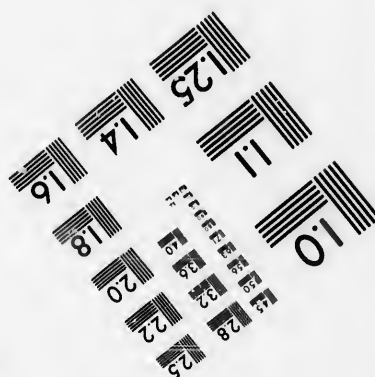
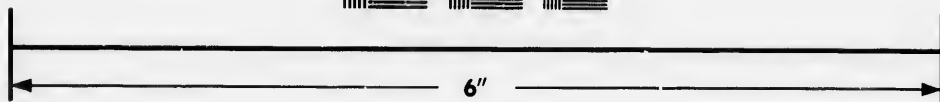
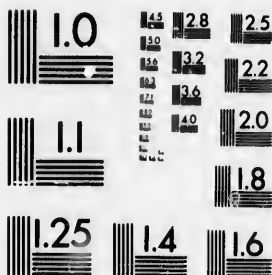


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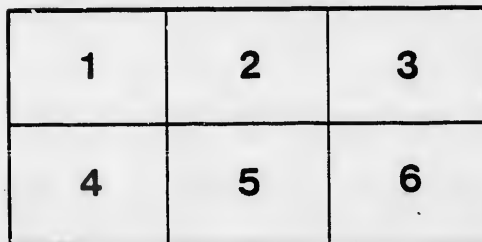
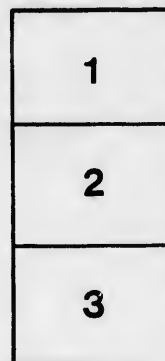
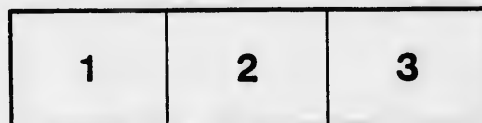
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YOUR EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR EDMUND WALKER
KENT, BARONET, Governor General of British North America, Captain General and
Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick
and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c., &c.,
Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of the said Province of Canada.

The Memorial of the undersigned

humbly represents

That previous good character has been held so great a requisite in candidates for Govern-
ment employment, that certificates of the same are required of all persons applying for public
situations. Still more necessary is a character for honor, truth and probity in all persons
aspiring for distinction in the profession of arms.

That, apart from the foregoing considerations, Militia and all other military rank is in-
tended as a mark of honor, and becomes one of disgrace when shared with the notoriously in-
famous and unworthy.

That a feeling called *esprit de corps* renders officers in Her Majesty's service peculiarly
sensitive as to the character of those who receive rank equal to their own.

That such *esprit de corps* is a valuable quality without which no military body can be
effective or respectable.

That amongst the officers of the Militia of this Province, is one William Alphonzo Kirk,
residing at Quebec, who holds the commission of Captain Unattached, and is totally undeserv-
ing of such post or any other in Her Majesty's service.

That the said William Alphonzo Kirk is notoriously a dishonest person, and is publicly
known to have committed, before his appointment to the said rank of Captain Unattached, the
crimes of embezzlement and swindling.

That the said William Alphonzo Kirk while Paymaster of Her Majesty's 16th Regiment
of Foot, stationed in this garrison in the year 1854, embezzled a large sum of money belonging
to the officers and soldiers of that regiment, and was a defaulter in his accounts with that
regiment to the amount of £1400 and upwards.

That to hide his defalcation the said William Alphonzo Kirk obtained by false pretences
from the Quebec Bank and Banks of British North America, Upper Canada and Montreal, in
this city, divers sums of money by selling to the said Banks bills of exchange drawn to his
own order on Messrs. Cox & Co., of Craig's Court, London, Army Agents, in whose hands he
well knew that there were no funds to his credit at the time.

That the said bills of Exchange were all protested for non-acceptance by the said Messrs.
Cox & Co., there being in fact no funds in their hands available for the payment of the same
as falsely pretended and asserted by the said William Alphonzo Kirk.

That the said William Alphonzo Kirk as such Paymaster was tried by general court-mar-
tial in this city on charges of dishonesty, and was obliged to leave the said 16th Regiment
on account of the crimes he had committed.

That amongst the amounts the said William Alphonzo Kirk procured from the said
Banks, at Quebec, were £600 from the Quebec Bank, £262 17s. 3d. from the Bank of Upper
Canada and £123 from the Bank of British North America, and that in consequence of the
trouble attendant upon criminal prosecutions and their hopes of payment, the said Banks ab-
stained from indicting, and proceeded only to sue the said William Alphonzo Kirk in actions
at law, and obtained judgments against him for the said amounts, which to this day remain
unsatisfied,—as more fully appears by the records in the causes No. 1243 and 1753, of 1855,
in the Superior Court, at Quebec.

That the said William Alphonzo Kirk, after having led his creditors to believe that he
would sell his commission in the British Army, and distribute the price thereof among them,
caused an Agent or Attorney in England to draw the said price, and keep it for the proper
use and benefit of the said William Alphonzo Kirk, when he was allowed to retire from that
army which he stained with disgrace so long as he remained in it.

That the said William Alphonzo Kirk was imprisoned for weeks in the common jail of
this district, for the frauds aforesaid, and was liberated therefrom only on the 17th of March,
1855, when Matthew George Mountain and Thomas Glover, of Quebec, merchants, became
special bail for him that he would not leave the Province,—a bond which continues in full
force to this date.

That the said William Alphonzo Kirk has obtained his said commission of Captain Un-
attached in the Militia of this Province by false pretences and imposture, he having falsely
represented that he was a man of honor and a gentleman, and had left the British Army in
honor and repute, whereas in truth and in fact he is well known to have been guilty of em-
bezzling the funds entrusted to him as Paymaster of the 16th Regiment,—to have been tried
by Court Martial for dishonesty,—to be unable to produce a certificate of good conduct from
Colonel Cockell, the Commanding officer of that Regiment,—to have defrauded the Banks in
Quebec,—and to have been degraded by imprisonment.

Wherefore your petitioner humbly prays that Your Excellency will be pleased to take the
premises into your serious consideration, and thereupon adopt such measures as to your Ex-
cellency may seem meet and proper.

And, Your Excellency, &c., &c.

Bibliothèque,
Le Séminaire de Québec
3, rue de l'Université,
Québec 4, QUE.

Per O. J. 1855

