

where the reputation of the Professor is allowed to govern the size of his school, my classes have always been among the largest, and of late years have been very far the largest, will I trust also support my pretensions.

Should these be thought sufficient to justify the acceptance of my tender of service, your Lordship by bringing me again under the dominion of my native country, of which I have, & shall always continue a subject, will gratify an ardent desire, but if some other person should on the contrary be found better entitled to the situation, I must request you to receive my assurances of the respectful feelings with which I shall acquiesce in your Lordship's decision.

I remain

Your Lordship's

Very obed<sup>t</sup> humble Sert.

C. Bonnycastle.

The Rt. Hon<sup>le</sup>

Lord Glenelg

&c &c &c

Endorsed—1835. December 22.

M. Bonnycastle Professor of Astronomy in Virginia, wishes to be Astronomer in U. Canada.

No appointment was made and it was just half a century later—1885—when the word Astronomer was for the first time officially used by the Dominion Government on the initiation of astronomic work along the Railway Belt in British Columbia.

In a letter of October 21, 1836, by the Astronomer Royal, G. B. Airy to Mr. C. Wood, Secretary to the Admiralty, the contents of six boxes containing the instruments received (inspected and repaired) from St. Helena, are given. These were the instruments that the Admiralty was prepared to send to Upper Canada (Toronto) if Upper Canada would meet the necessary expenses of installation, but the provincial finances were at the time unsatisfactory so that nothing was done.

An abstract of the principal parts of the above contents may be interesting: A mural circle of 4 feet diameter; 6 micrometer microscopes, two of the microscopes have diagonal eye-pieces, and other accessories; observing chair; clock by Barrand, dead beat escapement; telescope  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches aperture, and length 6 feet, one erecting and three astronomical eye-pieces, one dark glass, and a single wire position micrometer with two eye-pieces; and stand for telescope "admitting of nice motion by two screws, but perfectly steady. The telescope cannot however be raised to the zenith".

OTTAWA, DOMINION OBSERVATORY

MAY 27, 1919