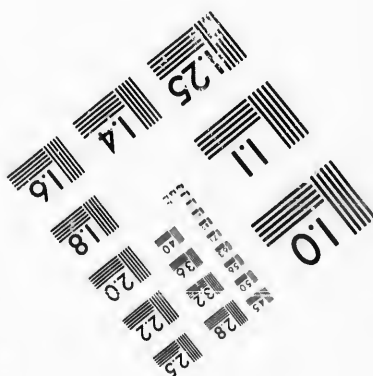
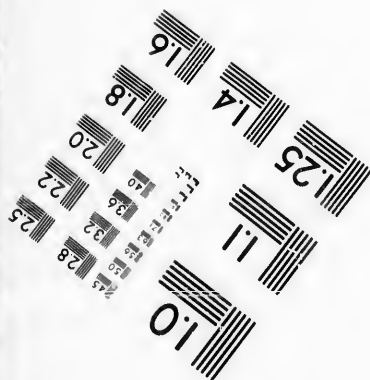
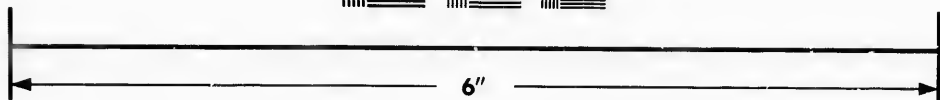
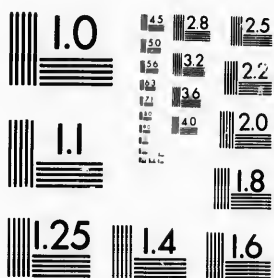


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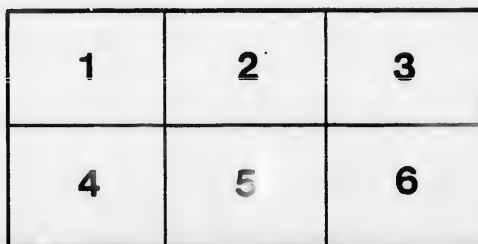
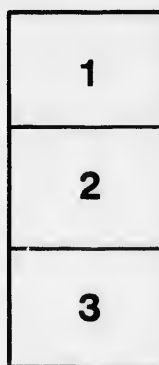
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HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

It was New Year's Day, and, away away,
On his gladsome rounds sped he;
He hurried along with whistle and song,
For he was a Carrier free.

"Whither away, O, Carrier gay,
Oh! whither away so fast?"
Asked a Maiden sweet, of the youth so fleet,
As he sped like a meteor past.
But the Carrier answered her never a word,
Never a word spake he,
He gave her the paper with all the news
And winked prodigiously.



"Why will he not tell? asked the Maiden fair,
'Tis a weird dark mystery;
But I'll go and read of the weddings and balls,
And no thought of the boy with his whoops and his cans
Shall come in my dreams to me."



A Lawyer next in his doorway stood
And he hailed the swift youth
Are you training to emulate Nancy Hanks,"
As the Carrier hastened away.
But the Carrier answered him never a word,
Never a word spake he;
He tossed him the paper with all the news,
And chipped and chuckled with glee.

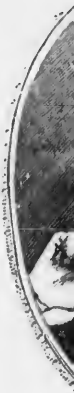
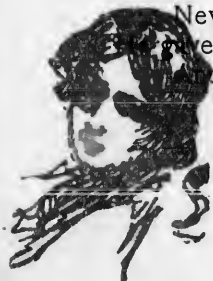


"I'd like to have him on the witness-stand,"
Said this sinister man of guile;
Then he turned to the column of law reports,
And looked up the docket and cases in court,
And smiled a peculiar smile.

A fine Old Lady the Carrier saw,
She was kindly and sweet to see.
"You'd better come in and warm yourself,
My poor little lad," said she.
But the taciturn Carrier said not a word,
Never a word spake he;
He gave her the paper with all the news
And hastily turned to flee.



"I'm sorry the Carrier wouldn't come in,
He'll surely catch cold," she said,
"But I'll read of the funerals first, and then
I'll find him out and I'll ask him again;
Perhaps he wont be afraid."





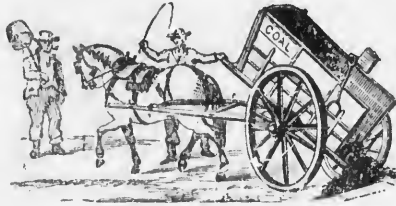
A Merchant stood waiting before his front door
 For the Carrier blithesome and free ;
 " Oh ! where have you been so long, my lad,
 And where do you go ? " said he.
 But the Carrier answered him never a word,
 Never a word spake he ;
 But flung him the paper with all the news
 And scampered immediately.

" That youth sticks closely to biz I know.
 That's a style I like," said he ;
 But I must read up the market reports
 And the foreign news for our Winter Port,
 That my paper brings to me.



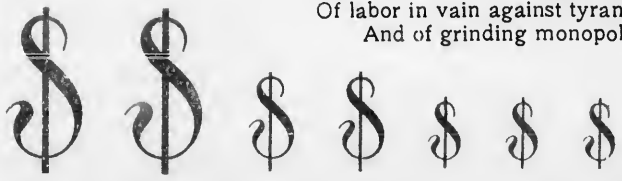
The Parson grave, in slippers and gown,
 Came out in the frosty air,
 And " whither away with your bundle big,
 O, Carrier free from care ? "
 But the Carrier answered him never a word,
 Never a word spake he ;
 He shied him the paper with all the news,
 And skipped immediately.

" I ought to know," said the Parson good
 " It's my duty to know," said he,
 But I'll read the news of the devil's deeds,
 And of foreign missions e'er I speed
 On the track of the Carrier free.



The Carrier met a Workingman bold ;
 " Ho ! ho ! my brave lad," cried he ;
 " I want the news of the latest strikes
 Against grinding monopoly."
 But the Carrier answered him never a word,
 Never a word spake he ;
 He gave him the paper with all the news
 And hurried away in glee.

" That boy works hard," said the workman bold,
 That's a lad I should know," said he ;
 But I'll read of the toiling and turbulent world,
 Of labor in vain against tyranny hurled,
 And of grinding monopoly."



The Maiden fair has read the news
 Of weddings and balls and routs ;
 The Lawyer keen knows all that's told
 Of criminals, courts and suits ;
 The Old Lady kind, with motherly face,
 Has sorrowed with those in grief ;
 And the Merchant is posted on market reports
 Of gunnybags, sugar and beef ;
 The Spinster pores over the gossippy news
 Of elopements and breaches of trust,
 While the honest Mechanic earnestly reads
 Of monopoly hard and unjust.
 The Parson has found the devil's track
 And striven with faith and prayer
 To remedy evils that grieve him sore
 And fill his good heart with care.



But the happy lad, his day's work done,
 His mind from business free,
 Laughs the roguish laugh of harmless fun
 And cheerily outspake he :
 " O, who would not be a Carrier bold ?
 'Tis better than riches of silver and gold
 To know that for him waits every one
 For news from everywhere under the sun.

That his coming is greeted by Young Maids fair
 And Old Maids prim with frosty hair,
 By Merchants important and Lawyers bright,
 By the Workman toiling from morn till night.

The Parson good and Grandmother kind,
 You may search the world over and never find
 A happier life than mine.

For everyone wants me, high and low,
 And they chip in the **HALVES** and **QUARTERS** you know,
 When New Years come and Old Years go,
 And such favors I never decline.



