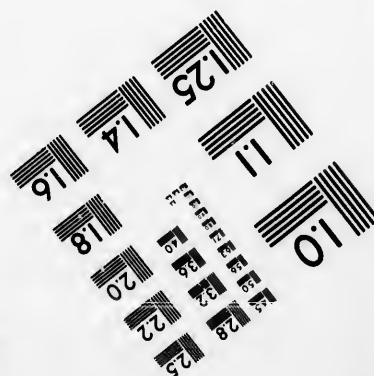
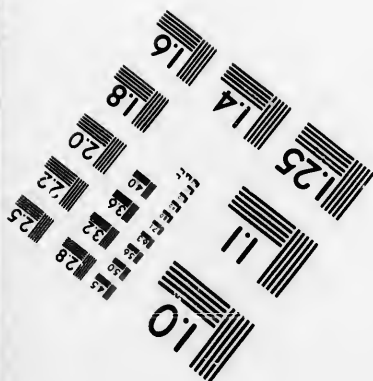
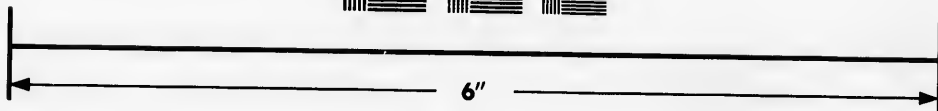
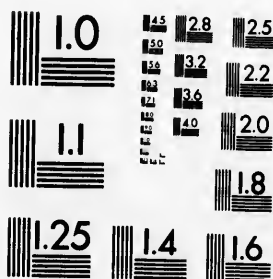


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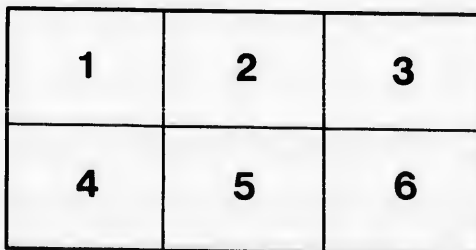
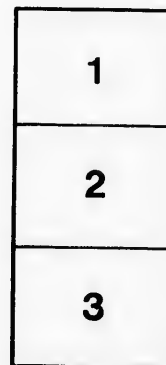
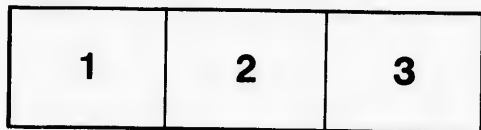
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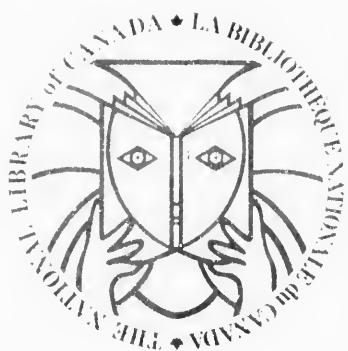
APPLICATION AND TESTIMONIALS
OF
W. S. MILNER
FOR THE
PROFESSORSHIP OF LATIN
IN
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

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To the HONORABLE G. W. ROSS, LL.D., *Minister of Education.*

SIR :—

IN presenting my application for the Professorship of Latin in University College, a brief reference may be made to my earlier career, though my claims must rest very largely upon the impressions left by my four years' tenure of the Latin Lectureship on my superior in this department, on the other members of the Classical staff in the University and Colleges, and on those who have studied under me.

I graduated in 1881 from the University of Toronto with the Gold Medal in Classics, having been classical scholar throughout my course, and a general proficiency scholar at matriculation. For three years I held the Classical Mastership in the Collegiate Institute, in London, and the same position in Lindsay for five years. For the greater portion of this latter period I was also Classical Examiner in the University.

After two calls from Dr. Meigs, the Principal, I accepted a position in "The Hill School," Pottstown, Pennsylvania, as head of the Latin department. This school prepares for Harvard and Yale, and takes also their first year work. The ground covered there in the higher Latin classes was about equivalent in mere amount to that of our first two years in the University.

There were private reasons which made a return to some position in Ontario very desirable, but in applying for the place I now hold I was actuated by unaffected love of the University, and hoped to find there the opportunity of higher work, for which I had labored many years. My present position as Lecturer in Latin I have now held for four years, delivering at the same

time, for two sessions, the lectures on Methods in Classics in the School of Pedagogy.

When it is remembered that all students in University College take Latin in their first year, and the majority in the second, it will be seen that these years have been a peculiarly severe test of real teaching power. Personal weakness would have produced complete and unmistakable failure, and defective scholarship could not have escaped detection. In a word, the lack of qualities necessary for permanent and progressive usefulness must have long since been established beyond all question.

These thirteen years of teaching have not been without success. I think I am within the truth in saying, that, in each of the four positions I have held, my effectiveness was felt to be continually increasing, and I believe it would be so in this larger sphere.

It is doubtless true that, in the normal and desirable course of events, such a position would have come to me later. It is only fair, however, to consider that I am at the very prime of working powers (which, other qualifications being satisfactory, is a more than ample compensation), that my four years' work in the department will enable me to take up the work as another can hardly be expected to do, and that the place will enable me to study foreign methods and do important work in other fields, which must ever remain impossible to me in my present position. Of such advantages I should not be slow to avail myself, and the University would be guaranteed a lifework of earnest and devoted service. For I recognize that the Professorship would be given to me more in the generous hope of future usefulness than in return for work accomplished.

While I frankly admit that in pure history I should undoubtedly never achieve the very remarkable possibilities of my predecessor, nevertheless I believe that I am not destitute of some strain of his peculiar gifts and that I possess strength in other ways which will in time enable me to

do honor to my University. In the narrow, though important lines which much of the original work in classics has followed in later years, strongly as I feel its fascination, I can win no name for the University; and, in the greater fields of philosophy and history, where my true interests lie, no one can be more keenly sensible than myself how doubtful must be any man's hope of real distinction. But he also magnifies the office of Professor who, with the spirit of the true student and teacher, devotes himself to sending forth men with wide interests, with the instinct and the preparation for generous civic and public life. This, in my judgment, is the peculiar merit of a true classical education. It has been the genius and glory of these studies in the English Universities, and must be more and more our great aim here, and, I earnestly feel, the one justification of the time devoted to such education in our new country. This, also, is my ideal of the function of a classical professor. Any distinction I may gain along literary and higher lines, about which I am not sanguine, is far less my ambition than a successful discharge of the teaching duties of the office. My actual scholarship and teaching power I must leave to the testimony of others.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

• W. S. MILNER.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
July 23rd, 1895.

From MAURICE HUTTON, M.A. (Ex.), Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, Professor of Greek in University College.

DEAR MR. MILNER,

In reference to your candidature for the chair of Latin, I am glad to give you a general testimonial. More than that, I am debarred from doing, if only because the Government are likely to consult me, before an appointment is made, and to ask of me an impartial opinion upon the qualifications of the various candidates.

You have now been lecturer in Latin for four years; and though you have hardly had time in that period fully to show what you can do, and this vacancy has occurred rather too soon for your best interests, yet those four years should certainly improve your chances in my opinion: I have heard only good of your work, and I believe your colleagues and students alike have every reason to be, and as a matter of fact are, satisfied with it.

If I felt any doubts of your qualifications for Lecturer, those very doubts only emphasize my sense of your fitness for a Professorship. A Lecturer necessarily has more to do with elementary teaching, as a rule, than a Professor, and for elementary teaching popular gifts (vivacity, perfect clearness, common sense) are even more necessary than some less visible but weightier qualities, such as breadth of knowledge and of intellectual sympathy, and delicacy of literary taste. Now, in your case I have always thought these latter qualities more prominent than the former. You are essentially, I think, a thoughtful man and a student: I do not recall any one of our classical graduates since 1881 who surpasses you or, perhaps, is quite your equal in these respects. You have a keen interest in scholar-

ship proper, a still keener interest in classical history and the keenest interest of all in classical philosophy, that is, in the real inner life which the classics contain : in other words, you possess this qualification which I rank very high, that you are in the true sense an educated man, and are as far as possible from the mere specialists whom one sometimes sees occupying classical chairs. Whatever may be said of other times and countries, this is not the age or the country, in my opinion, in which the study of classics can be popularized and developed, unless their Professors are sensitive, critical men, as keenly alive to the modern as to the ancient world, and always bent upon bringing the two into relation and using each to explain the other. Some day we may be able to appoint men for mere ancient learning and scientific knowledge of the Latin language ; we want both more and less at present : and it is because you have both more and less, that I now venture to state that you are qualified to make a useful Professor of Latin in Toronto University.

Toronto, June 1895.

From WM. DALE, M.A., Formerly Associate-Professor of Latin in University College.

I HAVE known Mr. Milner since his graduation, and during the last four years I have been intimately associated with him in the work of the Latin Department in University College. As a result of that association in the practical work of instruction in one of the heaviest subjects in the College, I am able to say, that in addition to his ability and enthusiasm as a teacher (which are generally acknowledged), Mr. Milner's knowledge of the Latin language and literature is both extensive and accurate. His taste and good judgment in rendering from Latin into English and especially from English into Latin (*the test of practical Latin scholarship*) are not surpassed by any of the younger generation of Classical scholars. To his successful and assiduous labors during the past four years, in the work of Latin Prose instruction more particularly, are owing in a large measure the great improvements made in the Classical Department of the University, whereby (as a reference to the new curriculum of studies will show) Latin especially has become the very foundation of all the Literary and Historical Departments of the University. Mr. Milner's acquaintance with English and French Literature will be found of immense service in meeting the increased demands made by the new curriculum upon the Professor of Latin.

But accurate acquaintance with the Latin language is not the only, perhaps not the main qualification for a Professor of Latin. He must possess what I may call the Historic Sense, if he is to be a successful interpreter of the Latin language and of Roman History. He must grasp firmly the fact that Roman History is in a sense European History, that out of Roman civilization has

grown European civilization, and that the Latin language and literature have been the chief influences in the formation of the best modern literatures. This knowledge—the crowning knowledge of Classical scholarship—the knowledge of the pivotal position of Latin in European literature and thought, I believe Mr. Milner to possess in no slight degree. Without this knowledge a Classical scholar can be at best but a mere grammarian, and the teaching of Classics but the teaching of declensions and conjugations. Mr. Milner's work in Roman History shows that he possesses and can communicate to his students this knowledge.

I have only to add that I am confident that Mr. Milner's indefatigable powers of labor, his enthusiasm in teaching, his accurate knowledge of the Latin language, his practical acquaintance with the course of instruction as now laid down in the University, and above all his firm grasp of the central position of Latin Literature, will not only enable him to fill successfully, but also to adorn the chair of Latin which the Government have determined to create in University College.

ST. MARY'S,
June 26th, 1895.

*From A. J. BELL, M.A., PH.D., Professor of Latin,
Victoria University.*

I UNDERSTAND that Mr. W. S. Milner, M.A., now Lecturer in Classics in University College, is applying for the vacant Professorship of Latin there. I have had many opportunities of becoming acquainted with Mr. Milner's scholarship, and I am pleased to bear testimony to its breadth and accuracy. Of our Canadian graduates, who to my knowledge are applying or are likely to apply for the position, I believe him to be the best qualified as regards scholarship and experience.

June 25th, 1895.

*From A. CARRUTHERS, M.A., Lecturer on Greek, Univer-
sity College.*

I HAVE been intimately acquainted with Mr. W. S. Milner, M.A., for many years, and have had ample opportunities of forming a correct judgment as to his classical attainments.

Mr. Milner's knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages is wide and accurate, and no other graduate of my acquaintance has a more splendid appreciation of Classical Literature, or is more skilled in its interpretation. He is equally at home in the literature of our own tongue, and to this fact must be attributed in considerable measure, I think, Mr. Milner's great success in the teaching and treatment of the classics.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, TORONTO,

June 28th, 1895.

From J. C. ROBERTSON, B.A., Lecturer on Greek, Victoria University.

I SHOULD be glad if anything I can say would be of advantage to Mr. W. S. Milner in his application for the chair of Latin in University College. Our acquaintance has been of long standing, but has been most continuous since his appointment as Lecturer in Latin, four years ago. It may not be out of place to say that I was an unsuccessful applicant for that position, and that there was no other rival in whose selection I could so readily acquiesce. Mr. Milner's appointment has been proved by four years' experience to have been a wise one. In various capacities I have had many opportunities of seeing his work, both before and behind the scenes, and it has been uniformly successful and of an enduring character.

I have heard of no other applicant as yet that in suitability for this particular chair equals Mr. Milner on the score of either attainments or promise. With others, of course, one cannot compare him, but in one respect his qualifications are unique. No other man has so intimate a knowledge of the character of the work now done in Latin in the University, of his predecessor's aims and ideals, and the scope of the new curriculum (which has made a great advance in the Latin department), or is so likely to be able to guide the work of that department smoothly and successfully for the next two or three years. It is quite true that others may be found who promise in the course of a few years to be equally successful, but I see no reason for expecting that they would be more so, while there will always be the danger of ultimate failure, in addition to the shortcomings and dangers of the transition or journeyman period.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY,
Toronto, July 5th, 1895.

From W. J. ALEXANDER, B.A., PH.D., Professor of English, University College.

I HAVE no such adequate and direct knowledge of Mr. Milner's scholarship and success as a teacher as would justify me in testifying to his fitness in these respects for the Latin chair, but the relations existing between us as colleagues on the same Faculty and as members of the Board of Departmental Examiners, as well as my personal intercourse with Mr. Milner, enable me to speak as to qualifications of a more general character.

Mr. Milner's views on educational matters have seemed to me eminently sound, and based on an extended acquaintance with educational conditions in Ontario. I believe him to be a man of high character, good sense, and cultivated mind. Mr. Milner possesses breadth, literary taste and knowledge of English literature, qualifications which seem to me of great importance for the most fruitful teaching of Latin, and frequently lacking in classical scholars.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
July 10th, 1895.

From WM. SAUNDERS, F.R.S.C., F.L.S., F.C.S., Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms.

HAVING been acquainted with Mr. W. S. Milner for the past twelve years, it is with pleasure that I avail myself of this opportunity to bear testimony to his high character as a gentleman and a scholar.

From the satisfaction he has given in the important positions he has already filled in Canada and the United States, and from the high esteem in which his pupils hold him, I feel sure that his work as a teacher is characterized by unusual ability and earnestness.

If appointed to the Professorship of Latin in the University of Toronto, he would, in my opinion, fulfil the duties of the position with great credit to himself and to the institution.

EXPERIMENTAL FARM,
Ottawa, June 22, 1895.

From the REV. W. T. HERRIDGE, B.A., B.D., *Ottawa.*

I HAVE much pleasure in adding my testimony in favor of Mr. W. S. Milner as a candidate for the Professorship of Latin in Toronto University. There can be no doubt in regard to his adequate scholarship. His student career was a most brilliant one, and since his graduation he has so diligently and effectively followed the bent of his genius that few can be named as his peers in classical attainments. But, having enjoyed his intimate friendship for several years, it seems to me that he has still higher qualifications. His literary appreciation is keen and discriminating, and under his guidance the classical fervour is revived. He possesses in an unusual degree the power of stimulating the best energies of others, and of revealing to them the finer aspects of their work. Mr. Milner is distinguished for accuracy and thoroughness, and he is never content to rest in what he knows already. His manners are those of the true gentleman, and his character one of singular charm and integrity. Having a pretty wide knowledge of the best among the younger Canadians, I do not hesitate to say that I am acquainted with no one so well qualified to adorn the chair of Latin in Toronto University, and to advance the interests of classical learning throughout the Dominion.

*From J. A. McLELLAN, M.A., LL.D., Principal of the
Ontario School of Pedagogy.*

As an instrument of liberal education in the best sense of the phrase, I believe that Latin holds a foremost place among subjects of study. But to secure the best results in both discipline and culture, the subject must be taught by a professor who possesses the ideals which distinguish the literary artist and the insight which is born of the philosophic spirit. From what I have seen of Mr. Milner's work in the Collegiate Institutes of this country, and especially in the School of Pedagogy, I believe that he has these rare qualifications. I do not know a man who surpasses him in these respects. He so teaches the grammar of the language as to make its study an analysis of the thinking powers, and so deals with its literature as to cultivate the ethical and philosophical spirit, and at the same time tend to produce the Platonic ideal of the cultured man—one who is noble, gracious, the friend of truth, justice, courage, temperance. In the interests of the highest and best educational culture, I sincerely hope that Mr. Milner may be appointed to the chair of Latin in University College, for which he is a candidate.

From LYMAN ABBOTT, D.D., *Brooklyn, New York.*

I BEG leave to add my own personal recommendation of Mr. W. S. Milner to those of others who know more fully his qualification for the chair of Latin in University College. My acquaintance with him is, it is true, slight; nor am I an expert in educational matters. But I am very confident that one of the great needs of our age is a greater attention to the literary side and a relatively less attention to the purely grammatical and philological side of the classics. We need some thoroughly trained philologists; but every well educated man ought to know something of the literary life of the Hebrews, the Greeks, and the Romans. The appreciation of this fact is certainly increasing in the United States, and, in my judgment, no one feature in Harvard University has done more to give it a front rank among our educational institutions than its attention to and its development of the literary life and spirit. Unless I greatly misunderstand Mr. Milner, he has a real genius in perceiving, and I judge also in communicating this life, this spirit, this universal truth of the ancient literatures; and he will give, unless I greatly mistake, a distinct and very valuable feature to any institution which should extend any literary phase of study, especially in the higher classes, to his charge.

*From JOHN MEIGS, PH.D., Principal of the Hill School,
Pottstown, Pennsylvania.*

IT affords me profound pleasure to learn that the name of my friend and former colleague, Mr. W. S. Milner, has been used in connection with the Professorship of Latin in University College, a post for which his rare attainments as a scholar and his broad vision as a man of affairs peculiarly qualify him.

Even more conspicuous than these commanding qualifications are those more subtle and priceless gifts of a quick and delicate sympathy with the young, of a strong and ever strengthening influence on their characters and lives, of a warmth of mind and heart, that evokes affection from his pupils and colleagues only to fix their devotion as their intimacy grows, and of an enthusiasm for teaching which is as enlightened as it is glowing.

My intimacy with Mr. Milner during the period of his connection with the Hill School as our Latin Master revealed constantly new powers and charms of mind and character; and I count his friendship as one of the most valued possessions of my life.

Young men will find in him not only a master in all that is fine and high in scholarship, but a friend, inspiring and helpful.

June 22nd, 1895.

*From REV. H. J. CCDY, M.A., Professor of Church History
in Wycliffe College, Toronto, Gold Medallist and
Examiner in Classics in the University of Toronto.*

I HAVE been associated with Mr. W. S. Milner as examiner in Classics for the last three years, and have during that time had much classical intercourse with him. I believe him to be both an accurate scholar and an excellent teacher. From numerous undergraduates, some of whom have been old pupils of mine, I have heard golden opinions of Mr. Milner's lucidity and attractiveness as a lecturer. But valuable as exact grammatical knowledge is, it is in my judgment not the chief requisite for a Professor of Latin. Something more is needed, and that addition Mr. Milner assuredly possesses. He has a strong grasp of the true position of Roman History in the development of civilization, and especially of its influence on the modern world. He has, moreover, a vivid appreciation of the literary aspect of the Latin classics.

If Mr. Milner is appointed to the Chair of Latin in University College, the classical students will have an instructor who aptly combines enthusiasm in the higher sphere of Roman History, with that exact scholarship which is so necessary a part of a true education.

*From the REV. F. H. WALLACE, M.A., D.D., Gold
Medallist and sometime Examiner in Classics in the
University of Toronto, Professor of New Testament
Exegesis and Literature, Victoria University.*

DEAR MR. MILNER,

I AM glad to know that you are a candidate for the Professorship in Latin in University College.

I am heartily in sympathy with the policy of appointing our own graduates to positions of honor and responsibility in our Provincial University, and thus encouraging and rewarding Canadian scholarship. I would by no means advocate the appointment of a man simply because he is a Canadian. But, other things being equal, I certainly think the preference should be given to our own. And, in the present case, your qualifications for the position are all that could be desired. Your scholarship is wide, and deep, and accurate; you have had experience and have achieved success as Lecturer in the very department in University College in which you seek now to become Professor; you not only know your subject, but you understand student life.

In appointing you our educational authorities would run no risk. Your reputation as a man and as a scholar is unsullied, your ability as a teacher has been tested in our own University. Your appointment would be agreeable to a large circle of graduates and friends of the University of Toronto and University College.

June 25th, 1895.

*From the REV. J. P. SHERATON, M.A., D.D., Principal
of Wycliffe College.*

DEAR MR. MILNER,

I rejoice to learn that you are a candidate for the Chair of Latin in University College, and I sincerely hope that you will be successful. From what I know of your personal character and worth, your efficiency and enthusiasm as a teacher, and your knowledge of the Latin language and literature, I am sure that your appointment would be in the highest interests of the students and of the University.

Latin occupies a unique place in the University Curriculum, as the fundamental and universal subject. Hence it is of the greatest importance that the chair should be occupied by one who is not merely a specialist in Latin Grammar, but who is an enthusiastic and well furnished student of the history and literature of Rome, and who possesses those personal and intellectual qualifications without which he will be unable to mould and train his pupils in the elements of sound classical scholarship.

I believe that it will be your aim to make the study of Latin in the University what it should be, as the very basis of a University education; and, therefore, I trust that you will be the first occupant of the Chair of Latin, as newly reconstituted in separation from that of Greek, in accordance, I understand, with the recent wise decision of the Government.

