

# James Nasmyth, Engineer: An Autobiography



James Nasmyth was a Scottish engineer who is best known for designing and building the world's largest telescope, the Leviathan of Parsonstown. He also invented the steam hammer, which revolutionized the forging industry. Nasmyth's autobiography is a fascinating account of his life and

work, and it provides a valuable insight into the development of engineering in the 19th century.

## Early Life and Education

James Nasmyth was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on August 19, 1808. His father was a painter and decorator, and his mother was a devout Christian. Nasmyth was a bright and inquisitive child, and he showed an early interest in engineering. He attended the University of Edinburgh, where he studied mathematics and natural philosophy. After graduating, Nasmyth worked as an apprentice engineer in a number of different workshops.



### James Nasmyth: Engineer; an autobiography

by Samuel Smiles

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 983 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 360 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## The Leviathan of Parsonstown

In 1842, Nasmyth was commissioned to design and build the Leviathan of Parsonstown, the world's largest telescope. The telescope was built for the Earl of Rosse, an Irish astronomer who was interested in studying the nebulae. The Leviathan was a massive instrument, with a 72-inch mirror

and a focal length of 56 feet. It was the largest and most powerful telescope in the world at the time, and it remained so for over 50 years.

## The Steam Hammer

In 1843, Nasmyth invented the steam hammer. The steam hammer was a revolutionary new tool that made it possible to forge large pieces of metal with greater precision and efficiency. The steam hammer was quickly adopted by the forging industry, and it played a major role in the development of the Industrial Revolution.

## Later Life and Legacy

Nasmyth continued to work as an engineer for the rest of his life. He designed and built a number of other important machines, including the Nasmyth steam engine and the Nasmyth hammer. He also wrote several books on engineering, and he was a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. Nasmyth died in London on May 7, 1890.

James Nasmyth was one of the most important engineers of the 19th century. His inventions and innovations had a major impact on the development of the Industrial Revolution. Nasmyth's autobiography is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of engineering.



## James Nasmyth: Engineer; an autobiography

by Samuel Smiles

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 983 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

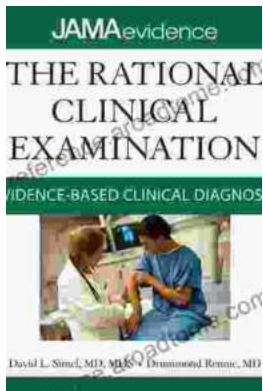
Print length : 360 pages

Lending

: Enabled

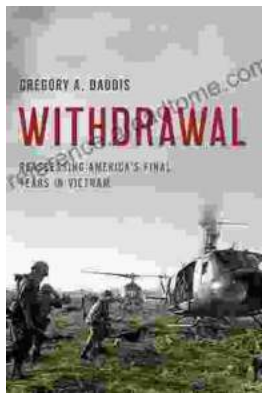
FREE

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK



## Unlock the Secrets of Accurate Clinical Diagnosis: Discover Evidence-Based Insights from JAMA Archives Journals

Harnessing the Power of Scientific Evidence In the ever-evolving landscape of healthcare, accurate clinical diagnosis stands as the cornerstone of...



## Withdrawal: Reassessing America's Final Years in Vietnam

The Controversial Withdrawal The withdrawal of American forces from Vietnam was one of the most controversial events in American history. The war...