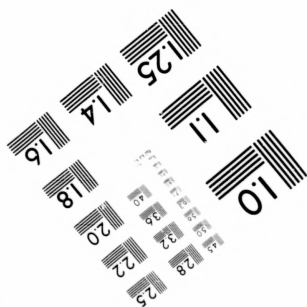
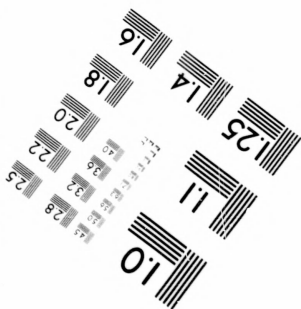
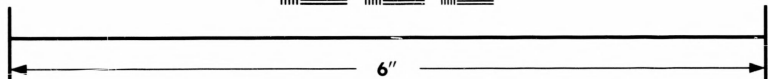
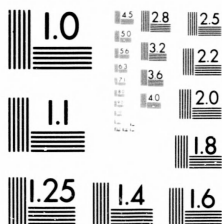


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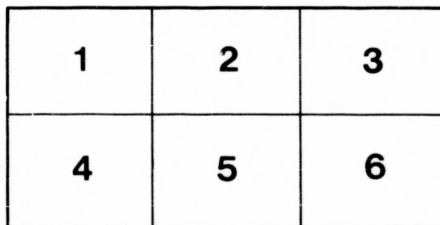
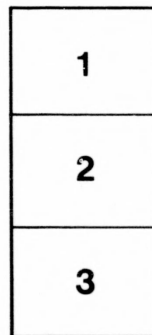
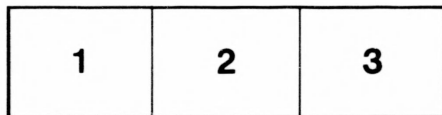
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The Liquor Traffic with Native Races.

LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS.

The following letter from the two Archbishops and the Bishop of London has been posted to the Bishops of the British Colonies and Dependencies :—

LAMBETH PALACE, S.E., *August, 1887.*

MY LORD,—The attention of the Church has been recently drawn to the widespread and still growing evils caused by the introduction of intoxicating liquors among the Native Races in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Empire, and in other countries to which British trade has access.

Part of the mischief is certainly due to other traders than the British, but British trade, as exceeding in volume that of many other countries put together, is mainly responsible.

This mischief cannot be measured by what we witness among our own countrymen. The Intemperance is far greater; the evils consequent on Intemperance are far worse. Uncivilized people are weaker to resist, and are utterly unable to control temptations of this kind. The accounts given of the numbers that perish from this cause and of the misery and degradation of those who survive are painful in the extreme.

And besides the grievous wrong thus inflicted on the Native Races, reproach has been brought on the name of Christ. The English missionary who preaches the Gospel, and the English merchant who brings the fatal temptation, are inevitably associated in the minds of the heathen people, and by many not only associated, but identified.

It is asserted by travellers of repute that in many parts of the world the moral character of the natives gains more by the preaching of Mahomedanism than by the preaching of the Gospel, for the former tends to make them sober.

The evils of Intemperance in the British Islands have, as you are well aware, long engaged the attention of the Church at home. The report of the Lower House of Convocation of the Province of Canterbury in 1869, and that of the Province of York in 1873, in each of which a large mass of evidence from every class of society was got together, had a painful effect on the public mind at the time, and they have served as trustworthy manuals on the subject ever since.

The formation of the Church of England Temperance Society has organized and concentrated the efforts of those Churchmen who have been deeply impressed with the necessity of combating Intemperance, and that Society is daily growing in numbers and in influence. Owing to these and similar endeavours made by both Churchmen and Nonconformists, drunkenness has been, and is still being, diminished in these islands. And there is every reason to believe that before long public opinion will demand of the Legislature that steps should be taken to remove, wholly or partially, the temptations which now make it so difficult for weak men to lead sober lives.

It is not for us nor for the Bishops at home to suggest to your Lordship or your Clergy the best means for dealing with similar evils in our colonies and dependencies and in the heathen countries in your own parts of the world. But we have felt it our duty to bring to your notice the painful accounts that have reached us, and to assure you of our warmest and most earnest sympathy with any efforts that you may see fit to make to deal with the serious difficulty. You may have the means of influencing your Legislature; you may do much to form public opinion; you can at least make it plain to all men that the Church is not and never can be indifferent to this great sin.

In whatever you may be able to do in this matter you may be assured that the Bishops at home are supporting your action with their earnest prayers and, where co-operation is found possible, with their most hearty co-operation.

EDW. CANTUAR.

W. EBOR.

F. LONDIN.

