers, London, by the eminent French electrician, M. Hospitaller, president of the Societe Internationale des Electriciens, reports a London paper.

Take, for instance, the case of an engine or machine moving at great speed. Its parts appear a mere blur to the spectator, yet an important improvement may depend on the possibility of realizing exactly how a certain part of the motion at full speed takes place. The stroboscope is an instrument which enables this to be done. A movement that really takes place in a hundredth or a thousandth of a second may be seen drawn out to a quarter of a minute or more. The time of the movement is magnified so as to enable it to be watched and examined at leisure. The means that produce this wonderful result are ludicrously simple when you know them. By means of an electric spark fired at rapid recurring periods, or a revolving disk with slits passed before a lantern, the moving object is illuminated in a succession of flashes. If the flashes coincide exactly with the period of the machine's revolution they will show it always in one position, and to the observer it will seem at rest.

By slightly retarding the flashes, so that they lag behind their time, the machine under observation will seem to move slowly, because at each revolution it is shown at a slightly later stage. Thus a movement too rapid for direct observation may be analyzed and watched slowly, the strains or vibrations at every point being clearly noted. Thus you may watch the formation of the stitch in a sewing machine, the exact way in which a petrol motor works, and a thousand other machine movements where it is important to see slowly what goes on with lightning speed. The great glare of the arc lamp is not a continuous light, but the see-saw of an alternating current, so fast that the eye cannot catch the rise and fall of the illumination. The stroboscope will throw the image of the arc and screen so that the rise and fall appears quite slow, and the effects of different kinds of carbons, different frequencies and different methods of regulation can be judged. The stroboscope principle has many applications, and M. Hospitaller explained the allied instruments, the "ondographe" (wave recorder) and "pulsance graphe" (power recorder), by which electric currents of immense rapidity may be studied and the exact nature of their periodic action determined and recorded.

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by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are cured by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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ODD SHOE FACTS.

Greek shoes were peculiar in reaching to the middle of the legs. The present fashion of shoes was introduced into England in 1633.

In the ninth and tenth centuries the greatest princes of Europe wore wooden shoes.

Shoes among the Jews were made of leather, linen, rush or wood; soldiers' shoes were sometimes made of brass or iron.

In the reign of Richard II. shoes were of such absurd length as to require to be supported by being tied to the knees with chains, sometimes of gold or silver.

In the reign of William Rufus of England in the eleventh century a great "dude," Robert the Horned, used shoes with sharp points staffed with tow and twisted like rams' horns.

The Romans made use of two kinds of shoes—the solea, or sandal, which covered the sole of the foot and was worn at home, and the calceus, which covered the whole foot and was worn abroad.

Victory and After.

Many a man in a moment of fine enthusiasm applauds Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death." It is a proper sentiment to entertain, but not easy to live up to.

Most of us feel more like the Pennsylvania Dutchman who told his wife to write an appropriate inscription on his knapsack, which she was packing on the eve of his departure to join Washington's army in the Revolution. The enthusiastic woman, dreaming of her hero coming home a general, at least, wrote in good, round letters, "Victory or Death."

In a few moments her husband caught sight of it.

"No goot! No goot!" he exclaimed in great excitement. "Take dat off quick! Put on goot words. Victory, oder come back again!"—Youth's Companion.

Overdid It.

Mrs. Passay—Mary, wasn't that gentleman asking for me? The New Maid—No, mum. He described the lady he wanted to see as being about forty, and I told him it couldn't be you. Mrs. Passay—Quite right, my dear. And you shall have an extra afternoon off tomorrow. The New Maid—Yes, mum—thankee, mum. Yes, mum; I told him it couldn't be you, for you was about fifty. Mrs. Passay—And while you're taking your afternoon off you'd better hunt a new place!—Cleveland Leader.

Her Clever Scheme.

Fanny—Why in the world do you send away for so many catalogues and then never buy anything? Suzette—To keep the postman coming here. I don't want those women across the street to know that Jack and I don't correspond any more.—Detroit Free Press.

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The new Weekly Oregonian

Peculiar Disappearance.

J. D. Ronyard, of Bismarck, O., had the peculiar disappearance of his painful symptoms, of constipation and biliousness, to Dr. Kline's New Life Pills. He says: "This is a perfect remedy for dizziness, sour stomach, headache, constipation, etc." Guaranteed at Slocum's drug store, price 25c.

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