

---

**The Limelight of the Moon.**—In his article “The Limelight of the Moon—An Alternative Theory” Mr. Donald P. Beard, in describing as a vast coral atoll the crater Copernicus, makes use of the expression “almost the counterpart of those in our mundane Pacific Ocean.” This seems to me to be particularly apt and suggestive. For does not the supposition that the moon was torn away from the earth from the region of the Pacific Ocean appear to lend support to Mr. Beard’s view that the so-called craters are coral formations? It is only the Pacific region that is specially prolific in coral structures, although coral reefs exist in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea. This might be due to the fact that this portion of the earth presents materials and conditions favorable for the formation of the reefs and atolls. And it is natural to suppose that the satellite moulded out of substance from the same region is likely to have presented facilities for similar formations on itself when conditions were favorable for the little animals to live and build.

If, on the other hand, independent and direct evidences prove that the lunar craters are really coral formations, will it not then strengthen the suggestion that the satellite came out of the earth from the Pacific bed?

P. R. CHIDAMBARA IYER.

Kodaikanal Observatory, South India, July 22, 1924.