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The Enistence of "Martians" Scouted.

Can it be that Mars is inhabited? The

Can it be that Mars is inhabited? The question, though not discussed very seriously of late, has doubtless been suggested again to many Torontonians by the play, "A Message from Mars," recently produced at one of the city theaters. Quite apropos, an article appears in the "Youth's Companion," by Professor Simon Newcomb, the celebrated astronomer, entitled, "Are Other World's Inhabited?" Speaking of Mars, Professor Newcomb, says:

"It was long supposed that the surface of this planet resembled our earth in every feature that we could discern with the telescope. The most curious analogy, and one of the first to be noticed, was in the existence of a brilliant white region round each pole of the planet, looking like a white cap. When the sun shone on the north pole the cap diminished, sometimes almost disappearing; when the pole was turned away from the sun the cap increased in extent. There would seem to be no doubt of the cause. Snow and ice are deposited in winter on the poles of Mars, as on the poles of the earth, and in summer these deposits melt away under the heat of the sun. Supposing this to be the case, it would seem that there must be an atmosphere on the planet with clouds and vapor, as there is around our globe. But the most recent observations, both with the telescope and spectroscope, fail to show any well-marked signs of an atmosphere round the planet, or of any clouds or vapor obscuring the surface. If an inhabitant of Mars should look on our earth with a telescope, he would frequently find large portions of the suratmosphere round the planet, or of any clouds or vapor obscuring the surface. If an inhabitant of Mars should look on our earth with a telescope, he would frequently find large portions of the surface, hidden from his sight by bright white clouds. Only when the clouds disappear here and there would he see the outlines of oceans and continents. But it seems that in Mars the outlines of the surface are always visible. Sometimes, they appear more distinct that they do at other times, but this is probably due to the varying clearness of our own atmosphere. If there are no air and no clouds on Mars, how can there he any vapors to condense round the poles? The answer is very simple. If there is any water on the surface of the planet, it would still evaporate very slowly, whether there was any air or not. This vapor would condense again on the colder portions round the poles. There could, however, be so little of the vapor that we could hardly suppose a great snowfall. Very likely the condensation may be little more than hoar froat. With our telescopes we can tell nothing about the thickness of the coat; the thinnest layer of frost on the surface would present the same appearance as the thickest ice-caps. It has also been suggested that some other substance than water might produce the white caps, carbonic acid, for example, which condenses into flakes like those of snow under very great cold. What we know of the subject may then be condensed into the simple statement that if Marshas any atmosphere at all, it is much rarer than that of our earth, and that if there is water on the planet, which is very likely, there is not enough of it to form extensive clouds in its very thin atmosphere. Every reader of astronomical literature has heard of the supposed canals on Mars. But these are not canals at all, but simply long streaks stretching from point to point on the planet, slightly darker than the rest of its surface. They must be at least a hundred miles in breadth to be visible as they are. They cannot possibly be the w A WORD TO WOMEN.

Any sick woman is invited to consult by letter with Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician of the Invalid's Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y. In an active practice of more than thirty years, assisted by a staff of nearly a score of associate physicians, Dr. Pierce has treated and cured over half a million women. All diseases peculiar to women are treated with success. This consultation by letter is absolutely free. Every letter is treated as strictly private and sacredly confidential. Answers are mailed promptly, giving the best of medical advice. All answers are sent in plain envelopes bearing on them no printing of any kind. Write without fear and without fee to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

French Divorce.

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A Cosmopolitan Crowd.

In the absence of the King, the attention of London has turned to the picturesque delegates of royalty from the far corners of the earth who are now in the metropolis. "Never have the streets of London presented so cosmopolitan an appearance," any a London correspondent; the crests of the nation from the furthermost quarters af the earth have been exploring the empire's capital. Black, yellow and brown faces, surmounting guudy, fantastic costumes, are met everywhere. Muffled gibbering and a soft, monotonous pattering of feet are heard, and one turns to see a big burly figure in a short, heavy blue coat, under which is suspended a kind of linen apron drawn close around the hips and resching to the knee, while below are a pair of chony legs and huge, bare feet. After him come some twenty more, all smilling and chattering, and all similarly attired, each of them carrying a small rattan cane tucked under the right arm in the fashion popular with Tommies. These picturesque men are merely the Fiji police, come to London to do honor to their emperor. Then there are splendid native Indian soldiers, in their picturesque turbans, or puggarees, and glittering buttons. With black, shifting eyes, they stride along like kings, and, to tell the truth, the average London man who walks near them seems ridiculously insignificant. These fighting men, devoid of much that civilization is supposed to bestow, are superb in their indifference to the gaping crowds. There are also little men from the remote Straits Settlement; mild-looking, tawny-complexioned Hindoos, in snowy white robes and pink or red turbans; stout, black-frocked Bengalese, with no head-covering at all; and men from every British colony or dependency, as well as almost every orther action in the world.

"The princes from India, however, have given London's highest as well as its lowest society. Never has a more diversion of the contingents from the Indian Empire, and rode through their stolid, impassive ranks. Only quick, stealthy glances betrayed the fact that they

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There is not a kidney trouble from

There is not a kidney trouble from Backache to Bright's Disease that Doan's Kidney Pills will not relieve or cure. The price is 50 cts. per box, or 3 boxes for \$1.25 and may be procured at all dealers

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How to Address an Alderman.

How to Address an Alderman.

A correspondent unable to get the required information out of the books at his command, asks us to decide as to the "correctness or incorrectness or otherwise," of addressing an Alderman as "Alderman J. Smith, Esq." We should say such an address is "otherwise." An Alderman may be an esquire and an esquire an Alderman, but it is hardly necessary to give him both titles on his envelope. Germany is a slave to professional prefix, which is claimed even by the wives of unimportant officials. In England Alderman Smith signs himself simply, "John Smith," and gives no clue to the stranger as to his municipal glory. We should counsel addressing him as John Smith, Esq.—London Chronicle.

A Good Reason.

She (angrily)-I believe you think or of that nasty old pipe than you do of me, your wife. He (mild-iy)—Well, my dear, I can keep my pipe from going out.—Melbourne Weekly Times.

A Dear Kiss.

For snatching a kiss in the street from a nursemaid, a young man of Cork has been sent to prison for three months.

DENTAL.

a. A. HIOKS, D. D. S.—Honor gradus ate of Philadelphia Dental College and Hospital of Oral Surgery, Philadelphia, Pa., also honor gradus ate of Royal College of Dental Sur-geons, Toronto, Office over Turns are drug store, 28 Entherford Block.

LODGES



WELLINGTON Lodge, No. 46, A. F. & A. M., G. R. C., meets on the first Monday of every month. in the Masonic Hall, Fifth St., at 7.30 p.m. Visiting brethren led.

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