

TO THE HISTORY OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE 30-INCH REFRACTOR OF THE NICHOLAS CENTRAL ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY AT PULKOVO

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Abstract. The circumstances of ordering and constructing the 30-inch objective lens of the world greatest (in 1880s) refracting telescope for the Pulkovo Observatory are detailfully given, the objective lens being manufactured by the famous USA optical firm “Alvan Clark & Sons”. The mechanics of the telescope mounting had been constructed by the Repsold brothers from the well-known telescope-maker company “A. Repsold & Söhne” in Hamburg, Germany. The petition for the finances for the construction of the 30-inch refractor which had been addressed by Otto Struve to the State Council of the Russian Empire has been approved by the Emperor Alexander the Third.

Keywords: observatory, telescope, refractor, objective lens, pavilion.