

San Francisco, Apr 26, 1886.

Mr. E. E. Barnard,

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

My Dear Mr. Barnard:

I have received your letter of April 17th enclosing your photograph, which I am extremely glad to have, as it seems to make us personally acquainted. I send you by this mail a copy of my own photo. which I am glad to do.

You will be interested to know that I have begun to form a staff for the Lick Observatory by the appointment of Mr. Keeler, who was formerly an assistant of Professor Lanley's at Alleghany Observatory. Mr. Keeler has just gone up on the mountain and will commence our first work by constructing a time service for California. You probably know that at present we have no way of paying any regular salaries, because the terms of Mr. Lick's deed do not allow salaries to be paid from the fund until the Observatory is finally completed and turned over to the Regents of the University of California. We expect to have the large dome finished by Nov. of this year, and very possibly the mounting by the spring of 1887. Probably the large objective will be finished and delivered by that time and it is possible that everything will be completed sometime in the Summer of 1887, when I shall be at liberty to make a selection of my associates. My idea has been that we can probably have two or three astronomers who have already attained a

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high reputation who will be in charge of such work as Meridian Circle Observations, ^{Equatorial Observations} &c, and that some of the younger men in the country would be willing to come (as Keeler is,) to take up certain routine work, and to use the leisure which I shall be able to give them, for their own special researches. I hope also to have with us all the time at least one visiting astronomer from this country or from Europe. We can put our large telescope, for example at the disposition of such a person during certain definite hours of every day, and in that way augment our usefulness greatly.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Edward S. Holden

Dictated