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DR. SMALLWOOD'S OBSERVATORY.

IF France, with her splendid array of scientific names, feels herself not dishonoured in awarding high praise and honours to her physician-astronomer, Dr. Lescaubault, because of his discovery of the intra-mercurial planet, we also have been doing honour to one, tardy though it may be, who amidst the troubles of an active professional life, has devoted himself to the close observation of meteorological phenomena for a period of a quarter of a century, with, like the former, instruments mainly of his own construction, and who has aided in the advancement of science, if not by such a brilliant discovery as that of Lescaubault, at least by assisting in the development of certain laws, connected with the electrical condition of the atmosphere, and its ozonogenetic properties, which may unfold principles of the highest importance to mankind. We have been acquainted with Dr. Smallwood's labours for many years past, but never until we paid an especial visit to his house, were we aware of the sacrifices which he had made in the pursuit of a favourite science, nor the industry and skill which he had exhibited in the construction of most of his apparatus. The Legislative grant of \$1000 now made in his favour, will certainly assist him in carrying out his observations on a larger and more important scale; but it will, at best, go but a small way to the complete fulfillment of an object which has, to say the very least of it, a country's good at heart. We are indeed pleased that the Government has made such an appropriation, and we assure it, that it will be by no means misapplied. We are sorry that it has not been larger, as more than the appropriation will be required for the purchase only of the Magnetic instruments necessary for the observations, and this even with the greatest of economy. This however will be rectified by a continuation of the grant. The only regret which we have about the matter is, that the observer and his observatory are not within, or at least immediately beyond the precincts of the city, that a more ready access might at all times be afforded to the observatory.

While writing upon matters of meteorological study, a favourite one of our own, we cannot forbear doing justice to one, who, quietly and unobtrusively, has been making tri-daily observations of the less attractive phenomena during a period of nearly half a century, and whose observations have found a weekly nook in the columns of the Montreal Herald for fully that period of time, and if