Das of the Identiscops.

The identiscope is an affair something like a book cover with a sheet of gians in place of leaves of the book. The fact on which the instrument claims its useful ness is that when the bony sabric of the head of any one has reached maturky neither the iris of the eye nor the area of saurement of the facile perpendicular undergo perceptible alteration Therefore obtain an authentic photo, taken after s person has reached masurity. Score the face of the photo with parallel lines (hor izontal and perpendicular) at equal distances from each other, using the exact measurement of the diameter of the iris as a unit to regulate the distance each line shall be from the next Then take a photo-same eize as first-of any one claiming to be the original of the first and score it in a like manner, using the iris of Its eye as the unit of its measurement. Put these two photos into the identiscope, one on either "cover leaf" facing the set of glass Draw the covers together until the reflections of the two photos are thrown on the glass in the same spot Manipulate the "covers" until the reflection of a line of one photo is blended with the reflection of the corresponding line of the other Then the reflection of every line on one photo must fall exactly on the redection of the corresponding line of the other photo If not according to the principle on which the identiscope claims its use the photos cannot be of the same

The identiscope was exhibited at a photographic exhibition held at Bristol, and a reward of £100 offered to any one who could disprove the accuracy of its principle or produce two photos of differ nt sitters which would exactly coincide with one another. Many attempts were made to obtain this reward, but all have failed. Photos of brothers so much alike that they could hardly be distinguished from one another, when tested were found to be distinctly different in size. The fact remains that a photo of the flabby face of the Australia butcher and one of the aristocratic countenance of the real Tichborne before he left home, although to the eye almost as dissimilar as pos sible, when measured and compared by this simple and scientific little invention, are found to be absolutely similar.-E. N. Sabel in Detroit Free Press.

### The Women of Capri.

They have a strange way in this little place, I found, of betrothing the girls to the young men before the latter leave the town. As very few of them are able to either read or write, long years pass by without a word from the lover or "spoza" reaching the patient girl at home. It is not a rare thing to meet here young cou-ples who were engaged for ten, twelve or even fifteen years before fortune was sufficiently favorable to allow them to marry One cannot soon get rich on thirty cents a day, and that is the wages of a man in Capri This is, perhaps, the reason why so many men leave the island, leaving the women at home to take care of the vineyards and olive groves

It is a very picturesque scene, these women with their gay costumes, rich complexions, bright, flashing eyes, at work in the fields, or leading their flocks of goats up the mountain side to pasture. Their et are always bare, and become so hard that it is simply wonderful what they can endure. They will walk over the roads covered with sharp, flinty stones, climb the rugged mountain sides, and be quite as comfortable as if walking on the softest carpet. In fact, for hardness, their feet resemble those of the western girl, who, when told by her mother that there was a red hot coal under her foot, drawled out, without moving an inch. "Which foot is it under, mammy?" Yet the feet of these women are by no means misshapen, but, on the contrary, are perfect models for an artist — Woman.

### Contents of a Woman's Handbag. "What do you carry in that bag?" said the big man to the business woman, pointing to the little black handbag that is her inseparable companion

"I'll show you," said she; and then she took out two handkerchiefs, one for use and one for show, a lead pencil with the point broken, a stick of gum unchewed: a lump of gum, chewed, George William Curtis' editorial on Matthe, Arnold's death, cut out of Harper's W. kly; three keys that don't fit anything in particular, one latch key that does fit, a Bond street library card, three Daly's theatre seat coupons, a tiny box of face powder, three capsules of quinine, five visiting cards. seven letters, five of them from one man. epring suits cut out of the Sunday paper. a season ticket to the American Art asso ciation's prize exhibition, an unposted letter to her mother, three rubber bands, three postal cards, a shoe buttoner, den tist's appointment card, four hairpins, an unpolished moss agate, coral brooch with the pin broken off, half a mustard leaf, a piece of paper with quotations from sime Blavatsky on theosophy written on it, a ce of paper with quotations from Mme sample of yellow ribbon to be matched, a card photograph of another girl and a purse containing one three cent piece and a postage stamp — New York Graphic.

### The Smallpox in Mexico.

There is one peculiarity about the Mex-ican people which I do not recollect ever having seen in print, and that is their ut-ter disregard of the disease so dreaded by Americans—smallpox I have been in Durange several years, and it is quite common there to see children in an ad vanced stage of the disease playing on the streets with perfectly healthy children. To say that I was astounded but faintly expresses my feelings when I first went to that country but I soon learned that the disease was considered an especial dispensation of Providence for the clean-

sing away of the wickedness of humanity, and those who pass through it are consid-ered as among the purified. Smallpox is not nearly so virulent in Mexico as we have it in this country, and there is no such a thing as vaccination thought of by native Mexicans. I could never find any vaccine virus there, and had to send to the States for it Ameri-cans take the precaution of vaccinating. and I can call to mind but one fatal case outside of natives during my stay in Mex-ico—that one a young English officer who fell a victim to the disease a short time after arriving in the country If there is such a place as a pest house in Mexico I never heard of it — Globe Democrat.

A Strange Hereditary Pecumenty. The duke of Simonetta, an Italian nobleman, who is making a name as a musical mposer, is the descendant of a long line of dukes who have a strange peculiarity. They have jet black hair, and just above the forehead a white tuft. This they had for a long series of years, until the father of the present duke was born some sixty years ago. He had a thick, curiy head of brown hair, without a particle of white, and with him it was supposed there was an end of the special mark. But his son is a tall, handsome man, with a head of black hair, and he has exactly the same white tuft.—New Orieans Times Democrat. VIEWING THE RED PLANET.

culations About the "Canals" in Mare and Their Builders.

People who can obtain the privilege of looking at Mare through the Lick telescope should not neglect the opportunity Several years have elapsed since this remarkable planet could be seen to such ad vantage as at present, and it will be three years before we have an equal chance again It has certainly never been exam med before through a telescope of such power as the monster refractor on Mount

It may be interesting to lovers of as-tronomy to know that the eminent French astronomer. M Perrotin, is engaged in a minute study of Mars, and that his dis-coveries confirm those of M Schiaparilli in every particular It seems actually true that the longitudinal stripes which circle round the planet are bodies of water, which must, according to all laws of probability, be artificial. No one ever saw or conceived a system of parallel rivers from 1,000 to 2,000 miles long and straight as plumb lines Everything is possible, of course, but such straight ivers it is impossible to reconcile with the principles of cosmogony as we understand them On this planet, at all events, nature abhors a straight line, and by analogy it should do so in Mara

Yet. if these bodies of water are canals, as Schiaparilli believed and Perrotin seems hardly to doubt what monstrons works they must be They are from fifty to eighty miles wide Fancy the labor of digging such a canal the time it must have taken, and the number of workmen it must have employed The pyramids of Egypt are trifling in comparison The Suez canal is 197 feet wide at the surface, and the Nicaragua somewhat wider Our canals on this one horse globe are considered long when they reach 100 miles in length. The Panama canal will be less than sixty miles long. The canals of Mars reach a length of 2,000 miles—say as far as from liere to Omaha What a traffic there must be to support such enterprises! On the waterways of China travelers describe the incessant ebb and flow of multitudinous crowds, but to require canals of such dimensions as we have described, the movement of traffic in Mars must be far more prodigious. In fact, they imply a population which almost staggers belief, considering that the volume of the planet is only one-sixth that of the earth, the diameter being 4,100 miles as against 8,000 miles, they warrant the wildest conjectures as to the

density with which it may be peopled. What manner of man lives in Mars, if there be men there, has saways been a favorable topic of speculation. The law of gravitation tells us that he may be fourteen feet high-not such a son of Anak as the inhabitant of the asteroids. but still one who would regard the Belgian giant as a remarkable dwarf Possibly the enormous public works on Mars may be explained on the theory that these tall fellows can work in proportion to their stature—that one citizen of Mars can shovel as much dirt as two and a half den

Whether the grass of Mars is red. as the old astronomers averred, modern tele scopes have failed to decide it is very difficult to determine colors when an object lens collects 30,000 times as much ight as normally enters the human eye. But the speculative astronomer is safe in asserting his belief that Martian cabbages are of the color of our beet roots, as no one can disprove the assertion -San

### Coffee Making in Venezuela.

What I saw of the process of making coffee requires no elaborate, carefully considered description. The following plain and unstilted cook book, English. will suffice to initiate the careful, pains taking housewife in the mystery of how to make a cup of coffee Get your Vene zuela coffee—the fattest, roundest, heavi est beans-roast enough of them to serve for the making of as many large cupfuls as there are to be drinkers Roast the beans, do not burn brown, do not blacken them, bray them while hot in a mortar with a pestel, do not grind them in any kind of a patented or unpatented labor saving and coffee spoiling machine what soever Crushing does not, and grinding does, cause the coffee to part with some of its aroma. The the grains thus crushed to about the size of flaxseed in a bag of thick white flannel, so thick that no dirt or dust, if any there be in the coffee, may escape through the interstices of the cloth. Take a plain earthen pot, fill it with water and set it on the fire till it is hot, very hot, and the water has been boiling a minute or two Throw out the water, put in the bag, let the coffee steam a few minutes, the lid of the pot closely fitting, and allowing no escape of aroma Carefully lift the cover, pour in boiling water enough to make one third of a cup of coffee for each prospective drinker and one third of a cup for the pot Let the bag of coffee boil three minutes, the lid of the pot still on, letting the steam escape as little as possible.

In three minutes-the time it takes to boil an egg—the coffee is ready Pour out one third of this black, strong, hair lifting essence, dilute it with twice the quantity of boiled milk—milk of the Andalusian cow; sweeten it with papelon, natural Venezuelan sugar crystals, and you will be prepared to enjoy the delights that excited me to two cups and a half that morning John. Hans, Jean Juan gave me a Spanish lesson while taking my order for desayuno in the hotel of blessed memory in the sweet vale of Caracas.-Cor. New York Times.

### Diamond Mining in South Africa.

The diamondiferous soil is quarried out below by Kafirs and deposited in great iron buckets which run on standing wire ropes, and are hauled up by steam to the receiving boxes on the brink of the mine. Everywhere is activity and bustle, and a loud hum comes up out of the vast hole from 3,000 to 4,000 human beings engaged

ABLE AND WELL-TIMED EDITORIALS, ORRESPONDENCE FI at work below The men themselves look like so many files as they dig away at the blue soil, and the thousands of wire ropes

work in the mine have a white overseer, to prevent as much as possible that wholesale robbery which goes on among them. One would think they would find it rather hard to steal, and still more difficult to conceal a diamond on their naked persons under the eye of the over seer; but, despite all precautions, they do steal a vast number of stones, picking them up and carrying them away in their mouths or between their toes. The largest diamonds are usually uncarthed in the mines before the stuff is washed, and an overseer must keep his eyes well open, for he cannot be sure of the honesty of any one of his "boys."—Globe Democrat Book Review

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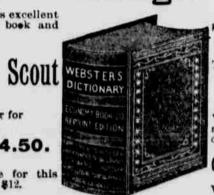
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