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A planet's atmosphere! Not all celestial bodies can have atmospheres. The quantity of atmosphere which any planet can hold depends upon its gravitational force; and the force of gravity of a planet depends upon its density and diameter. Smaller bodies like the moon have no atmosphere. Mars' atmosphere is very thin. A visiting star a long time ago came near enough to the sun to pull away a bolt of gaseous matter which finally cooled and condensed and formed our earth, smaller than than at present. This earth grew by adding to itself very small planets which got in its path, and as it grew larger it acquired enough gravitational force to retain an atmosphere.
