Friedrich Wilhelm August Argelander Encyclopedia Article

Friedrich Wilhelm August Argelander

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Friedrich Wilhelm August Argelander

1799-1875

German astronomer who completed a survey of the heavens that included data on the positions and brightnesses of over 324,000 stars. His catalog, called the *Bonner Durchmusterung,* included more precise data on the brightnesses of stars than previous catalogs, aiding astronomers who studied variations in stellar brightness. He himself studied variable stars and devised a method for estimating their brightnesses. He also confirmed William Herschel's findings on the motion of the sun.