

graph, but simply directed the attention of the Minister and Government to the subject as worthy of consideration.

In June, 1898, the writer, en route to Russia, took the chronometer, 48419, to Dent, London, for electric alterations.

On November 4, 1898, the writer prepared a list of the 85 observatories in the United States and of 252 observatories in other countries, giving their equipment, with special reference to the dimensions of their equatorials. This list was included in the memorandum November 7, 1898, to the Minister by the Chief Astronomer, in which details and reasons were given for a proposed national observatory and its equipment. The cost of the building, \$7,000, had also been furnished by the writer. The total cost submitted—without cost of site—was \$16,075. The equatorial recommended was of 10-inch aperture.

On November 10, 1898, the Minister requested the Chief Astronomer to let him know what other observatories there were in Canada and the nature of their work.

On November 15, 1898, the Chief Astronomer replied that there were only two, one at Toronto and the other at McGill, and that their work did not interfere with that contemplated at Ottawa.

In a letter, 26th May, 1899, the Public Works Department informed the Chief Astronomer that the sum of \$16,000 for the instruments and building had been placed in the Supplementary Estimates for next year.

On the 19th August, 1899, the Chief Astronomer wrote to the Minister of the Interior that steps should be taken to begin the construction of the observatory, pointing out, however, that the architect had deferred the preparation of the plans until the site was chosen, as "the site of the building must determine its architectural character." The sites suggested by the Chief Astronomer were: "the knoll on Parliament Hill, just behind the Western Block; another is the site of the summer-house west of the Library; and the third is in Major's Hill Park, on the Mackenzie Avenue side and about half-way between Rideau and St. Patrick Streets." The preference was for the "knoll."

On August 23, 1899, the writer interviewed the Minister