

from the Sun. If we designate by 10 the mean distance of the Earth from the Sun, the mean distances of all the planets from the latter will prove approximatively the following series :—

Symbol.	Mean Distance.	Or taking the Earth as Unity = 1.
☿ Mercury...	4	0.387098
♀ Venus ...	7	0.723331
⊕ Earth ...	10	1.000000
♂ Mars ...	15	1.523691
♃ Asteroids ...	21 to 35	—
♃ Jupiter ...	52	5.202767
♄ Saturn ...	95	9.588850
♅ Uranus ...	192	19.182390
♆ Neptune...	300	30.036270
♁ Vulcan ...	—	—

The more distant the planets from the Sun, the longer, of course,

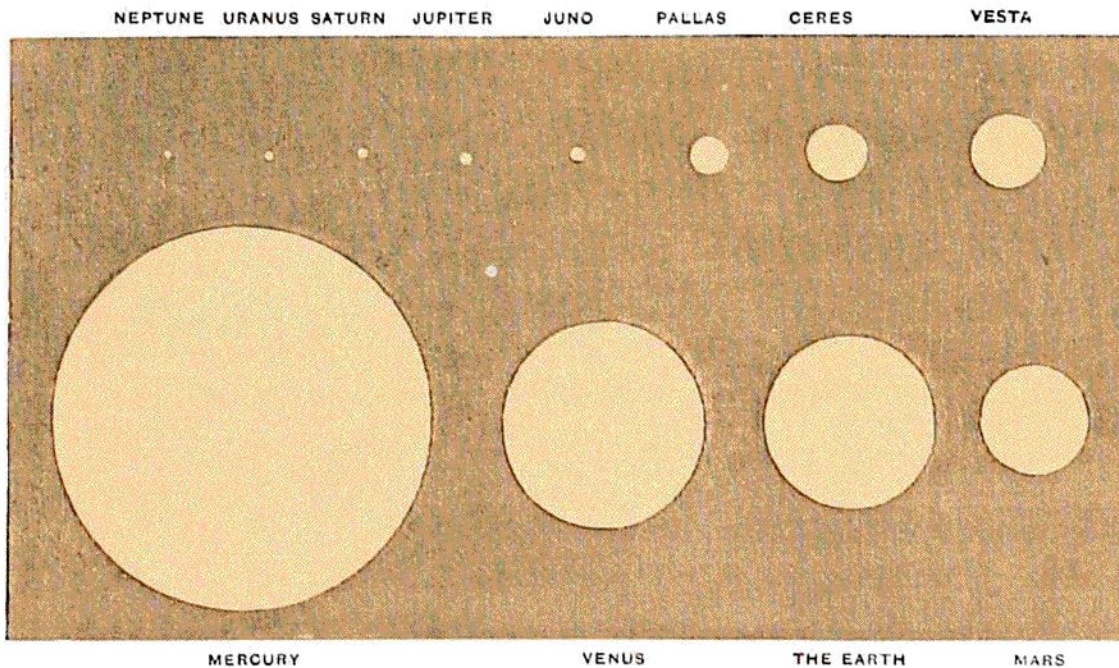


FIG. 9.—APPARENT MAGNITUDES OF THE SUN AS SEEN FROM THE VARIOUS PLANETS.

will be the period of their revolution round that central star. Thus, Mercury accomplishes his orbit in 87.9692824 days ; Venus in 224.7007754 days ; Mars in 686.9794561 days ; the Asteroids in from 3 to 6 years ; Jupiter in 4332.5848032 days ; Saturn in 10759.2197106 days ; Uranus in 30686.8205556 days ; finally, Neptune, the planet discovered by Adams and Leverrier in 1846, employs 60126.722 days in completing its sidereal revolution.

The Earth weighs nearly as much as the planet Venus. Compared