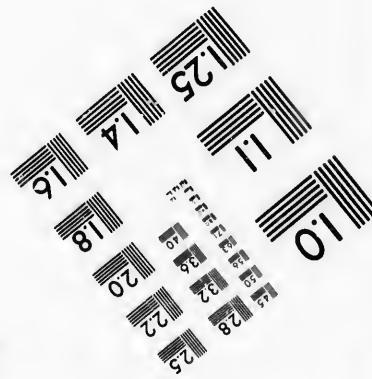
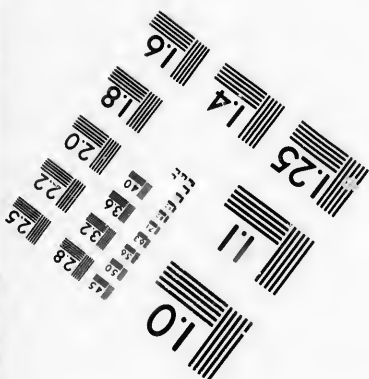
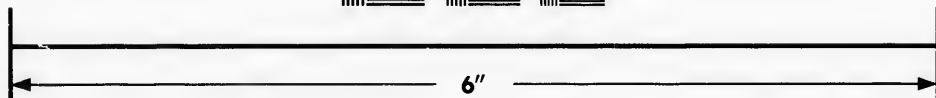
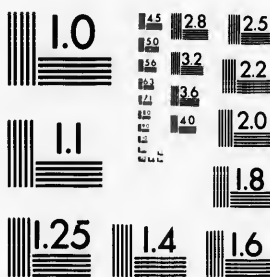


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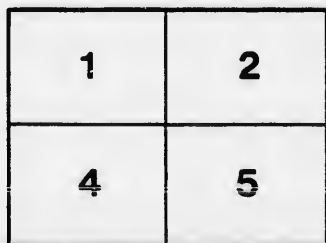
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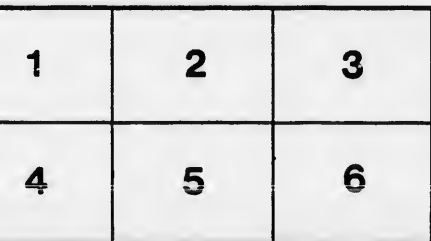
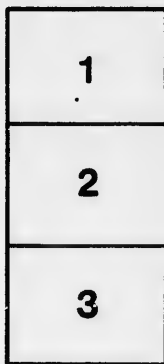
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THE PRIZE POEM

The following Poem—composed by MASTER S. J. B. Canada College, and recited by him on Friday, at the Public Examination—was adjudged the best Composition, and the prize was awarded to him.

THE ATLANTIC.

Come Emulation, thou who canst impart
 Motives to rouse, and zeal to nerve the heart,
 Who, when our vent'rous strivings have their scope
 Entwinest round our brows the wreath of hope,
 Be thou my muse, and by thy power inspire
 The kindling fervour of a youthful lyre.

Hail, vast Atlantic ! visible in thee,
 I view of power, an awful mystery ;
 In thee display'd thy Maker's wisdom shines,
 Thy structure grand, his might and skill combines ;
 In all thy parts a hand divine is clear,
 Neath all thy forms its attributes appear,—
 Whether we view thee when the sluggish deep
 Beneath the azure sky appears to sleep ;
 When the calm'd vessel spreads her snowy sail,
 And woos the kisses of the tickle gale ;
 Or when at eve bright sol retires to rest
 Beneath the covert of thine ample breast ;
 The western waves reflect each tinted cloud,
 Rich with the splendour which its mists enshroud :
 Or when dark frowns deform the placid skies,
 And distant sounds of rushing winds arise ;
 When thro' the air the conscious sea-birds sweep,
 And reckless storms career along the deep ;
 When heaving billows sink to gulfs immense,
 Or lift their heads in dread magnificence ;
 When vivid flashes round the horizon dart,
 And transient gleams amid the gloom impart,
 When growling thunder rolls in grandeur on,
 And joins the winds in full-ton'd unison ;
 Whether we view thee when the tempest raves,
 Or when soft zephyrs fan thy tranquil waves,
 Still thou exhibit'st but His varied form,
 Whose breath can rouse, whose nod can calm the
 storm.

The deep thus dread, thus spurning end or bound,
 Emblem of power, and proof of skill profound,
 What daring genius, what aspiring mind,
 The bold adventure first in thought design'd,
 To launch the bark upon the bound'rous main,
 And unknown shores, mid unknown seas to gain ?
 When time and science both were in their prime,
 And Jason dar'd to seek a foreign clime ;

E'en o'er the bound'less deep
 Or dares the ice-bound zone
 By this the east'ern breeze
 Out of the west'ern zone
 Her form in all the air
 Beam'd as a star of day
 And he whose name is great
 Unhonour'd liv'd and died
 Ah ! hadst thou but been born
 When Greece a nation was
 Their grateful songs they sung
 And hail'd thee as their king
 But we who live in peace
 From this fair world are born
 Where Nature's hand has made
 Woods for her forest
 Here boundless is the deep
 There beauteous is the shore
 The sea-like lake is vast
 And with their murmurs
 There the Sun's rays are seen
 Each to its lot is bound
 Then the vast ocean
 Reflects the rocks and shores
 And there fam'd is the bay
 Amid the sun's rays
 Its banks approach the deep
 And here contentment
 Unruffled on the shore
 Till shallows tell the tale
 Then breaks the billow's
 Then struggling with the wind
 Impetuous still the sea
 Till rushing to the shore
 Where met in foam the waves
 Into the dizzy whirl
 The proud'rous waves descend,
 And its wild rage
 The scatter'd foam
 And its spans

Again in peace
 Two rival powers
 The mingled stream
 Calmly salutes
 So the ag'd waves

PRIZE POEM.

Composed by MASTER SCADDING of the Upper
selected by him on Friday the 17th Dec. 1840,
and—was adjudged to be the best English
Prize was awarded to its author accordingly.

E'en o'er the burning line he wings his way,
Or dares the ice-bound arctics to essay ;
By this the eastern world with wond'ring eyes,
Out of the west beheld a sister rise,
Her form in all its native grace reveal'd
Beam'd as a star, which distant mists conceal'd,
And he whose prowess drew the veil aside
Unhonour'd liv'd, and unrewarded died,
Ah ! hadst thou lived, Columbus, in the day
When Greece and Rome possessed imperial sway,
Their grateful souls to thee had raised the shrine,
And hail'd thee with the title of divine
But we the pledge of thy renown may take
From this fair realm of forest and of lake,
Where Nature sits in Majesty alone,
Woods for her crown and mountains for her throne ;
Here boundless forests meet the sun in sky, —
There beauteous streams, and stately rivers lie ;
The sea-like lake present their waves between,
And with their ample tides fill up the scene ;
There the SUPERIOR hails its thousand springs, —
Each to its lord its war'ry tribute brings ;
Then the vast HURON circled round with woods,
Reflects the rocks which frown upon its floods ;
And there fair'd ERIE spreads its glassy breast
Amid the sunshine calmly lull'd to rest : —
Its banks approach — contract'd are its tides,
And here contest the swift Niag'ra glides ;
Unruffled on the silent waters speed
Till shallows thwart, and hidden rocks impede,
Then breaks the calm, and rapid whirlpools rage —
Then struggling waves in fearful strife engage,
Impetuous and surge hurries over surge
Till rushing they reach the curving verge,
Where met in one sublime, terrific sweep
Into the dizzying depth the bounding torrents leap
The pend'rous sheet with thund'ring shock descends,
And its wild rage in circling mist expends ;
The scatter'd tides mount up in clouds of spray,
And Iris spans them with her varied ray.

Again in peace the tranquil river glides, —
Two rival powers its unpure course divides,
The mingled stream, by strife perplexed no more,
Calmly salutes ONTARIO'S pine crown'd shore ;
So the ag'd Warrior greets secure repose

The deep thus dread, thus spurning end or bound,
Emblem of power, and proof of skill profound,
What daring genius, what aspiring mind,
The bold adventure first in thought design'd,
To launch the bark upon the boist'rous main,
And unknown shores, and unknown seas to gain ?
When time and science both were in their prime,
And Jason dar'd to seek a foreign clime ;
When Greece held forth each glorious hero's name
And left it stamp'd upon the scroll of fame,
Their naval arena was the land-girt sea
That wash'd their shores ;—beyond was mystery :
Fam'd Tyre and Rome first taught their vent'rous
skills

To pass the limits of proud Calpe's cliffs,
Yet still their barks but coasted nigh the shore,
Whilst their rude freights from isle to isle they bore.

No longer now the mighty deep impedes,—
To other climes, to other worlds it leads ;
O'er ev'ry point the daring vessel moves,
And the dread sea a grand connective proves ;
Britannia here the trident firmly holds,
And high aloft her honor'd flag unfolds
In every port her busy trade prevails,
The wings of commerce are her swelling sails :
And navigation at her nod outpours
Enlight'ning gifts on distant savage shores ;
To the stern plough the wilds are taught to yield,
Transform'd to smiling scenes of farm and field ;
Knowledge the chains of ignorance unbinds,
And breaks the fetters of imprison'd minds ;
The gospel sun its ray divinely throws
On southern deserts and on northern snows.
And e'en from untill'd wastes and forests rude,
Ascends the voice of pious gratitude.

But say—when tempests sweep along the main,
And raise the surges on the liquid plain ;
When the broad bosom of each towering wave
Yawns as it breaks, and threatens a hideous grave,
The heavens above, the boist'rous sea below,
No path to lead, no mark the track to show,
What then directs the pilot's steady hand
The prow to rule, the rudder to command ?
Stands there an angel aiding at his side,
Or speeds some shaft of fire his course to guide ?
Not so—but yet a talisman he owns—
The faithful magnet,—precious stone of stones.
Rough child of earth, but yet a very gem
Meet to adorn a sea-nymph's diadem :
With this he sails the foam crown'd billows o'er,
And fearless steers his bark from shore to shore ;

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Again in peace
Two rival powers
The mingled stre
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* Sir J. C.

York
1850

And its wild rage in churning mist expends ;
The scatter'd tides mount up in clouds of spray,
And Iris spans them with her varied ray.

Again in peace the tranquil river glides,—
Two rival powers its unpre course divides,
The mingled stream, by strife perplexed no more,
Calmly salutes ONTARIO's pine crown'd shore ;
So the ag'd Warrior greets secure repose,
Reliev'd at length from martial toils and woes —
In Kingly pride St. Lawrence issues hence,
And onward flows in broad magnificence,
Till to the deep the giant river takes
Its far-borne tribute of embodied lakes ;
Upon its shores in smiling order stand,
The beauteous daughters of one parent land ;
The fairest there Canada stands confess'd
With nature's varied gifts profusely bless'd ;
Where justice reigns upheld by virtuous laws
Whence guardian freedom life and vigour draws ;
Where nature joins with industry and art
The heaven-sped gifts of plenty to impart ;
Where Science thron'd amidst her new-found seats,
Her twin-born sister education greets ;
And opes benignant to a-pring youth,
The flower strewn paths of wisdom and of truth.

These may we trace with never-tiring zeal,
And as we trace them, cease we not to feel
The glow of grateful hearts to Him* whose care
For our's and learning's weal, these walls declare ;
Nor e'er forget we that the good we prize,
Owms for its source those dear maternal ties
Which link our hearts and fate to Britain's name,
And all our fondest, proudest feelings claim,—
But this appeal no faithful heart requires,—
Who *must* not love the birth-place of his sires ?
As the soft prelude on the lyric strings,
A sil'ry influence o'er the spirit flings,
So, Britain, must thy cherish'd name impart
A glow of pride to each Canadian heart ;
To all who hail thee as their natal clime
Thy name recalls their childhood's laughing time,
And by gone joys their raptur'd vision fill,
Sweet as they were, in mem'ry sweeter still ;
And o'er them yet in untold thought they dwell,
Bending with gladness to the high-wrought spell :
Then, when around them floats the thrilling chain,
Shrouding their souls in feeling pure and warm,
When in their breasts the island heart beats high,
Oh ! *then* their tongues shall boast that kindred tie,
And patriot love shall twine its mystic chain,
Which time nor force may neither break nor strain.

* Sir J. C.

York
1850

