

glass, by the committee on the
Secchi monument.

This is as low as we can
afford to make a glass of excellent
quality, and we will tax our skill
to the utmost, if you will favor
us with the order.

Dr Struve has examined
the 26 inch at Washington, the 20 inch
for McCormick, the 23 inch at Princeton,
and the 30 inch made for the Russian
Government, and he would be a
good adviser for you.

Our experience in large lenses
having been successful in every case,
will assure you of obtaining
from us, an excellent objective,
as we put them to a very severe test,
and will have the glass mounted on
an equatorial stand on our grounds,
at our own expense, so that it may
be tested on celestial objects, by yourself,
or by such persons as you may wish
to have examine it, before it is accepted.
Yours truly Alvan Clark & Sons

Cambridge port Oct^{2nd} 1853

Prof Pierre Gacchini,

Dear Sir,

Your honored
letter of the 8th of September, came
duly to hand, and with it the
excellent photograph, of Rev. Father
Secchi, for which, we are very grateful
to you; we think it a splendid
photograph, of a good and great
man.

We were somewhat surprised
and disappointed, to learn, that
the committee thought our price
for the object glass of 70 centimeters,
too high, as the prices we gave
you, were much less, than we
have ever made them for before,

and we had hoped, to make the glass for the Secchi monument, but if, as I infer from your letter, the committee are disposed to give the order, to the manufacturer who will agree to make it for the least money, there is nothing left for us to do in the matter, but to withdraw from the contest; but if, on the other hand, the committee wish to have an object glass of our work, and are willing to pay us a fair compensation, for the skill and labor we shall have to bestow upon it, the great risk has also to be taken into account, we should be most happy, to make for them, an object glass of 70 centimeters clear aperture, that should withstand any and all optical tests, that any of the astronomers or scientists may subject it to,

We will guarantee the glass to give good definition, and round images of stars, and that the light shall spread alike on both sides of the focus, showing the interference rings alike on each side of the focus, under favorable conditions of the atmosphere; this we will do, and shall only ask of you, to make such payments, as we shall be called upon to make Mr Yeil, which is one fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) the price of the discs on acceptance of the contract, another fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) on delivery of the glass, and the remainder ($\frac{1}{4}$) in six months from the delivery, when it has been approved by such persons, as you, or the committee may appoint.

And when the glass is accepted, we will give 10 000 francs to the Secchi telescope, on conditions that we are paid 100 000 francs for the