

jacket with some good non-conducting plastic, or hair, or asbestos, or paper felting. The holes in the sheet-iron afford the best opportunity for any plastic felting to clinch and fasten itself firmly to the metal jacket.

To make this covering a movable one it is only necessary to turn up the edges of the metal jacket about an inch, at right angles to the general surface, in the form of flanges. When placed on the boiler or pipe the flanges are brought closely together and are fastened there by U-shaped pieces of wire slipped over the two flanges, and the plastic or other felting is put on in the usual manner; the flanges protecting the edges from being injured when the covering is handled by being removed and putting on again.

To remove any section of this covering it is only necessary to pull out the wire U's or clamps that are on the flanges of this section, and lift the section off. All the other sections will remain firmly attached, and when put back again and the clamps put in their places the section becomes as firm as at first.

For the purpose of making repairs to boilers, or allowing them to be inspected, this movable feature becomes a very great convenience.

Temperature of the Sun.—Newton, Waterston, Ericsson and Senchi have asserted that the sun's temperature cannot be less than from one to two millions of degrees (1,800,000 to 3,600,000°F.); Pouillet, Vicaire, Violle and many others maintain that the temperature cannot exceed from 1500° to 2500° (2700° to 4500°F.). The French Academy, in 1876, offered a *Bordin Prize* for the solution of the question, which resulted in a reward to Violle, certificates of "honorable mention" to Vicaire and Crova, and a withdrawal of the prize, in consequence of the difficulty and uncertainty involved in the question. Senchi obtained more than 2,000,000° by Newton's formula, while Violle obtained only 1500° by the formula of Dulong and Petit from the same set of observations. F. Rosetti, in a memoir crowned by the Royal *Accademia dei Lincei* discusses experiments and methods of his own, from which he concludes that the temperature cannot be much less than 10,000° (18,000°F.) or much more than 20,000° (36,000°F.).—*Ann. de Chim. et de Phys.* C.