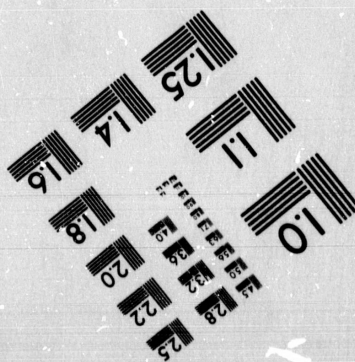
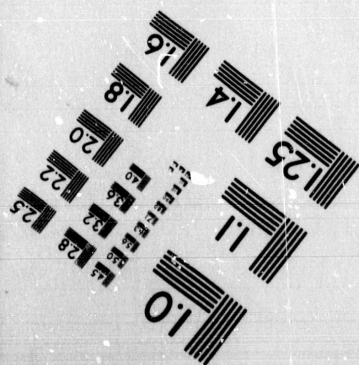
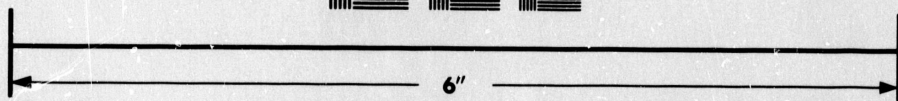
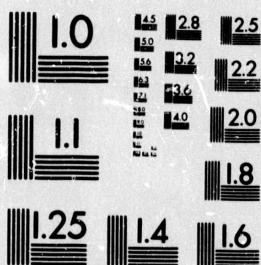


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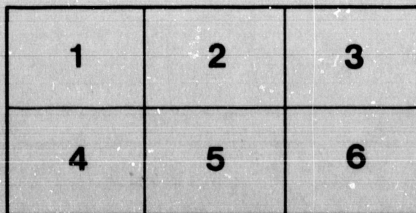
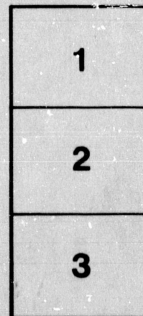
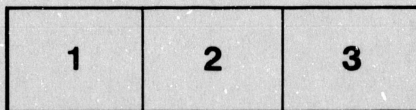
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Citizen, Ottawa. 8

Lord Lansdowne's Departure From Ottawa.

HIS ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD IN CANADA.

(*Ottawa Citizen, 14th April, 1888.*)

As the time draws near for severing his official connection with Canada, the feeling of regret everywhere felt at Lord Lansdowne's departure finds frequent utterance. It is officially announced that Their Excellencies, with the vice-regal household, will embark at Quebec on 24th proximo. Therefore, it is a question of a few weeks only, indeed, we might say of almost a few days—so rapidly does the time approach—when the present Governor-General will bid farewell to the Dominion.

Lord Lansdowne has been not only a most acceptable, but also a very popular representative of the Crown in Canada, and nowhere is his popularity more apparent and more firmly fixed than at the Capital and throughout the Ottawa Valley. Here both Lord Lansdowne and his distinguished consort have a very warm place in the hearts of the people. In proof of this we need only recall the magnificent reception accorded to Their Excellencies a few months since, on their return from the West.* That demonstration, so unanimous and wildly enthusiastic, was a display not only of the loyalty of the people to the representative of the Sovereign, but of their personal attachment to the man. Remembering the exhibition of regard and admiration manifested on that day, and knowing that Lord Lansdowne's public course has since in no way varied, we were not unprepared for the movement lately made to give His Lordship a hearty "send off" on his departure from the country. On the present as on the occasion to which we have alluded, a Citizens' Committee, appropriately headed by His Worship the Mayor, has been named to make the requisite arrangements. The programme adopted, we understand, includes a banquet and a public reception, at the latter of which an address from the city will be presented. Some movement, we believe, was made towards providing a separate banquet to be given to His Excellency by members of both Houses of Parliament in the Senate Chamber, but such a proposition has been wisely, we think, abandoned with a view to making the civic banquet a thoroughly representative gathering. Parliament being in session it seems not unlikely, though we have no official knowledge of the fact, that a joint address from the Senate and Commons will be adopted and presented to the retiring Governor-General, as has been usual on like occasions since Confederation. The custom is a good one, affording as it does an opportunity for the Viceroy to take a personal farewell of the great men of the nation. In this connection many of our readers will recall the impressive scene in the Senate Chamber in the spring of 1878, just prior to Lord Dufferin's departure from Ottawa, when the then leader of the Government (Mr. Mackenzie), surrounded by many of the prominent

* After the O'Brien fiasco.

public men of the day, including the then leader of the Opposition (Sir John Macdonald), read an eloquent acknowledgment of the great diplomatist's untiring efforts on behalf of the Dominion. We have no doubt that Ottawa's demonstration on the forthcoming occasion will be entirely successful, and that her example will be followed by other centres of intelligence and public opinion. All, of course, cannot hope to secure His Excellency's presence at a dinner, but addresses will doubtless be either presented or forwarded to him so as to voice the general sentiment—a sentiment which while including the highest regard for the Queen's representative is strongly impregnated with love of England and reverence for the Queen's person and Government. Thoroughly concurring in and upholding this view, we desire to see all suitable homage paid to a ruler who, during his term of office, has wisely and judiciously administered the important trusts committed to his charge with an eye solely to the advancement of the best interests of one of the foremost portions of the British Empire.

Lord Lansdowne, it is true, has been with us but for a limited period. He assumed the duties of office in the autumn of 1883, and he will therefore leave Canada some considerable time before completing the official term usually allotted to a Governor-General. His period of service, however, though short, has been fruitful of many important and remarkable events. The completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway from ocean to ocean, opening up a new pathway over British territory to the East; the rebellion in the North-West Territories, which, however much to be deplored for the causes of its origin and the loss of life involved in its suppression, was not devoid of public advantages; the final settlement of the Atlantic fisheries dispute, a matter of long standing contention between two of the great powers, and one which might at any moment develop into a serious international complication; and the initial step towards securing the admission of the ancient colony of Newfoundland into the Canadian Union, thus ensuring the complete political unification of British North America are some of the matters of weightiest import which have engaged the attention of Lord Lansdowne, and with respect to which, as in his general administrative course, he has displayed consummate ability, tact and judgment, affording proofs of the possession of the highest gift of statesmanship. In the ordinary routine of office he has, it is said evinced a careful, conscientious, interest in the administration of justice, with results which have frequently been attended with advantage to society and to the Government. The best test of the success of his administration is the entire absence from its record of friction or complaint. He has ruled constitutionally, and from first to last, apparently, has been in entire accord with his Ministers.

Space will not permit us to-day to enlarge on His Lordship's general services to Canada—on his warm interest in Education, particularly Higher Education, in Literature, in the Fine Arts, and in Science; on his efforts to promote among the youth and manhood of the country,

healthful out-door Sports and Amusements; and on his sympathetic encouragement of the Volunteer Militia Force. Let it suffice that he has devoted his time and his means to the promotion of all good and deserving works. Socially, his hospitality has been boundless. Like his immediate predecessors, Lords Lorne and Dufferin, he has at various times visited each of the several Provinces of the Dominion, as well as the outlying Territories, thus familiarizing himself with the character of the people and the resources of the country, and the speeches and addresses delivered by His Lordship on these occasions, while models of eloquence and pure diction, have practically tended not a little to produce beneficial results, by attracting abroad increased attention to Canada.

In a few days His Excellency will leave Canada to assume new official duties in a far distant and in a more important sphere of action. Though loath to part with him, we all rejoice at his promotion in the public service, and, it is needless to say, will watch his future career with a feeling of the deepest interest. Our best wish for His Lordship is that the same prosperity and success may attend his government of the great Indian Empire as have crowned his administration in the Dominion!

It would not be fitting to conclude this article without a special reference to the gracious and accomplished lady who so admirably has supplemented His Excellency's efforts for the well-being of our country, and whose panegyric was pronounced so recently by that master of sincere and eloquent compliment, the Earl of Dufferin. Lady Lansdowne's highest praise is that she has not, in any degree, fallen short of the exalted responsibilities—responsibilities none the less important because largely social—incumbent on her high position. Rather, indeed, has she more than justified the anticipations of kindness and excellence which four years ago heralded her advent to Canada.

“Better lo’ed ye canna be
Will ye no come back again?”

