

sketch of its origin and early history, in the report made by the Director, and published in Supplement No. 4 of the report of last year. During the year just closed, as will be seen by the report, the general nature of the work has continued as in former years; but very important accessions have been made to the appliances of the Observatory for the carrying out of the objects for which it was established. The correct time is determined at this establishment for the magnetic and meteorological observations, and, as observed in the report of last year, all the clocks and watches in Ontario have been regulated by this time for more than thirty years, and for the last four years the Observatory has given time daily to the city by striking all the fire-alarm bells at a fixed instant.

The sum of \$4,800 was voted by Parliament for this Observatory, and the sum of \$4,736.90 expended, as will be seen by reference to Appendix No. 35.

The report of Mr. C. H. McLeod, Director of the Montreal Observatory, for the calendar year ended 31st December last, will be found in Supplement No. 3. This Observatory is in connection with McGill College, and Mr. McLeod acts also as Meteorological Observer in connection with the Central Office at Toronto, it being one of the chief meteorological stations. Observations are taken day and night at equal intervals, not exceeding three hours, and three observations daily are telegraphed to Toronto. Observations are also published daily in one morning and one evening city paper; and during the past year printed monthly abstracts have been published, giving the "means" of all the elements for each day of the month and for the month itself, and giving also a synopsis to include any extraordinary observations. In addition to the allowance of \$500 received from the general meteorological vote as a chief station, the sum of \$500 is granted annually by Parliament for the maintenance of this Observatory.

The sum of \$2,400 is annually voted by Parliament for the maintenance of the Observatory at Quebec, of which Commander Ashe, R.N., is Director. This report for the calendar year ended 31st December last will be found in Supplement No. 3 to this report, from which it will be seen that during the past season correct time has been given to the shipping at the Port of Quebec each day at one o'clock, thus enabling masters of vessels to rate their chronometers. The inhabitants of Quebec are also supplied with correct time during the winter season by this Observatory.

During the past winter Commander Ashe, at the request of the Crown Lands Department of the Province of Quebec, visited the Lower and Upper Ottawa, and determined the latitude and longitude of Point Fortune, Buckingham, Pembroke, Des Joachims and Portage du Fort. An account of this visit will be found in his report.

The only other Observatory and time-ball in connection with this Department is that at the port of St. John, N. B., under the management of Mr. Geo. Hutchinson-