

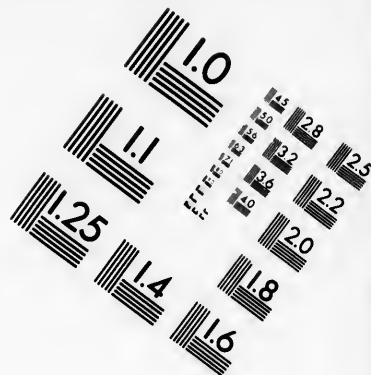
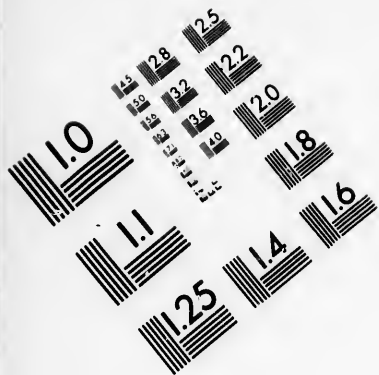
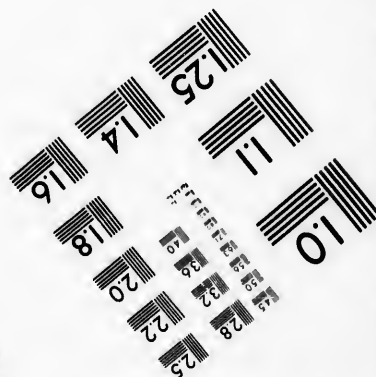
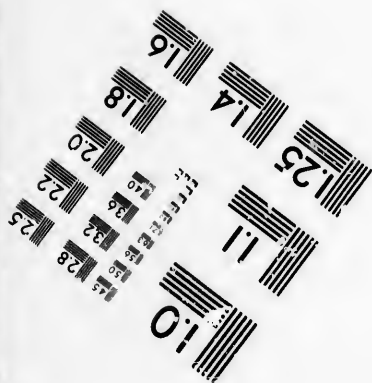
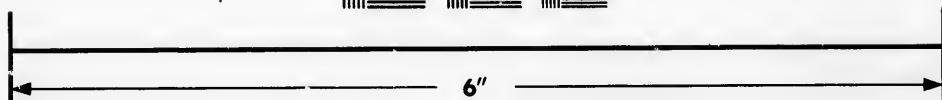
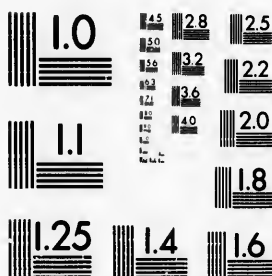


IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



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Address of His Lordship the Bishop of
Ottawa, and Clergy, to His Holiness
Pius IX.

MOST HOLY FATHER :—

Before leaving the City of Ottawa, where we are at present assembled for the exercises of the Pastoral Retreat, we are anxious, in prostrating ourselves at the feet of Your Holiness, to express our filial piety and the sentiments which we at present experience. Though separated by considerable distance from Your Holiness, we have never ceased, with anxious solicitude, to watch your sad career during many years past. Your Holiness' sufferings have also been ours; your pains and consolations we have also shared.

When lately, for the alleviation of Your sorrow, and also to give an earnest proof of that life, ever new, which animates the Catholic world, the Bishops of every nation at once obedient to your voice, hastened, with eager fervour at the first call, to the City of Rome, bringing with them both the wishes and the faith of their respective Churches; our thoughts and affections followed them. With them we prostrated ourselves at your feet, to hear your words; to receive your teaching, and obtain, with affection, that choicest Benediction which consoles and fortifies the soul and prepares it to undergo the greatest sacrifices.

Like them, have we admired the Pontiff who, though humbled by injustice, yet not the less respected; who though he be tried, is not less amiable; who though unrighteously plundered, is not the less firm; who though threatened with a fearful catastrophe is not the less confident. Like them, have we execrated with feelings of horror, the attempts of those modern vandals, who, having invaded the greater portion of your inheritance; would lessen your territory, and despoil that treasury erected at the expense of the greatest sacrifices and with the most rigid economy. We have approved of your struggles and admired your dignified resistance. We have condemned, by our protestations, the impious and wanton doctrines of those who would feign justify the errors and crimes which, up to this time, characterized the Italian revolution.

Like them and with them we hold as orthodox that which Your Holiness proclaims to be so; censure that which you condemn; and love that which Your Holiness loves and approves. We know that in attaching

Like them and with them we bend as of old
 dox that which Your Holiness proclaims to
 be so ; censure that which you condemn ;
 and love that which Your Holiness loves
 and approves. We know that in attaching
 ourselves to the See of Rome we are also
 attached to the centre of unity, to follow
 the Successor of St. Peter. We follow
 Jesus Christ, to love your authority. We
 also adhere to the truth since it is in the
 name of Him who has the words of eternal
 life that you order and direct. Rome has
 ever been for us a great and noble city,
 the grand bulwark of Catholicity and the
 Mother of all Churches, but she has in-
 creased still more in these days of her or-
 deal, and she has become, with still more
 justice, the chief, the centre, and the queen
 of the Catholic world ; and the Pontiff who
 reigns within her walls and guides her des-
 tinies with a dignified courage ; and illumines
 her by the practice of the most heroic vir-
 tues, we look upon as a Pontiff above all
 human comparison.

Long then most illustrious Pontiff, may
 you reign for the consolation of your chil-
 dren, the triumph of truth, the welfare of
 our Holy Church, and the confusion of our
 enemies ; and may there be granted to Your
 Holiness, after these days of trial, peace and
 the happy tranquility of brighter years, yet
 to come, to efface the long and sad experi-
 ences to which Your Holiness has been
 subjected.

Prostrate at the feet of Your Holiness,
 we humbly supplicate and ask the Apostolic
 Benediction for the chief pastor of our dio-
 cese and also for the clergy and the flock
 committed to their care.

† Jos. Eugene, Bishop of Ottawa
 D. Dandurand, V. G., O. M. I.
 J. Tabaret, V. G., O. M. I.

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