

## list of patents.

iniuet from the united states patent office,
For the week ending June 12, 1849. To David Deihl, of Hanover, Pa. for im provement in Seed Planters. Patented June 12, 1849.

To Nelson Platt, of Ottowa, Ills. for improvement in Harvesters. Patented June 12, 1849.

To Joseph W. Briggs, of Cleveland, Ohio, for improvement in Harness Saddles. Patented June 12, 1849.
To Alfred Stillman, of New York City, for improvement in Steam Pipes for Sugar boiling. Patented June 12, 1849.
To George Colby of Fayettsville, Pa. for improvement in Drill Barrows. Patented June 12, 1849.
To J. Adams, L. Adams \& L. H. Moore, of Mass.forimprovement in Machines for cutting out Felloes. Patented June 12, 1849.
To F. C. Goffin \& C. Liebrick, of Philadelphia, Pa., for improved Padlock. Patented June 12, 1849.
To Reuben Murdock, of Rochester, N. Y. for improvement in Barrel machinery. Patented June 12, 1849.
To Isaac Knight of Baltimore, Md. for improvementin Trucks for RailroadCars. Patented June 12, 1849.
To John A. Taplin, of Fishkill, N. Y. for improved construction of the master wheel of horse powers. Patented June 12, 1849.
To Jacob Mumma, of Middletown, Pa. for improveraent in Corn Shellers. Patented June 12, 1849.
To Chapman Warner of Louisville, Ky. for improvement in Churns. Patented June 12, 1849.

To E. Von Heeringen, of Pickensville, Ala. forimprovement in Musical Notation. Patented June 12, 1849.
To L. P. Haslett, of Louisville, Ky. for improvement in Inhalers or Lung Protectors. Patented June 12, 1849.
To J. L. Mott, of New York City, for improvement in Cooking Stoves. Patented June 12, 1849.

The History of the Solar System. By J. P. C. Nichols, Professor of Practical Astronomy in the University of Glas. gov.
(Concluded.)
There is a little insect called the ephemera, which lives out its lifetıme in an hour. Sup. posing a reasoning epheroera were to contemplate the blossom, it would regard it as an absolute existence, as a thing which is thus and
thus-and not as a thing which had become what it is. It would not imagine its developement from the seed down to its appearance in beauty on the tree. Man is epbemera; shall he decide of the august creation of his Maker, that it may not have a history and developement of its own? From what prior condition
must we imagine the present solar system to have been evolved, in order that it may contain the arrangements and dispositions we have seen in it? This inquiry is by no means anovel one. Geologists have, with reference to our
own planet alone, traced the present condition of things back to a fluid state of matter. must go beyond that period and conceive the solar system as existing in a gaseous condition, in a chaotic, formless state. Now, in reference to the speculations in which I proceed to enter, I must say, that a great change has re-
cently taken place. Sir Wm. Herschell cently taken place. Sir Wm. Herschell
thought-and with the facts then known, I see not how he could have reasoned other-wise-that many of the dim spots we see in the heavens are not clusters of stars, but accumulations of matter existing in the gasenus state. The discoveries made with the large telescope, at Parsonstown, have destroyed so much of the speculation as depended on the ganeous accumulations of matter, and we rea.
son only from the evidenees of a former like condition of the solar system. The hypothesis must be accepted now, or rejected, accor ding as it agrees with what we see around us and, also, according as it explains the phenomena for which it is required to account.
The theory I am about The theory I am about to explain was given to the world by the great French astronomer. Laplace, than whoma a greater man in this department of science has not appeared since our own Newton. The solar syatem may have come into being out of some nebulous mass, which has gradually condensed according to the simple laws of gravity. In order to understand what may have taken place, we must follow the condensation of this nebulous mass, and enquire what, according to known laws,
would take place; and if we find that our system is just such an one as must result of necessity from laws acting under those circumstances, we shall have established a very high degree of probability for the hypothesis.There is also one other hypothesss which we
must assume at the must assume at the commencement. The
question is, in what condition may this nebulous mass have been in ? Now to answer these we. must ask, what is the great general distinguishing feiture of our solar system The answer is, the cotation of all its bodies round a common centre, and in one direction and their own rotation on their own axis. Our supplementary hypothesis is, that the nebulx out of which the solar system is formed existed in a state of rotation. This motion may have been very slow, and very indefinite ; still it was a motion of rotation somewhat like a whirlpool. This assumption is further justifiable, because motion in a mass of matter that is condensing would, in obedience to mechanical laws, turn into a whirling motion. We assume then, that a motion of this kind existed in the nebulx. It is a consequence of the laws of condensing bodies that this motion should become more and more definite, and the solid body coming out of this rotation will have a rotation round its own axis. The swiftness of the motion must increase as condensation goes on. Notice what condensation real ly means; It is simply a flow of matter from
the extremity of the outer rim to the centre of the mass. As the outer particles are moving faster than those nearer the centre, if they are brought nearer to, they will increase the speed of the mass. The pironette dancer understands this mechanical law; when he wishes to astonish us by the rapidity with which he
can turn round, he drawsin his extended arms, and keeps them close to his body, and by that means greatly accelerates the rotation of his body. You are aware that the sun rotates on its own axis; it is an important fact, that the fixed stars, according to the belief of astrono mers, rotate in a similar manner on theirs.-
Rotation on an axis may be said to be the condition of steller existence ; so that if these grand orbs came out of matter like our own, we may be able to explain how that motion originated. The rotation of the sun about his axis is an inherent part of our hyphothesis; but there is a question of far greater import. Does the same hypothesis apply to the forms of planets? We see how this central mass may originate, and have a rotating motion; but how do the planetsarise in such a change Let us conceive for a moment what it is tha keeps up the connection of the nebule with the above mass. There are two forces acting upon every particle of matter on the outer rim there is the tendency of each particle to fly off; and this tendency is counteracted by the attraction of the general mass. Now if one of these forces should ever get to be stronger than the other, the balance would be destroyed, and the connection broken. Now, the nebulæ must have had some parts of its substance less condensed than the rest; and if one part of this less condensable matter came to occupy this outer rim, it would separate itself from the mass, and fly off; we should have a separate ring of uncondensed matter. This may be illustrated by a common occurrence; it often happens that the grind-stone is driven round with so great rapidity, that what 1 have been supposing actually takes place; the balance between the centrifugal and centripetal forces is destroyod, and a piece of the outer
circle fies off. Had this outer pertion been not of atone, but a bolt of ulestic oubstanoes,
inctead of breaking into pieces it would nave expanded itself, and made a separate ring at some little distance frcm the grindstone. Owing to the attraction of the earth, this ring would have fallen to the ground; but if the same could happen away from such a powe of attraction, the ring would have revolved round the mass it had left. It is certain that from a mass composed of different portions of matter, such rings must separate themselves from the general mass of matter in course of condensation, so that ultimately a great solid globe wonld be left, surrounded by a number of subservient rings at different intervals of pace. We now see how a dependent and se parate matter may arise. Before proceeding further, let us see how far we have got. We have attained to the idea of the way in which dependent and separate matter might arise how we might have a central globe and rotatory motion; and how, further, that rings must be thrown off from the equator of the mass.This last tact is the explanation of the first question weproposed. How is it that all the planeta move in the same plane? It is rot only that all were thrown of the sun, but, that all were thrown off the sun's equator. It must be obvious that the rings would be thrown off there, and nowhere else, as the velocity and expansion would be there greatest. These rings would continue to turn round the central mass, with just the velocity it had when they left it. Further, whatever become of these rings, in whatever form they mould themselves, the masses they form must revolve lmost in circles. We have now the explantion of three arrangements-firat, of the moions of the planets all in one plane; -second ly , their motion round the sun, all in one diection; and thirdly, that they move almost in circles. The problem is then rapidly becoming simplified. We now ask-What may become of these rings: into what forms may they ultimately resolve themselves? There are three possible modes in which the rings may arrange themselves, two of which ar very improbable, andstillquite possible. Suppose that the outer ring had been perfectly uniform in its composition, no one portion being denser than another, then the ultimate form it would assume would be that of a solid ring; we should have solid rings moving in pace round the sun. This, however, could not happen unless the ring was perfectly uni form in constitution at the time when it abandoned the mass. Such an improbable form, let me notice, we have within our own solar ystem-that remarkable ring round the plan et Saturn, the only one with which we ar acquainted. I think it is somewhat in favor of our hypothesis, if we can get evidences for it, even from the exceptions and anomalies in the facts we observe. Secondly; it the ring is not uniform at the time of leaving the mass, it must break up, and the denser portion would draw all the surrounding matter into one mass. Two things might then happen, supposing that the matterinto which the ring was being drawn were so disposed as to balance each other in the circle of mutual attraction It is clear that in that case we should have not a ring, but a number of small bodies moving round the sun at small distances from it. Tnis, though a perfectly possible occurrence, is one by no means likely. Singularly we have an instance of formation in the group of planets which lie between Mars and Jupiter; they are quite small, and appear to lie at the same distance from the sun. Thirdly : the mode in which a ring would be most likely to break up would be so that one denser part would absorb into itself the whole matter of the mass: the ring would resolve itself into one large body, which would assume the circular shape, and revolve round the sun. that the general law of our system-that of a central mass, and other masses revolving round it-would be that which comes nearest to our hypothesis. We have not spoken of the rotation of bodies round their axis: these all move in the same direction. How is this to be accounted for? Let us suppose the outer rim of the masses to be broken up, and see what motion the fragments will assume. As the outer rim itself had a higher velocity than the rent of the mans, so the exteriorportion of the rim hat a quicker motion than the interiWhen the ring is broken, the outer por-
tions of each fragment will plunge over and over the inner portion, and cause rotation round the centre of gravity. From this fact we see the absolute necessity that evers one of the planets should move in the same direction with its orbit. We have contemplated the birth and developement of this beautiful system of ours-dare we stretch our thoughts to that time when even it shall fail? If the theory laid before you to-night be the correct one, we may. Youknow how the planets are retained in their orbits; it is because the two opposite forces exactly balance each other. But modern astonomy has proved that there is a power at work destroying their balance.From observations made on the retarded return of Euche's comet, and its gradual ap. proximation to the sun, we learn the existence of a fluid, an ether, which, however subtle, tends to diminish the centrifugal force, and add to the attraction of the sun.
However slowly it may approach, we may, then, contemplate the day when this present system shall pass away ; not, however, into a vast ruin, but in its own beautiful and majestic order, jusi like a flower, which, having adorned the earth, lets drop its leaves when its work is done, and falls back obediently on its mother's bosom.

## The Pope's State Carriage.

The Pope's state carriage, a most gorgeous vehicle, commenced by Leo. XII., finished by Gregory XVI. and retouched during the reign of Pius IX., at an expeuse altogether of 24,000 scudi ( $£ 5,001$. ), was recently conveyed in great pomp from the Vatican to the Franciscan Convent of Ara Cœeli, on the Capitoline hill, where it was formally made over the monks, to serve exclusively for the revered image of the infant Jesus, when carried to visit the sick and dying in various parts of the city. This image, considered by its beneficial results to be one of the most miraculous that Rome possesses, has nevertheless been hitherto borne on its charitable missions in an exceedingly shabby coach, so that the soldiers of the 'corps de garde' seldom recognized the equipage in time to present arms before it had gone by; buton that afternonn the good citizens and their wives wept with delight on beholding the santo bambino, attended by the guardian monks, installed in all the splendors of the papal carriage, and proceeding triumphantly down the Corso to visit the sick and wounded at the hospital San Giacomo.

## hiterary notices.

## The Pictorial Organ.

Messrs. Oliver \& Brothers, the enterprising publishers, have just issued a splendid Pictorial as No. 1 of Vol. 9. Those who want to see a good pictorial should buy it and those
who want the Temperance paper, edited with who want the Temperance paper, editt d with marked ability, should subscribe for it.

## History or Wonderful Inventions.

This is a very able and useful book of the Boys Own Library, published by Harper \&c
Brothers. There are two volumes, 25 cents Brothers. There are two volumes, 25 cents
each. They should be in every family, as they are standard, and comprise a history of those things which have revolutionized society more than all the laws enacted by nations or battles won by heroes.
Our thanks are due to Drs. Wesselheft and Grau, of the Water Cure Establishment, Bratleboro, Vt. for a copy of their very interest.
ing Report. It states that 392 cases were treated hydropathically in 1848.
Messrs. Dewitt \& Davenport have just issueda pamphlet, entitled Cholera, its Causes, Symptoms and Treatment considered anid exYained, by J. P. Batchelder, M. D., of New very reasonable. Price $12 \frac{1}{2}$ cents.

Through the politeness of Messrs. Dewitt Through the politeness of Messrs. Dewitt
N Davenport of this city, we have the July
No of Sartain's Magazine, which in point of No. of Sartain's Magazine, which in point of excellence and beauty, fully equals if not sur.
passes any former number. The typogtaphy is exceedingly well executed, and the embellishments are of the highest order. We are gratified to know that this work meets an encouraging support.

Peterson's Ladies National is also on our table. "The Gentle Warning," is one of the best executed mezzotint engravings we have ever seen, "Edith," an equestrian fisure, is
also very pretty. This number cummences also very pretty. This number commences a which have been made by the enterprising Which have been made by the enterprising
publisher, we hope will not go unrewarded. The matter is alwaye good and fascinating.Dewitt \& Davenport, Agents.

## TO CORRESPONDENTR．

＂J R．E．of S．C．＂－A package of back Nos．of the Scientific American，＂togethe with the balance your due，in cash，was ship ped to your address by the＂Southerner，＂las Saturdiy．
＂G．P．F．of Ala．＂－There is no doubt but what the article costs all the advertisement says it did，but in reply to your first query we must answer in the negative．
＂G M．of Mass．＂－The chain pump refer red to is not a patent．
＂C．M．of Camden，S．C．＂－We are infor med by an excellent instrument maker，tha it could not cost less than $\$ 25$ to put your Theodolite in yood order．You will be obli－ ged to send it on before the exact amount of the expense can be calculated．
＂H．T．P．of S．C．＂－We can send you Christopher Davy＇s work on Foundations，at $\$ 3,50$ ，but we do not know whether it will suit you or not．We shall wait until we hear from you before shipping again We thank you for your continued interest in the Scien－ tific American．
＂A．M．H．of N．Y．＂－You have shown nothing patentable in your model．Bee hives have been constructed upon this plan before．
＂E．G．of Mass．＂一Try and filter through carded cotton wool，or use some powdered alum to precipitate the impurities，and use only the clear．If iron is in the water，it is not easy to clear it．Quicklime precipitates it．We have seen bran boiled in a large boil er among the impure water have a good effect to clear it，by the gluten in the bran combi－ ning with the impurities in the water and precipitating them．
＇W E．of N．Y．＂－We should think you would hear from the Patent Office soon．There is no means of telling the exact time when your application will be examined．
＂J．O．of N．Y＂－If you cannot associate some one with you in securing letters patent， a notice of the invention might be of service to you，in case you should wish to prove pri ority．It is evident from the contents of your letter that you have too many ideas in your head，which effectually prevents any great advance towards the completion of any single one．You will never realize any profit from slumbering inventions．If we were to ad－ vise，we should think you had better carry through one of them and see what are the re－ sults．No invention is considered safe with－ out the seal of the Patent Office
＂A．F．W．of Pa＂－Your letter and enclo－ sure has been received and the papers forwar－ ded as per order．We do not think a patent could be obtained for your plan－similar ma－ chines are now in use
＂J．B．of Ala．＂－Your churn is not new， although constructed upon correct principles． An application is now pending for a similar combination．
＂M．S．Jr．of Vt．＂一Your business is now progressing，and will be ready soon．
＇A．A．W．of Mich．＂—Such an apparatus as you present for our attention would be va－ luable，if macie t，perform well．You had better try an experiment with it on some of your lake vessels，and report the result．We should think it might work．
＂P．B．of Pa．＂一We have arranged your Ca－ veat and forwarded it to the Patent Office．
＂W．H．D．G．of S．C．＂$\$ \$ 2$ received on account of Mr．Z，－pa．pers forwarded to each of you．For particular：s in regard to Mr．Ber－ tholf＇s horse power you．had better address him．He will answer your questions better than we can．
＂A．H．of Pa．＂－Vol． 3 Scientific Ameri－ can forwarded to your address on the 14th inst．We do not know the exact cost of Mow－ ing machines．You had better address the inventors．You will notice an engraving of one in No． 37.
＂E．G．F．of Halifax．＂There is $n$ o cheap hand threshing power in use here．A hand power could be easily constructed，but we question its utility．There are one，two and three horse power threshers．Messrs．Wood－ bury of Rochester，N．Y．make good machines We can easily ascertain the price of one if we knew the power you wanted．
G．H．Marden，of Charlestown，Mass．wishes the party who wrote him from this，city，to send on their names，as the letter was not
＂G．R．McJ．of Pa．＂－Your model is so im． perfectly made，that we cannot arrive at a lear understanding of its operation．You had better make a pencil drawing，and des－ cribe it by letters of reterence．At all event this model will not answer the requirements of the Patent Office．Please attend to the mat． ter soon．
＂J．H．B．of N．Y．＂－You are perfectly safe＂in applying for a patent，on your cheese press，providing it has not been in use over two years．You had better send a model or drawing as soon as convenient．
＂C．R．of Vt．＂－Yours will appear nex week．
＂L．L．of N．Y．＂—Both of your specifica－ tions and drawings were forwarded to Wash ington last Monday．
＂J．M．Jr．of Mass．＂—We have been dis． appointed in getting your model completed as early as we expected，but we now have a re－ newed promise that it shall oe finished this week，which if done we shall be able to furn－ ish your papers for signature early next week． We regret this delay but it has been unavoid－ able on our part．
＂W．\＆P．of Pa．＂＂W．P．V．of Me．＂＂W． B．of Ct．＂and M．S．of Me．＂－The drawings of your machines are executed and as soon as the specifications are prepared，which will be in a few days，we will forward them for your signaturef．
＂C．R．of Fa．＂＂A．B．and J．J．of N．Y＂ －Your Caveats have been filedand fees paid ＇at the
quest．
＂$R$ ．
＂R．L．of N．Y．＂＂W．F．of Ct．＂＂＇B．B．of Me．＂＂r S．of Pa．＂and＂W．B．H．of R．I．＂ －Your specifications and drawings have

Moneys received by Mail on account of Pa －
ent Office business，since June 13th ：－
R．L．of N．Y．$\$ 30$ ．B．B of Me．，$\$ 10$ ．W F．and W．B．of Ct．，each $\$ 30$ ．

## Notice．

J．Franklin Reigart，Esq．Patent Agent for Lancaster City and County，Pa．，is authorised to receive subscriptions for the＂Scientific

## American．＂

M．Boullemet，Bookseller，Mobile，Ala．， is authorized to receive subscriptions for the Scientific American

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## INFORMATION WANTED．

TO know the whereabouts of John Johnson a na． from Belfast，Ireland，in 1836 ，and was shortly after
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cerning him will be thankfully received by， | 16 3t＊$^{\text {MARTIN KENAN，}}$ |
| :--- | NOTICE．

$06-$ The Second Exhibition of the Mariand In－ sriverz for the Mechanic Arts，will be held at
Washington Hall，in the City of Baltimore，from
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lusive．Machines，models，or goods cent to the clusive．Machines，models，or goods sent to the
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Aldrich，Tyng \＆Co．of Lowell and several other
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