

HOW LARGE IS THE SUN?—If we were at its centre our moon would revolve in its orbit but little more than *half way to the sun's surface*. If it were a hollow sphere, there would be sufficient room to accommodate more than 1,200,000 balls the size of our planet. The earth is a mere homœopathic pill in comparison with such a body, and if projected on its bright disk would, from our orbit, be absolutely invisible to the naked eye.

It is in the Pacific Ocean that what is probably the deepest water on the surface of the globe has been found. In latitude 11 deg. 24 min. N., longitude 143 deg. 16 min. E., English scientific explorers dropped the sounding line to 4,575 fathoms—about five and one-fifth miles. The American steamer *Tuscarora* sounded 4,600 fathoms east of Japan. Thus it would seem that the greatest heights of mountains and the maximum depths of the sea very nearly correspond.

SPIDERS' SILK STRONGER THAN STEEL.—The strength of spiders' silk is enormous compared with that of metals. A bar of iron one inch in diameter will sustain a weight of twenty-eight tons; a bar of steel, fifty-eight tons; and, according to computation based upon the fact that a fibre only one four-thousandth part of an inch thick will sustain fifty-four grains, a bar of spiders' silk an inch in diameter would support a weight of seventy-four tons. In other words, spiders' silk has nearly three times the supporting strength of iron.

THE ignoring of the importance, grandeur, and beauty of the human body is common to both educated and uncultured. The latter does not know, the former does not reflect, that the conscious *ego* has no demonstrable existence independent of the aggregation of organs and apparatus which constitute the body. The spirit tenant might chafe unheard, unfelt, unknown, if the avenues of the senses were also closed, and consciousness, emotion, be never manifested were the brain, out of which they were evolved, not rightly formed.—*Dr. G. Ven.*