Lost Fortune in Crap Game.

Herr Jules Block, the Swiss iron magnate, lost $30,000 in a game of craps at Tozapah, a Colorado mining camp, last week. He merely smiled at his ill luck and the next day drew on his New York bankers for a sufficient sum to make good his losses.

Cruel.

"When he proposed to me I was delighted, of course," confessed Miss Antteek, "but I tried not to let my face show him what my answer would be."

"And did you succeed?" asked Miss Peppery.

"No; he found his answer there."

"Ah! Read between the lines, I suppose."—Philadelphia Press.

Thoughtless.

"Jim," said the first tramp printer, as the freight train flew along, "we ought to have waited till tomorrow to make this trip."

"So?"

"Yes; the company runs an excursion today and we're only beating it out of $4.60."—Indianapolis Sun.

Imitation.

The hairdresser had done rather a hasty job on the raven locks of the young woman.

"Well," she said, surveying the result in the morning, "this is a shampoo, all right, if there is any such thing as a real 'poo.'"—Chicago Tribune.

New to Him.

Pat—How does yez loike codfish balls?

Mike—Faith! an' I niver 'tended one, but it's big toimes I've had down at th' firemen's hop.—Lippincotts'.

All Clear to Him.

"Yes," said the traveling artist, who had paused to contemplate the charming view from Mr. Meddergrass' front yard and to drink a cup or two of buttermilk; "yes, I should like to linger in this lovely spot all summer. To me there could be nothing finer than to remain here and bask in the light of inspiration, while the wonderful scenery grew more and more upon me. Do you grasp my thought?"

"I reckon I do," said Mr. Meddergrass. "You mean you'd like to loaf around here long enough to get hayseed in your hair and then sit still till it sprouted."—Judge.

In the Interest of Sleep.

"What did you mean by telling those new nieghbors that they needn't buy a new lawn mower, as you will always be glad to lend them ours?" asked Mrs. Bliggins.

"That's one of my best ideas," answered her husband. "No one is going to have the blamed assurance to come around at 6 o'clock in the morning to borrow a lawn mower."—Washington Star.

Proportion of Murders.

One death in every 112 in the United States is a murder.

Relax Your Muscles.

A person who can sit down and completely relax his muscles can obtain more absolute rest in ten minutes than the person who cannot relax his muscles will be able to obtain in an hour.

A Jewel.

Betzer—Why do you have iron bars in front of your kitchen windows and door?

Shemster—To prevent the escape of the cook.—Brooklyn Life.

Saw It Only One Way.

Tuxydo—I was thinking of proposing to that pretty widow, but I changed my mind. She's the most unsentimental article I ever struck.

Ruxton—So?

Tuxydo—She told me the last time I called on her that she had plans for a nice home and was going to advertise for proposals.—Judge.

TRIALS OF TEACHER OF CHINATOWN'S CHILDREN

After spending three months in the detention pens at San Francisco and at Montreal, Canada, because of official red tape, Mrs. Loo Lin, of China, has been formally admitted to this country and has rejoined her husband in New York City. She is to take charge of a mission kindergarten in Chinatown. She is a Christian, as is her husband. She was only admitted

MRS. LOO LIN.

to the United States after an imperial certificate designating her as a teacher had been sent from Peking.

OUR ALPHABET FOR JAPAN.

Roman Script Is Hereafter to Be Used in the Mikado's Domain.

Japan seems to be about to take one of the most remarkable and not least important of all her steps toward harmonizing herself with the highest civilization of Europe and America. That is nothing less than the adoption of Roman script—our own English alphabet—pari passu with, if not as a substitute for, her own ancient system of ideography. For the last dozen years a knowledge of Roman script has been increasing in Japan among the most highly educated. But now it is proposed by the most influential educational organization in the empire to make the teaching of our alphabet and of our mode of word formation compulsory and universal in the public schools. It seems probable that the government will adopt the proposal, in which case, of course, all private schools will have to do the same, with the result that all the children of Japan will presently be learning, not necessarily the English language, but at least to write and read their own language in English fashion.

That will be a great thing for Americans and Europeans who want to learn the Japanese language. It will make that language little harder to learn than French or German and will enable people to learn it in the same way that they learn the European tongues. At present the great stumbling block in the way of mastering Japanese is the necessity of learning a multitude of different ideographs. Once Japanese words are expressed in letters like our own the task of learning will become immeasurably easier. It will then also be much easier for the Japanese to learn our language, for of course our alphabetically formed words seem as strange to them as their ideographs do to us. Moreover, it will cause a change amounting almost to transformation in the Japanese mind, or in the linguistic functions of that mind. The Japanese will for the first time regard words not as indivisible integers of speech, but as composite things formed of letters. Perhaps we can partly realize the magnitude of that change by ourselves trying to regard words as not formed of letters, but as indivisible units.

Nor is that all. Dual systems of languages are abominations. Wherefore it is to be expected that, having adopted alphabetical script by the side of ideography, the Japanese will soon substitute the former for the latter altogether. It will be greatly to their advantage so to do, and also to our advantage to have them do it. But it will none the less be an extraordinary thing. For the mother tongue, in all its details, is one of the things to which men cling most tenaciously. We need, to convince ourselves of that, to recall only the language controversies in Canada, in Bohemia, in South Africa, in Malta and elsewhere, not mentioning the recent clamor about the teaching of German in New York public schools. We may also recall Bismarck's inexorable opposition to the introduction of Roman script into Germany in place of the far less legible German characters. That the Japanese should voluntarily make this revolutionary change in their national script indicates their possession of an exceptionally high ambition to place themselves abreast of the best civilization of the world—and all this emergence from savage seclusion within the memory of men not yet grown old!—New York Tribune.

Interchangeable Parts.

"My brother bought an automobile here last week," said an angry man to the salesman who stepped forward to greet him, "and he says you told him if anything broke you would supply a new part."

"Certainly," said the clerk. "What does he want?"

"He wants two deltoid muscles, a couple of kneepans, one elbow and about half a yard of cuticle," said the man, "and he wants 'em right away."

The Feminine View.

A story told in the New York Tribune shows how vain it is for man to exercise his imagination on the subject of domestic tragedy. A young and venturous man was one day talking with the wife of a member of the Cabinet about some of the ironies of married life.

"I can't imagine anything more dreadful," said he, "than for a woman, after mending her husband's coat, to find in one of the pockets an old love letter from a former sweetheart."

"Fortunately, that could never happen," said the lady. "The woman would find the letter first, and then she would not mend the coat."

Still Too Young.

"This is my birthday."

"And I suppose you feel as young as you ever did?"

"No, I don't believe I'm quite old enough yet to feel as young as I ever did."—Town and Country.

In Chicago.

"The devil does more for one's pleasure and comfort than any god," says a Chicago woman. There is nothing like knowing who your friends are.—New York News.

Not Always Thus.

Tramp—Madam, I was not always thus.

Madam—No; it was your other arm you had in a sling yesterday.—Journal.

COST OF A TRIP ABROAD.

One Can Spend Vacations in Europe at Little Expense.

Every one knows that it costs him something to live in this country, no matter where he is, and every one knows that living is cheaper abroad than here. But, says Collier's Weekly, the slight effort of putting these two facts together seems to be too great for the average mind, which never fully takes in the truth that once arrived in a foreign country an American can live more cheaply there than here.

The cost of transportation is, of course, one item to be taken into account, but this is reduced by common sense figuring to a nominal sum. To the tired seeker after rest no beginning of a vacation could be more favorable than ten or twelve days spent on a slow, comfortable steamer of one of the smaller lines. The cost of such a passage is about $50 a passenger. The average man would spend at least half of that sum in caring for himself if he stayed closely at home during the ten or twelve days, and he would think he was a good manager if he made a hasty business trip to Washington on the other half.

As to his expense on the other side, it is a certainty that any American can live comfortably abroad for less than what he pays here. Of course he cannot if he travels incessantly, but once the haunting feeling lost that this is his first, last and only opportunity there will be no necessity for such a hurry. He will see before him a vista of vacations, each spent in exploring at his leisure some small district of Europe, whence he will return with nerves calmed, with sane vision, with cool head and (this is an actual fact drawn from repeated observations) with not one penny less in the bank than he would have had had he stayed at home with the usual summer expenses. A man or woman who can afford a vacation anywhere (outside, of course, the regular two weeks' commercial vacation) can afford it in Europe.

Suppose that three concrete examples are taken as covering roughly the entire field of varying tastes. Take the case of the man or woman who is thoroughly tired and worn with the excitement and nervous strain of one of our terrible American winters of activity in all directions.

He has two or three months in which to recuperate before the wear and tear of an exactly similar winter begins. There are a dozen German towns of the third or fourth class in population where he can live in greater comfort than in any American boarding house of moderate prices for not to exceed $1 a day. For this price he has a good room of a quietness perfectly blissful to tired New York's ears, four meals a day of hearty, wholesome German food, his light and heat and what is almost sure to be the most quieting and restful of company. He spends his days out of doors walking or bicycling on the excellent roads through a country which, beautiful, historic and keenly interesting as it is, will make the trolley parks, picnic groves or even golf links of his usual summer resort seem tame and uninteresting.

AN INSECT THERMOMETER.

Cricket Chirps Bear a Close Relation to the Temperature.

On an autumn evening, when the crickets are out enjoying life too, it is very interesting to be able to tell the temperature of the air by the number of chirps the cricket makes per minute.

It seems that the rate of chirps is affected by the temperature, and the exact relation of the temperature to the number of chirps has been estimated. With a little care in counting, one soon becomes expert enough to tell the temperature within one or two degrees Fahrenheit [illegible]

One meets with [illegible] ments at first as he tried hard to count every chirp; the cricket stops before the minute is up; other insects' notes drown out the cricket's; the noise of passing vehicles, etc., are very apt to interrupt at the critical moment of counting. But a little patience will easily overcome such difficulties.

When one has the average number of chirps per minute, take one-fourth of that number, and add forty to that; the result will be the temperature within a degree or two of the actual temperature as read from a thermometer hung out of doors.

Another experiment is to capture a cricket and take him into the house and see how much faster he chirps when he is warm.

To count the chirps per minute, taking one-fourth of that number and adding forty to it may seem a little complicated—but it is really very simple, and is like the game, "Think of a number, and double it," put to an interesting purpose.—St. Nicholas.

Great Britain's Seamen.

One in every thirty-six of the males over 15 years of age in Great Britain is a seaman in the mercantile marine or a fisherman. That by no means represents the proportion of Britons who go to sea in ships. For the current year the total number of officers and men, active service ratings provided by the estimates for the royal navy, is 127,000, being an increase of 4,600 over the previous year. Taking the two totals this means that one in about every twenty Britons is a sailor, which is an enormously larger percentage than that which any other nation can boast, even with the conscription which supplies the seamen of several continental countries.

Advice of a Railroad Conducter.

A conductor in Kansas has prepared the following advice for his passengers: 'Have no money transactions with strangers. Give your trunk checks to a baggageman, and nobody else. A gold brick isn't worth bringing home. Don't get off the cars while they are in motion. When a suspicious-looking man asks you if you have lost your pocketbook tell him you never carry one. Don't feel for it while he is looking. Have your ticket ready when the conductor comes along."

A manless baby carriage would fill a long-felt want in some populous community.