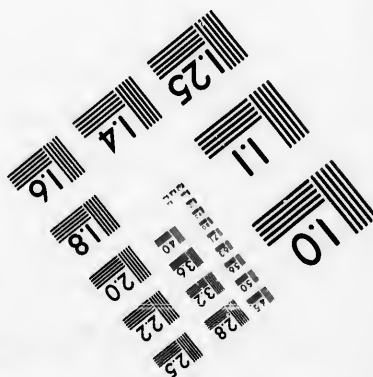
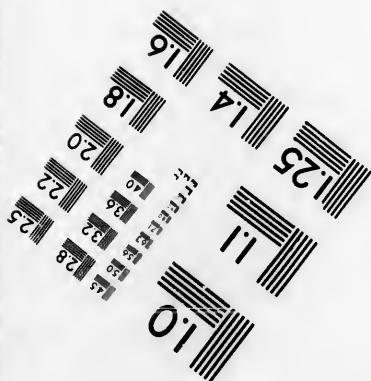
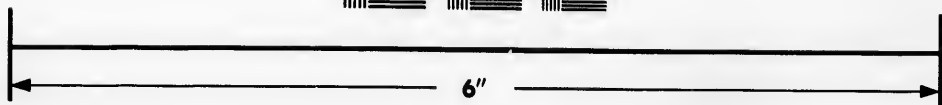
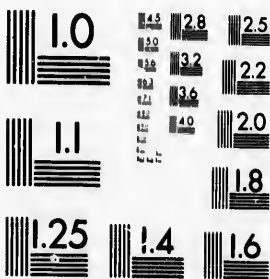


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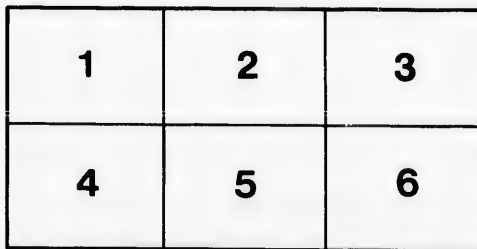
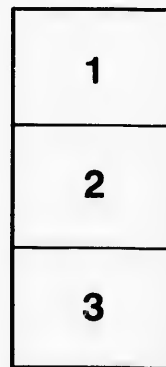
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A PASTORAL LETTER.

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD :

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I have thought it well to appoint Wednesday, November the 30th, being St. Andrew's Day, to be observed by the Members of our Church as a Day of Thanksgiving, for several great mercies which our Heavenly Father has been pleased to vouchsafe to us.

And First, I mention as a subject for Thanksgiving that this land has now enjoyed for the space of fifty years through our Church, the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments. From the earliest time it has been the custom to commemorate the 50th anniversary of auspicious events. What event could be more worthy of commemoration and of devout thankfulness than the coming to this country of the first Protestant Minister of Christ.

It was in the Autumn of 1820, that the Rev. John West began his labours in what is now the Province of Manitoba; and since then there has never ceased the offering of Public Prayers, the preaching of the Word of God, and the Administration of the Sacraments, so that the blessings of the Gospel of Peace have been borne home to thousands of hearts. How often have the wilderness and the solitary place been made glad! The presence of His ministering servants is regarded by God as the first blessing of a nation. This was the height of God's mercy for Israel. "Behold," saith the Lord, "I will send out many fishers and they shall fish them." Think of the language with which Isaiah ushered in his grand prophecies of the Messiah: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings,

salvation." And in like manner it is in the deprivation of His ministers that God sees the heaviest mark of His displeasure on a land. "My sheep wander, saith God, through all the mountains and on every hill: yea my flock was scattered through the whole earth and none did seek after them."

Fifty years have now passed since by the ministry of our Church, the ministrations of the Gospel were brought to this land; and, by God's blessing, they have been so largely extended, mainly by the Christian love for the poor heathen of this land of the Church Missionary Society, that there are now more than twenty Ministers of our Church labouring in Rupert's Land. To God be all the praise! Let us earnestly thank God for this mercy which is shared by us with so many hundreds and thousands throughout this vast country, and which has been the first of mercies to so many gone to their rest, dear to many of us.

Secondly.—In common with the rest of the community, we have the deepest cause for thankfulness, that it has pleased God to bring about the restoration of order under the Queen's Government in this land. And when we reflect on all the incidents of the past year, and especially when we view them with respect to their possible issues in the light cast on them by one ever to be lamented crime, we have further cause for thankfulness that the insurrection came to an end with so little loss of life, and permanent injury in property to individuals or the community at large. The members of our Church were found to have that confidence in the constitution, and that loyal attachment to the Queen's authority that have ever distinguished them. Doubtless many prayers went up on behalf of our countrymen from the oppres-

of order under lawful authority, that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Now it becomes us to offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for the fulfilment of our desires, and for all the mercies that amid our trials have in this matter been given to us.

Thirdly—There is a further cause of thankfulness in that God has dealt so graciously with this land this year in delivering it in so great measure from the calamity of grasshoppers, that scythed again indignantly to threaten the very existence of any harvest in the Province. We have, indeed, to lament the want of crops in our Central Parishes, but the others have had a full and abundant harvest. God has been further pleased to remove entirely from us the grasshoppers, so that there is once more the prospect of the land being free, we trust for many years—rather for ever—of this terrible scourge. In both these results there is great cause for thankfulness on our part. Let us then humbly draw near to God with the voice of Thanksgiving and with a renewed offering of ourselves to His service.

And while for these reasons I have appointed a Day of Thanksgiving, at a season which I trust will be convenient for all our people, I cannot but observe that the afflictive Providence with which it has pleased God to visit our fellow-countrymen in the Saskatchewan District should speak home to us very closely and make us search ourselves how far we are entering into a sense of God's goodness to us, and are showing forth our praise.

I, therefore, request the Reverend the Clergy to hold a Service of Thanksgiving in their several Parishes on the day I have named, according to the Order of Prayer issued with this Pastoral Letter, and as we should not go up to such a Service before the

empty, I further recommend the Diocesan Fund as a suitable object for receiving on this occasion the offerings of our people. In the Pastoral Letter which was read last year I mentioned the arrangements for promoting this Fund that had received the sanction of the Synod. The insurrection made it impossible to carry out those arrangements, but this year I trust we may be able to do so.

We have long had a most kind and nursing care from the Societies of England, and we shall doubtless long require a continuance of that assistance; for if the entrance of Emigration should strengthen our present Parishes and Missions it will also open up new fields. But the time has come for every Member of our Church to whom God has given the blessing of health and manly vigour to do what he can for the support of the means of grace which he enjoys. I trust that you may feel that you cannot honestly be satisfied with yourselves unless you give yourselves to the discharge of this duty.

Experience and careful consideration will be required in working out what is best for developing self-support in the maintenance of our Ministers. At present I ask you to do what you can with the means that has been called into existence.

Our Country is entering on a new era. We trust it will be an era of great prosperity. Let us start with the resolution of doing our best for this end, and showing ourselves in our evident appreciation of the privileges given to us not unworthy of the blessing and the bounty of our Heavenly Father.

R. RUPERT'S LAND.

November 1, 1870.

FORM OF PRAYER

FOR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1870.

BEING THE DAY OF THANKSGIVING.

¶ The usual Morning or Evening Services, unless where it is otherwise provided in this Form.

¶ As Sentences :

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of Peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.—Romans x. 15.

O give thanks unto the Lord ; for He is good ; because His mercy endureth for ever.—Ps. cxviii. 1.

¶ Proper Psalms :

Psalms 65, 96, and 147.

¶ Proper Lessons :

First Lesson — Deut. xvi., 1—17 verses inclusive.

Second Lesson.—Romans xii.

¶ After the Collect for St. Andrew's Day.

O merciful God, at whose bidding the earth withholdeth her increase, or again rendereth her fruits in their season, give us grace to learn from all Thy Providences that we are entirely dependent on Thee for all that we enjoy, so that being duly persuaded that whatever blessing we receive at Thy hands is designed for our trial as well as for our comfort, we may use the same with a remembrance of Thy glory and the wants of those that are in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ After the Prayer for all Conditions of Men :

Almighty God our Heavenly Father, in whom alone we live, and move, and have our being, we beseech of Thee that Thou wouldst look graciously upon us Thy unworthy servants ; and as Thou

hast mercifully delivered us in the past from many and great dangers, for which we thank and praise Thee this day, so Thou wouldst preserve us from that terrible disease with which Thou hast visited our fellow-countrymen in the neighbouring Territories. We ask this mercy only for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ After the General Thanksgiving :

O Almighty God and Heavenly Father, we glorify Thee for all Thy great mercies towards us, for our deliverance from those great and apparent dangers wherewith we were compassed, and for the re-establishment among us of lawful authority ; for the safety of so large a portion of the harvest, which was so imminently threatened, and the prospect of freedom from the destructive scourge of grasshoppers ; but above all for Thy undeserved loving-kindness towards this land for so many years in the supply of the means of grace. Teach us while enjoying Thy temporal gifts to remember, that it is not by bread alone that man doth live, and grant that we may feed on Him who is the True Bread that cometh down from Heaven, even Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour ; in whose name we pray, and to whom, with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¶ If the pre-Communion Service is used the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for St. Andrew's Day, with the addition of the Collect appointed to be used after the Collect for St. Andrew's Day.

