Spoiling Old Friendships.

So far as men are concerned, the warmest friendship is that which exists between two fellows whose wives have never met. A friend that we have known and liked for years has drifted away from us, and we suppose he feels that we have drifted away from him. We liked each other so well that we wanted our wives to meet and be good friends. Finally they met, and, as might have been expected, they cared nothing in the world for each other. In fact, one of them said she couldn't see what on earth anybody could find in her to admire, and we suppose the other said about the same thing. We felt that our friend knew what our wife thought of his wife, and we were a little ashamed to be in his company. Probably he felt the same. At any rate, we haven't had much of anything to do with each other since. We speak, but no one would ever guess that we once were bosom friends.—Claude Callan in Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Spanish Irishmen.

A recent writer draws attention to the connection which has long existed between Ireland and Spain. In the days of the "Wild Geese," when Irishmen were carving out futures for themselves as soldiers of fortune in many lands, they went in large numbers to Spain. Then again large numbers of Irish men and women, many of them belonging to well known families, emigrated to Spain in the early days of the nineteenth century. All these immigrants were adopted by the country, and they adopted it, whole heartedly—so whole heartedly, indeed, that, as the writer already referred to pointed out, hardly any of their present representatives speak English, at any rate as "a native tongue," and they have lost all touch with Irish life. They have retained their names, however, unaltered, and in the Spanish army list are to be found many such names as O'Connor, O'Neil, O'Donnell, Shaw, and so on.—Christian Science Monitor.

Cancer Not Hereditary.

That cancer is not inherited in man seems to be proved by statistics collected by Arthur Hunter and presented to the Association of Life Insurance Presidents. Mr. Hunter investigated the history of policy holders and found that when both of a man's parents had died of cancer only two grandparents out of 234 had died of this disease. Among 314 sons and daughters of parents both of whom had died of cancer he could find not one case of cancer. He considered only those above the age of forty.

He found only nine cases of cancer among 301 brothers and sisters of cancerous pairs. Of the 810 sons and daughters above forty in 488 families of which one parent had died of cancer only three were known to have had the disease.

Corn and Water.

To those engaged in the handling of grain the natural shrinkage of shelled corn while in storage and in transit is a matter of prime importance and often a source of dispute because of shortage reported at time of receipt at warehouse and a further loss at date of final sale. In order to determine the amount of shrinkage or loss of weight occurring in corn the department of agriculture conducted an experiment with 500 bushels of shelled corn. At the time of storage the moisture content was 18.8 per cent and at close of the test 14.7 per cent, or a loss of 4.1 per cent. The weight per bushel had decreased from 54.7 pounds to 50 pounds, and the total loss of weight was 1,970 pounds, or slightly more than 7 per cent.

Says the Sun Didn't Stand Still.

Joshua's command to the sun and moon to "stand still" only meant that they should be "eclipsed," according to Dr. Thomas Dick Wilson, professor of Hebrew at Princeton Theological seminary. The word usually translated "stand still" in the Bible is the Hebrew "damu," said Dr. Wilson, which really means "eclipse." "When my students come to me," he said, "with doubt as to whether God actually upset the laws of gravitation at the request of Joshua I say 'Don't worry. Nothing of the kind took place.'"—Philadelphia North American.

Hopeless Case.

Mabel—I am sure he must have loved her very dearly. Maude—I should say so. He married her in spite of the fact that he had been out in the rain with her all one afternoon, was seasick with her and saw her unexpectedly at home the morning after a dance.—London Opinion.

Business Courtesy.

Little Willie—Say, pa, what is business courtesy? Pa—There are two kinds of business courtesy, my son. One is the kind extended to people who pay cash, and the other is extended to people who don't.—London Answers.

She Takes the Rings.

Tom—I know a girl who accepts rings from men she doesn't know. Bessie—I don't believe it! How could she? Tom—Why, she can't help it—she's a telephone girl!

Her Strong Chin.

Dawson—The facial features plainly indicate character and disposition. In selecting your wife were you governed by her chin? Spenlow—No, but I have been ever since we were married.

It is easy to decide without thinking; it is easy to think and not decide; but it is hard to think fairly and decide courageously.

Mapping the United States.

Beginning nearly forty years ago to construct accurate topographic and geologic maps of both the known and the unexplored regions of the United States, the United States geological survey has speedily progressed with this part of its work until topographic maps of 40 per cent of the country are now published, besides maps for large areas in Alaska and Hawaii. Extensive areas have also been covered by geologic maps, and all the work from the beginning of the field survey to the printing of the finished map is done by this government bureau. Other activities of the survey are the classification of public lands, the annual collection of mineral statistics of the United States and investigations of the nation's water resources, all involving the publication of scientific and technical reports containing over 20,000 pages annually.

During the last thirty years over $15,000,000 has been spent by the geological survey in geologic and topographic surveys in the United States.

Seeing Distances.

About 200 miles in every direction is the distance a man can see when standing on a clear day on the peak of the highest mountain—say at a height of 29,028 feet, or a little over five miles above the level of the sea. An observer must be at a height of 6,667 feet above sea level to see objects at a distance of a hundred miles. The distance in miles at which an object upon the surface of the earth is visible is equal to the square root of one and one-half times the height of the observer in feet above sea level. Some allowance has to be made for the effect of atmospheric refraction, but as the refraction varies at different heights and is affected by the various states of the weather no precisely accurate figures for general purposes can be given. Probably from one-fourteenth to one-tenth of the distance given by the formula would have to be deducted owing to the refraction of the atmosphere.

Caustic Criticism.

A young New York man, a member of one of the first families as far as wealth is concerned, had been in the habit of writing poems, which, unable to dispose of, he managed to get printed in certain publications by paying therefor at advertising rates. He attended a social gathering at which a cynical old fellow named Timble, who despised the would be poet, knowing of his manner of obtaining publicity, chanced to be present. The rich young man lost no chance of referring to his "works," and finally remarked, ostentatiously, that he was born on the same day that Washington Irving died.

"Both of which occurrences," snapped old Timble, "have had a very depressing effect upon American literature."

A Left Handed Compliment.

"Ma," said little Harry, "I'll tell you what you ought to do."

"What, dear?" his mother asked.

"You ought to go over to live in some country where the people are Mohammedans."

"What on earth ever put such a thought as that into your dear head, darling?"

"'Cause over there they think all fat women are beautiful."

"Harry, if you dare to open your mouth again this evening you will be sent to bed with nothing to eat!"—Chicago Herald.

Nonsinkable Safes For Ships.

Nonsinkable safes so placed that they will rise to the surface as soon as a ship sinks are the invention of Menotti Nanni. The Popular Science Monthly in describing them tells of the hundreds of millions of dollars now at the bottom of the sea that might have been saved by their use.

A Housewarming.

"I want a dress to put on around the house," said the lady in the department store.

"How large is your house, madam?" inquired the fresh clerk.

Sure Cure.

Patient—What would you recommend for somnambulism? Doctor—Well, as a last resort you might try insomnia.—Indianapolis Star.

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Helping Digestion.

Many persons dread to eat what is ordinarily considered a good dinner for fear of the resulting after effects. Foods that are well masticated and eaten slowly are not apt to cause indigestion, particularly if an acid dessert is taken at the end of the meal instead of a sweet dessert. Puddings and pies are sweet and not well digested by persons disposed to have dyspepsia. Too frequently the dessert is hurriedly eaten and not well masticated. This neglect makes such substances of greater indigestibility.

The belching, swelling and full feeling so frequently complained of after meals will be cured and prevented by eating acid fruits for dessert. Apples, apricots, peaches, pears, oranges and grapes are excellent for this purpose. Pineapples are excellent too. The gastric juice (in the stomach) normally contains about 2 per cent hydrochloric acid. If this acid is insufficient for any reason of ill health digestion is interfered with. So it is therefore easy to aid digestion by eating acid fruits.

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Continental Currency.

Continental currency notes were in July, 1780, worth 2 cents on the dollar, and it took a "wagon load of currency to buy a wagon load of provisions."

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Indigestion.

For chronic indigestion caused by too great acidity of the stomach juices, bicarbonate of soda is the usual treatment, but Dr. Louis T. M. de Sajous of Philadelphia quotes approvingly in the New York Medical Journal Dr. Hayem's most recent procedure. This is to administer artificial Carlsbad water, the effects of which, he says, seem to be more pronounced as well as more lasting.

Dr. Hayem's artificial Carlsbad water is made thus: Sulphate of soda, 44 parts; bicarbonate of soda, 36 parts; chloride of soda, 18 parts; sulphate of potash, 2 parts. Of these salts one teaspoonful is given in a half pint of water at between 90 and 120 degrees F. one hour before breakfast.

Some Tightwads.

"Tightwad" has crept into colloquial slang. It is even included in the dictionary, and its meaning is obvious and well known. The man who can afford to spend money liberally and will not, though his companions set him the example, is scornfully referred to by that name. In the popular acceptation it is a synonym for meanness. And yet his spending is somewhat according to his temperament; he spends if the occasion seems to him proper and suitable. His purse opens if the object appeals to his tastes and inclinations unless he hoards merely for the purpose of getting and keeping. To be economical, or at least to refuse to spend when others are spending just to be "a good fellow," is equivalent in many minds to being a tightwad. And yet many a man has surprised the community in which he lived by a great charity or public gift, of lasting benefit to others, made possible by what his neighbors termed his "closefistedness."—Detroit Free Press.

The Day After.

Jack—Who is that fine looking girl that just bowed to you? Tom (gloomily)—Oh, that is my sister. Jack—Why, old chap, I wasn't aware that you had a sister. Tom—Well, I wasn't aware of it myself until last night.—Indianapolis Star.

THE HARVEST.

The law of the harvest is to reap more than you sow. Sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny.—George D. Boardman.

Ancient Fishermen.

A codfishery about Newfoundland was conducted by Normans and Bretons as early as 1504, and there is a tradition among the fishermen of the bay of Biscay that one of their number, who had been fishing in the western Atlantic, informed Columbus of the existence of land in that region before the illustrious explorer had begun his memorable voyage.—National Geographic Magazine.

Pelicans' Pouches.

The pelican is commendably regular in his habits. The parent birds catch fish and after eating their fill deposit the others in their pouches under their bills and carry them to their young. These pouches will hold from three to eight pounds of fish.

Mrs. Peavish says that if she could have another chance she would rather marry a man who splits his infinitives than one who hates to break a dime.—Galveston News.

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Catarrh.

Take a common pitcher or any old narrow vessel holding a quart or more. Heat it thoroughly and fill three-quarters full of steaming, boiling water. Add instantly one or two teaspoonfuls of oil of tar. Then inhale the steam through the nostrils and exhale through the mouth. Put the nose well down in the pitcher and take a deep, full inhalation, letting the air pass out through a very small opening of the lips. Continue this ten or twenty minutes three times a day. Drink a cupful of hot water after each treatment; also a quarter or half hour before breakfast. This simple remedy has proved effective in so many cases that it may well repay a sufferer from this disagreeable affliction to give it a trial.