

Curling their monstrous heads, and hanging
them shrouds."

With deafening clamours in the slippery

The poor beast of burden, whom no eye pitied, tastes the compassion of sleep; and the camel in the desert starts no longer at the bells of the caravan. The wearied school-boy forgets his task; and, perhaps, in some curtained chamber,

"The nurse sleeps sweetly, hir'd to watch the sick,

Whom, snoring, she disturbs."

The child, who, in the passing day, took its first little lesson of sorrow, sobs slightly in its broken dreams, and, turning upon the pillow, seeks pleasanter visions. The infant, on the arm of its happy mother, wears a smile, as if it heard the whisper of angels.

With such beautiful ministrations of mercy, does the Father of our spirits surround the close of every day which he giveth us; alluring us, by the sober twilight into which it fades, to those acts of meditation which compose the mind, and then shedding on the eyelids that holy refreshment of sleep, which prepares the body for renewed toil. Ever mindful is He of the creatures whom he has formed; in his care for the spirit that can never die, not forgetting the frail flesh, nor in his provisions for the flesh, overlooking the spirit. So may we remember Him, at the birth and death of every fleeting day, and so do His will, that our evening meditations may help to lead us where there is no more night, and where no contrition may draw its sorrowful shadow over the eye of the soul.—*Mrs. Sigourney.*

AVARICE.—To what crimes are not men impelled by the cursed thirst after gold. Avarice is one of the most odious passions that can strike root in the human mind, and we should ever most cautiously guard our hearts against its influence, for when its ascendancy is once established, all the best and the most estimable feelings of our nature become paralyzed, or altogether supplanted, by this selfish and detestable passion.

Mr. SHIVES,

SIR,—The solution of the third question in the last number of the *Amaranth* is inaccurate. The effects of heat are inversely as the squares of the distances from the centre whence it is emanated, which in the present case is the centre of the sun. Now, the surface of the sun is only one of its own semi-diameters from the

centre, whereas, by the question, the earth is 106 whole diameters from the same centre: consequently, the earth is 212 times as distant from the centre of the sun as the surface of the sun is; and, hence, it follows that the intensity of heat must be 44,944 times as great at the surface of the sun as it is at the earth.

In Brewster's *Ferguson's Astronomy* the mean distance of the earth from the sun is stated at 95,000,000 of miles, and the mean diameter of the sun at 883,246. Taking these data it must be upwards of 46,225 times hotter at the sun.

R. MATTHEWSON

St. John, December 30.

QUESTIONS.

1.—Upon the extremities of a solid cylindrical brass lever of uniform density, 12 feet long and one inch in diameter, are acting at right angles, forces of 20 and 165 lbs. avoirdupois. Required the place of the fulcrum to produce equilibrium in vacuo, the lever being in a horizontal position, its specific gravity 8 335, and 27.726 cubic inches of distilled water, weighing one pound avoirdupois.

2.—A ship and a privateer start at the same time from 32° 35m. north latitude, the ship sails due east at the rate of 6 533 miles an hour, the privateer after sailing due north for 4 days 8 hours and 12 minutes, at the rate of 10 miles an hour, sails at the same rate on such a course by the *mariner's compass*, as to come in contact with the ship. Required, her course, distance, circuit, departure, and difference of longitude, supposing the earth spherical and the compass invariable.

R. M.

We intend furnishing our subscribers with a title page and index to the 1st Volume of the *Amaranth*—the hurry and confusion attending the getting of our office to rights since the fire, has prevented it accompanying our last number.

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