

Arthur W. McCurdy, president of the Victoria centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, that the huge dome to house the telescope was shipped from the Warren & Swasey works, Cleveland, on March 3. Upon its arrival here it will be immediately erected on the foundation work, which is now nearly completed.

In order that the dome might be perfect in every detail before it left the works, it was put together in Cleveland, just as if it were being erected at the observatory here. It was then taken to pieces and every part numbered and carefully packed, so there will be no delay in erecting it when it reaches Victoria. It is expected to arrive early next month.

The dome, which is of a revolving type, is 66 feet in diameter, with a double shutter having an opening of 15 feet. It is provided with an elevating observing bridge, operated by electricity.

Dr. Plyaskett, who will be superintendent of the new observatory here, went to Cleveland to inspect the dome before it was shipped. "It is by far the finest ever built," he said, after looking it over. "It is equipped with every possible operating convenience."

The telescope for the observatory will be finished this month. It also is being built at the Warner & Swasey works. At present it is mounted on temporary piers and, according to Dr. Plaskett, is a massive affair. The tube is 30 feet long, more than 7 feet in diameter and weighs 12 tons. Completed with the mirror and attachments the instrument will weigh 60 tons. This tube and declination and polar axes alone weigh 35 tons. Each part is being so designed that the powerful driving clock will revolve this immense weight with such accuracy and uniformity that the spider line in the eye-piece of the pointing telescope, attached to the great tube, can be kept exactly on

the centre of the star in observation. Quick movement of the telescope, both in right ascension and declination, will be by means of electric motors.

Before the telescope is taken down for shipment the Warner & Swasey Company intends holding an exhibition of the instrument. To this most of the scientific men in the East have been invited, as well as prominent citizens of Cleveland.

The great mirror is being made at the works of the John A. Brashear Company, Pittsburg. It is a disc of glass 73 inches in diameter and 12 inches in thickness. It weighs approximately $2\frac{1}{4}$ tons. The grinding of the mirror has not yet been finished, but those in charge of the work say there will be no difficulty in delivering the mirror in Victoria by the time the dome and telescope have been erected. This will be three or four months hence.

HIGH HONOR GOES TO CANADA.

To Canada has gone the honor of the Presidency of the National Assembly of Civil Service Commissioners. While New York City would have been pleased to have had its Civil Service President awarded the post, congratulations are in order for President Foran. May his year of authority be one of success and accomplishment. May he solve the important problems of superannuation and the political influence on the Merit System.

Dr. Muskowitz, as the Chairman of the Executive Committee, is in a position to be of the greatest aid to President Foran. With two such men at the helm the National Assembly is sure to make its influence felt in Civil Service circles.—*The Chief*, New York.

It isn't every man who can paint the town red without getting some of it on his nose.