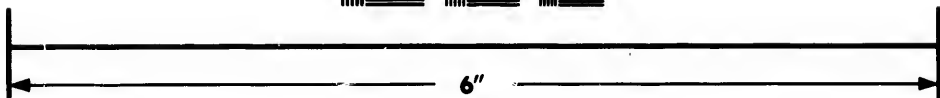
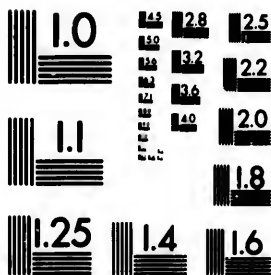


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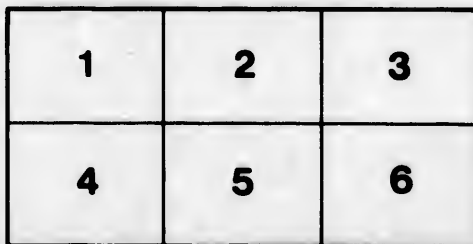
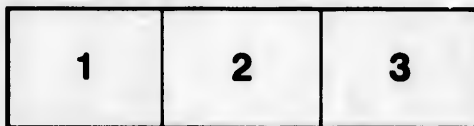
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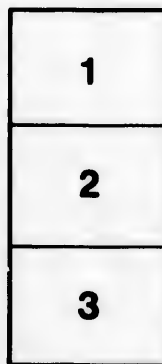
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The second act opens in the paternal rooms of Geronte, whither Manon, tired of her life of poverty with Des Grieux, had gone. Capricious, vain and ambitious, she shines in her new surroundings, but still in odd moments her heart turns in the old life of love, the more poignant by contrast with the voluptuous life of Geronte. In the fourth scene of this act Des Grieux finally discovers his ran-away Manon, and while they are engaged in protestations of love Geronte surprises them.

The third scene is the port of Havre, and the ships at anchor, with the barracks—altogether quite picturesque. Here Des Grieux had managed to escape from the Paris jail and met Manon and her brother, the latter still his friend. Manon had been discarded by Geronte and was to be shipped with other women to America, but Des Grieux induces the ship's commander to take him also.

The fourth act is among the cotton fields of Louisiana where the slaves are dying, and among them Manon and Des Grieux.

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