

barracks in Toronto, at the corner of what is now King and Bathurst streets as a temporary observatory, and the instruments were accordingly placed in a room which had been prepared for them. The building was afterwards used as an ordnance storehouse for the artillery. The new buildings which stand on precisely the same spot that the present ones occupy, in latitude 43 deg. 39 mins. 25 secs. and longitude 79 deg. 21 mins. 30 secs. west of Greenwich, were completed in September, 1840 and Lieut. Riddell, with his staff, composed of Sergt. James Johnston, Bombardier James Walker and Acting Bombardier Thomas Menzies, took possession of them. The buildings then consisted of an observatory, having two apartments, one 50 feet by 20, for the instruments, and the other 18 feet by 12, for an office and computing room, with a hall or vestibule 12 feet by 6; a detached building, partly sunk in the ground with a view to obtaining a uniform temperature, and containing one room, 18 feet by 12, for experimental determinations and observations of absolute intensity. This was 80 feet from the observatory so that the instruments might not be affected by the magnets. Other buildings were the anemometer house, a small shed for the inclination circle and barracks for the detachment. The whole ground was inclosed by a picket the first four buildings mentioned being at the eastern end inside an inner inclosure, while the barracks were at the western end. The buildings were constructed of 12-inch logs rough hewn at the outside and plastered on the inside. The instruments were supported by pillars of massive stone some six or seven feet long and embedded three feet in masonry. In 1841 Acting Bombardier Thomas Malines was added to the staff, being relieved in 1844 by Acting Bombardier Grace, while Lieut. Charles Young-

husband took the place of Lieut. Riddell, whose ill-health obliged him to return to England. Lieut. Lefroy arrived in 1842, but leaving again in 1843 to join the brigade of canoes going from Lachine to the Hudson Bay Territories, Lieut. Younghusband was once more in command. On his return, however, Lieut. Lefroy once more assumed the control, which he held till 1853, when the operations of the observatory as an Imperial Institution were brought to a close by the removal, in the early part of the year, of the Royal Artillery from Canada. After a short cessation, however, the magnetical observations, which had ceased preparatory to the removal of the instruments by the artillery, were again taken up under the authority of the Provincial Government in July. The meteorological observations had been in the meantime carried on without interruption. Though Lieut. Lefroy was recalled, through the indulgence of the military authorities, the non commissioned officers who had acted under Lieut. Lefroy, Messrs. Walker, Menzies and Stewart, were permitted to continue in the same capacity till their retirement from active service in 1855, when they became permanently attached to the observatory. Of these Mr. William A. Stewart still lives and occupies his positions in the observatory. James Walker died many years ago, but it is not long since Thomas Menzies departed. He left behind him a son, who was born in the observatory and who now occupies a position in it. When the Government took charge of the institution Prof. Cherryman, then professor of natural philosophy at University College, Toronto, was appointed director, and under his auspices the present buildings were commenced in the autumn of 1853. Since then the efficiency and value of the service has increased steadily, until to-day it is