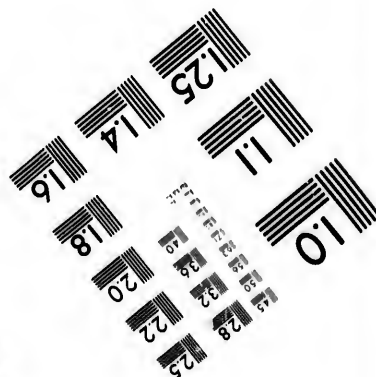
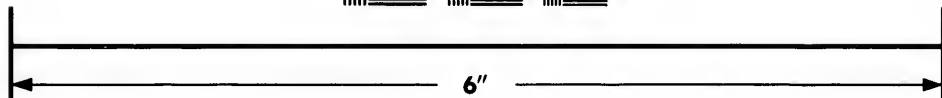
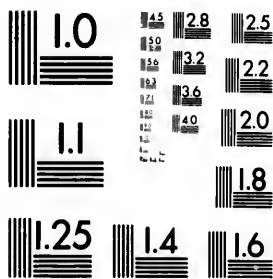


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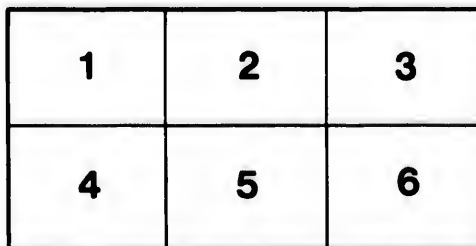
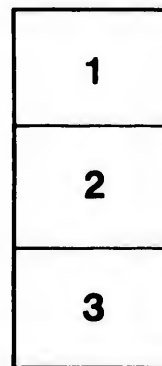
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APPLICATION AND TESTIMONIALS
OF GEORGE M. WRONG, B.A.,
FOR THE POST OF PROFESSOR OF HISTORY
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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80 AVENUE ROAD,
TORONTO,
17th September, 1894.

TO THE HONOURABLE G. W. ROSS, LL.D.,
MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
TORONTO.

SIR,

I beg to apply for the post of Professor of History in the University of Toronto.

During the eleven years since I graduated at the University of Toronto in 1883 with first-class honours in Mental and Moral Science and Civil Polity, I have been engaged continuously in collegiate work. For the nine years from 1883 to 1892 I was a member of the staff of Wycliffe College, and was engaged chiefly, though not entirely, in historical studies. Having become anxious to devote myself more exclusively to History, I applied for the Chair of History in the University of Toronto upon the death of the late Sir Daniel Wilson in 1892. Upon learning that a delay of not more than two years in filling the Chair was contemplated, and that meanwhile temporary provision was to be made for continuing Sir Daniel Wilson's work, I accepted for the time the charge of the Department of History at considerable financial sacrifice, in the hope that my work would prove such as to strengthen my candidature for the Professorship when this post was filled. I now have been for two years the responsible head of the Departments of History

and Ethnology in the University, and it is largely upon the knowledge that the University authorities have been able during this period to gain of my capacities that I must rely in my present candidature.

The accompanying series of testimonials will give some information as to my work during the past eleven, and especially during the last two, years. I have studied in long vacations at the Universities of Berlin and Oxford. For the first six or seven years of my career as a College Lecturer, I devoted myself to learning the art of teaching, feeling that to know this was the first condition of academic success. Latterly, I have been engaged in historical research, and I published at Oxford in 1892 a small volume dealing with a phase of mediæval life in England, and based upon the original authorities. Appended are some opinions of this book by historians and by the press; and it is upon its method that my work in the University of Toronto would be based. On going to the University in 1892, I resolved to abandon other literary plans for a time, and to devote myself to the history of this country, and I hope to publish before long a volume on "Canada under French Rule, 1541-1763." I beg to draw your attention to the references to this book in the accompanying testimonials by the Professor of English Literature in University College and the Professor of Economic History in Harvard University, who have read some of the MS. chapters. The important bearing of Ethnology upon historical questions has led me to devote to it a considerable amount of time, and I have lectured and examined upon this subject for two years in the University of Toronto.

In these days of revived historical interest, when old universities that neglected these studies for centuries are awakening to their importance and establishing Chairs in History, I am, I hope, sensible of the

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great responsibilities that this post in the University of Toronto involves. I have found that many students in the University would like to pursue historical studies more thoroughly than they are encouraged to do under the present curriculum, and I should hope, if appointed, to see the course of study in History enlarged and improved at an early date.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) GEO. M. WRONG.

*From the REVEREND WILLIAM CAVEN, D.D., Principal of
Knox College, Toronto.*

I WAS well satisfied with your appointment two years ago as Lecturer in History in the University of Toronto. Your well-attested qualifications for that position gave reason to believe that you would render good service to the University. According to all the information which I have received, you have entirely fulfilled the expectations which were entertained when you entered on your labours. You have secured the interest of your students in the work of your department, and have discharged all your duties with faithfulness, ability, and success. The experience which the University thus has had of your efficiency as a teacher ought highly to recommend your application for the Chair of History, which, I understand, is now permanently to be filled. I shall be much gratified to learn that you have obtained the appointment.

*From the REVEREND N. BURWASH, S.T.D., LL.D., Chancellor
of Victoria University, Toronto.*

I HAVE much pleasure in testifying to the appreciation of the work of MR. WRONG as Lecturer in History in the University of Toronto. MR. WRONG'S style and method of presenting his subject especially commend themselves to his students, and his polished manners and high Christian character are most important factors in the education of young men. The work he has already done in the Historical Department gives evidence of excellent taste and first-class abilities for that work, and I believe that, possessing the patient industry which is required for successful historical work, he will prove a credit to the University and to our country.

*From the REVEREND JAMES P. SHÉRATON, D.D., Principal of
Wycliffe College, Toronto.*

I UNDERSTAND that an appointment is to be made forthwith to the Chair of History in the University of Toronto, and that you are a candidate for the position. The unqualified success of your work as Lecturer in History during the past two years furnishes the best proof of your fitness for the Chair. In regard to this there can be but one opinion in the University. You have placed the work upon a higher plane than it previously occupied, and given a new impetus to the study. Your lecturing has been characterized by lucidity and thoroughness, and the appreciation and enthusiasm of the students is, to my mind, a most satisfactory evidence of its efficiency. The record of these two years is also to me especially a gratifying confirmation of the opinion I expressed at the close of the nine years during which you held the position of Lecturer in Church History and Apologetics in Wycliffe College. Your career here was marked from year to year by your conscientious devotion to your work, your ever-advancing knowledge of your subject, and your skill and success as a teacher.

Your interest in the students has never been confined to the lecture room, and your influence over them has been sustained and augmented by your personal character and demeanour as a Christian gentleman. I sincerely believe that your appointment to the Chair of History will be in the best interests of the University and will redound to its honour, and most heartily support your application.

From JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., LL.D., Q.C., Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Toronto.

IT gives me great pleasure to state that I find on enquiry that the good name you earned in Wycliffe College has been fully sustained in the larger sphere of the University of Toronto by your lectures on Modern History. I feel confident that if you are selected to fill the Chair in that department you will prove a worthy successor to the late Sir Daniel Wilson.

From W. J. ALEXANDER, B.A., PH.D., Professor of English Literature in University College, Toronto; author of "An Introduction to Browning."

I HAVE had the pleasure of reading in manuscript the two first chapters of MR. WRONG's proposed book on "Canada under French Rule, 1541-1763," in which he treats of the pioneers of discovery. It seems to me a very interesting and well-wrought account of the subject—more comprehensive and satisfactory, as far as my knowledge goes, than can be found elsewhere. Judging from this specimen, as well as by his earlier volume, I believe MR. WRONG's literary work, should he be appointed to the Chair of History, would be a credit to the University.

I know MR. WRONG well personally. He is a man of sound intelligence and culture, possessed of energy and a deep interest in his work. As far as I can judge, his appointment to the Chair of History would be eminently satisfactory.

*From BYRON
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From BYRON E. WALKER, ESQ., *Member of the Senate and of the Board of Trustees of the University of Toronto; General Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce.*

I AM aware that you are an applicant for the position of Professor of History in the University of Toronto, in accordance with the published notice of the Minister of Education. It is the practice for the candidate to furnish testimonials, and, although I do not suppose that the opinion of a layman like myself will carry much weight, I have very great pleasure in expressing my strong hope that you will be appointed.

The teaching of the history of the past in such a manner that its relation to the conditions of society at the present time may be clearly understood is of prime importance if our young men are to meet with intelligence the problems now looming up in other countries and certain to be presented in some form in Canada. Many of the foolish political and social experiments of our time would never have obtained a hearing if an adequate knowledge of the experiments of the past was possessed by the community. I have had some opportunities, both in the lecture room, by personal contact, and through my knowledge of the estimation in which you are held in university circles, to form an opinion as to your qualifications for such a high office, and I am glad to be able to endorse your application, and to state that, in my opinion, your appointment would be in the best interests of the University.

From W. J. ASHLEY, M.A., Professor of Economic History in Harvard University, late Professor of Political Economy and Constitutional History in the University of Toronto, and sometime Fellow and Lecturer in History at Lincoln College, Oxford; author of "Lectures on Canadian Constitutional History," "English Economic History and Theory," etc.

(Written in 1892; reprinted by permission.)

I HAVE long known MR WRONG to be a man of wide culture, and keenly interested in questions of historical growth and social development. But during the last two or three months he has been working daily by my side at the Bodleian, engaged upon a piece of investigation in original authorities, and I have been struck by the ability he has shown to handle large masses of evidence, and to draw independent—but sound—conclusions from them. I have seldom known a man who so quickly acquired the art of profitably dealing with original authorities.

He seems to me excellently fitted to act as Professor of History at the University of Toronto. While capable of minute investigation, and able to lead his more advanced students in that direction, his knowledge of Canadian conditions enables him to see that for the majority of his students what is primarily necessary is a broad view of the historic life of society, and of the relation between the problems of to-day and the experience of the past. But although it would be his first aim to give such instruction as was necessary for general culture, MR. WRONG would aim at creating in no long time a band of special students. For this work he is admirably fitted by bent of mind, by his mastery of French, German, and Latin, and by his acquaintance with the studies of the historical schools in English and German Universities.

September 10th, 1894.

MR. WRONG has allowed me to see in MS. the first two chapters of his book on "Canada under French Rule, 1541-1763." As I have not only had long experience in historical teaching and investigation, but also had occasion during my tenure of a Professorship in the University of

Toronto to give no little attention to Canadian History, I feel I can venture to express an opinion on the character of his work. It possesses three great merits. It is based exclusively and directly upon the original authorities; it separates the essential and significant from the trivial and unimportant, and it presents results in a vigorous and interesting and pointed style. It is the happy beginning of what I anticipate will be a distinguished career; and it shows that combination of wide outlook with patriotic interest which is so valuable a characteristic in the teacher of history in a Canadian university.

From ALFRED BAKER, M.A., *Professor of Mathematics in the University of Toronto.*

FOR the past two years MR. GEORGE M. WRONG, B.A., has discharged the duties of Lecturer in History in the University of Toronto, and is now an applicant for the Professorship of History about to be filled. I believe the arduous duties of lecturer have been performed with ability, and consequent advantage to the institution. MR. WRONG's mental bias specially qualifies him for historical studies and research, and, if he be awarded the Professorship of History, subsequent years will still further illustrate his fitness for an office, the duties of which are admittedly of extreme difficulty.

From J. F. MCCURDY, PH.D., *Professor of Oriental Literature in University College, Toronto; author of "History, Prophecy and the Monuments," etc.*

IT gives me very great pleasure to testify to the fitness of the REV. G. M. WRONG for the post of Professor of History in the University of Toronto. His wide reading, accurate knowledge, remarkable faculty of research, and exceptional power of ready exposition, combined with philosophical grasp of principles and relations, qualify him in a very high degree to be a professional expounder of this most comprehensive and fundamental of all university subjects. I shall heartily rejoice if Toronto secures his services for the Chair of History.

From W. H. FRASER, M.A., Associate Professor of Italian and Spanish in the University of Toronto.

ALLOW me to wish you success in your candidature for the Professorship of History and Ethnology in the University, for which I understand you are an applicant. In doing so, it affords me pleasure to express my high estimation of your broad scholarship and general culture, as well as of the great energy and industry which have distinguished your career hitherto. The efficient manner in which you have discharged the onerous and responsible duties of this position while acting Professor for the past two years, the appreciation which your efforts have met on the part of the students, and your manly and courteous bearing towards your colleagues in the University, constitute, in my opinion, strong claims to the appointment in question.

From J. SQUAIR, B.A., Associate Professor of French in University College, Toronto.

I AM pleased to know that you are applying for the position of Professor of History in the University of Toronto. From what I know of your views on the subject of History, and of your zeal in conducting your classes, I should say that your appointment would be an advantage to the University.

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From J. E. BRYANT, M.A., Late Head Master of Galt Collegiate Institute, and recently Examiner in English and History at the Provincial Examinations.

I HAVE much pleasure in testifying that I have known MR. G. M. WRONG for many years, and believe him to possess the essential characteristic of the university teacher who is to be at once successful and popular—namely, the faculty to interest his pupils while he instructs them. I know intimately many men who were in his classes while he was Professor of Church History at Wycliffe College, and I have often heard them speak of his earnestness and enthusiasm as a lecturer, and of the scope of his general attainment, and his breadth of view as a scholar and thinker ; but, more than anything else, I have heard them remark upon his clearness, conciseness, and definiteness as a teacher. When he left Wycliffe, I considered it, and still consider it, an irreparable loss to that institution, and I was curious to know whether the same success would attend him in the larger sphere of the University. To this end, I have ever since his appointment as lecturer there made frequent enquiries of the students and others, and I find that his classes at the University are among the largest and most numerously attended of any, not merely so where attendance is more or less required by the statutes of the University, but also where it is entirely voluntary. It is with pleasure, too, that I record the fact that his pupils invariably speak of him among themselves as being one of the most interesting and popular lecturers of the University ; and I find that in a course, which seems to me altogether too large and comprehensive for the time and attention given to it, he covers the ground fairly well, and gives his listeners a just and proportionate conception of the whole field. It strikes me that this is high merit. I may say, too, that I am somewhat acquainted with MR. WRONG's methods of historic research, with the importance which he thinks should attach to historic study in a university course, and also with his ideas of the varying ways in which that study should be pursued by students of different capacities and degrees of attainment, and I have no hesitation in saying that I feel confident that as a Professor of History he will be a credit to the University, and entirely successful.

. From JAMES BAIN, JR., ESQ., *Chief Librarian of the Toronto Public Library.*

I have known MR. WRONG for a number of years, and am glad of an opportunity of bearing witness to his fitness for the position for which he is an applicant. From the position which I occupy, I have had especial opportunities of noticing his acquirements, and I have learned that his knowledge of mediæval and modern history is extensive and exact. Much of it is based upon a long and careful study of original documents and contemporary information, fitting him for original research in historical problems, and for stimulating and guiding his students in the same direction.

From the REVEREND J. O. MILLER, M.A., *Principal of Bishop Ridley College, St. Catharines.*

IT is with great pleasure that I add my testimony to that of others in support of MR. WRONG's application for the position of Professor of History in the University of Toronto. I have known MR. WRONG for ten years. While I was a student at Wycliffe College, where he was Professor of History and Apologetics, I attended his lectures, and I was closely connected with the college during the subsequent years of his professorship there. I can speak from my own knowledge of his very great success as a lecturer, and I have had numberless proofs of the enthusiasm of his students for their work under him after I finished my own course of study. I can also testify to MR. WRONG's success as a lecturer in the University since he has been there from the personal testimony of some of the best students now in the University.

MR. WRONG's candidature is strengthened by the fact that he is a young man, that his working powers are now at their highest state of efficiency, and that his present achievements along the line of original historical study give the highest promise for his own future, and for the reputation of any seat of learning to which he may be attached.

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SOME OPINIONS OF "THE CRUSADE OF 1383, KNOWN AS THAT OF THE BISHOP OF NORWICH." OXFORD: JAMES PARKER & CO., 1892.

JOSEPH WELLS, M.A., *Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford*: "A delightful little book; . . . not a dull page in it. I only wish you had time to go on and give us more studies of things at home."

H. M. GWATKIN, M.A., *Dixie Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Cambridge*: "A pleasant narrative written in a genuinely critical way."

C. H. FIRTH, M.A. (*Balliol College, Oxford*), *Editor of the "Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson," "Memoirs of General Ludlow," etc.*: "Nobody, so far as I know, has given so detailed and careful an account of that very curious episode in the reign of Richard II. It deserved separate treatment. . . . When I was at Ypres, five or six years ago, I admired the superb cloth hall as much as you do, but had the vaguest possible ideas about the famous siege. Next time I go, I shall take your little volume in my pocket."

F. C. CONYBEARE, M.A., *Fellow of University College, Oxford*: "Brings the age before one in a graphic way."

T. F. TOUT, M.A., *Professor of History in Owen's College, Manchester*: "A lively and accurate picture of an episode made much more little of in our ordinary histories."

JAMES MAVOR, *Professor of Political Economy and Constitutional History in the University of Toronto*: "An excellent study. I hope you may be able to give us another such historical monograph. Detailed studies of special periods and important events are most important in the development of methods of research. You may be able, besides, to utilize the work of your advanced students in the seminary for the purposes of such monographs."

The Morning Post (London, Eng.): "Contains a very graphic account of the disastrous siege of Ypres, and bears evidence of much thoughtful research."

The Week (Toronto): "Writers are much to be commended who select some portion of history and subject it to the minutest examination, examining with scrupulous care all the original documents bearing upon it, and throwing light upon all its attendant circumstances. . . . This good work has been done by MR. WRONG . . . with careful examination of authorities, and with calm and well-balanced judgment . . . in a true historical spirit, and with competent literary ability."

The Church Review (London, Eng.): "A most interesting book."

The Rock (London, Eng.): "Its accuracy is guaranteed by an array of authorities. It is interesting in the telling, graphic in detail."

The English Churchman (London, Eng.): "A most interesting book on an historical episode known to few except advanced students in history."

The Church Times (London, Eng.): "The story . . . is very well told. . . A welcome addition to our supply of history books."

The Methodist Magazine (Toronto): "It exhibits the methods of the new school of history in giving vivid pictures founded upon contemporary chronicles and other authorities of the condition of the people, instead of dry-as-dust records of the doings of kings. . . It is an admirable example of the best methods of historical study."

The Knox College Monthly (Toronto): "Tells in a very interesting way the story of one of the many attempts made to revive the war cry of the crusaders in later days. The numerous notes referring to authorities as proof of statements made attest the painstaking minuteness with which the author has made himself master of the literature from which the account has been gathered. . . In the fourth chapter, a graphic picture is given of English ecclesiastical life."

The Canadian Churchman (Toronto): "The great merit of a work of this kind is its patient working up of a picture from disjointed scraps of information. . . MR. WRONG has wonderfully caught the spirit of the fourteenth century."

The Evangelical Churchman (Toronto): "Written from knowledge gathered at first hand, as the many notes scattered throughout the volume indicate. . . The style is clear and good, the narrative is interesting, and the literary talent of the author is abundantly evident."

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