

the ground at the depth of the outside couple. These observations are undertaken in conjunction with Prof. Penhallow, representing the Natural History Society of Montreal, and are of great importance in their bearing on agriculture in Canada.

*Assistance.*—The need of further assistance is much felt. A considerable portion of my time and that of my assistant is now taken up in replying to inquiries on the part of the public. Owing to the situation of the Observatory in a large and growing city, this demand upon our time will of necessity increase.

*Longitude.*—In the autumn of last year the facilities of the Observatory, at the request of Capt. E. Deville, were granted for the purpose of a longitude determination of some point in the West, with a view to closing the chain of longitudes now being carried across the continent in connection with the Dominion Lands Survey. The longitude of this station, having been determined with great accuracy by direct telegraphic communication with Cambridge, which is the initial point for longitudes in America, is well suited to become the base station for Canadian longitudes.

*Educational.*—Instruction in Meteorological Observations was given to a class of four undergraduates. Six students in Civil Engineering have attended the course in transit observations. The Blackman relescope has been employed in connection with the astronomical classes in the faculty of Arts.

Respectfully submitted,

C. H. McLEOD,

*Superintendent of the Observatory.*

MCGILL COLLEGE,

Montreal, December 31st, 1888.