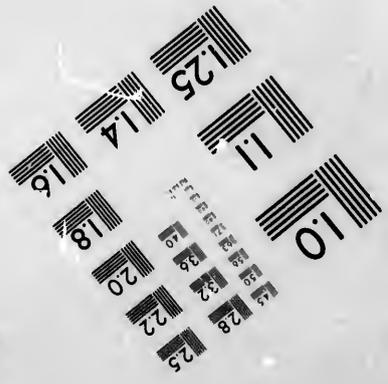
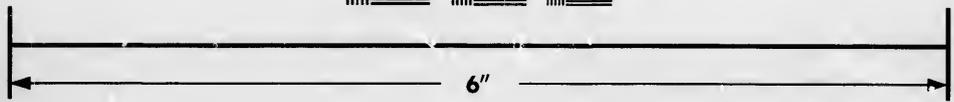
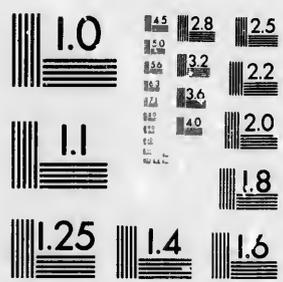


IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



Photographic
Sciences
Corporation

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproduction

© 1988

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distortion le long de la marge intérieure
- Blank leaves added during restoration may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées.
- Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires:

- Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached/
Pages détachées
- Showthrough/
Transparence
- Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible
- Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata
slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to
ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement
obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,
etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à
obtenir la meilleure image possible.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

National Library of Canada

L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

Bibliothèque nationale du Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

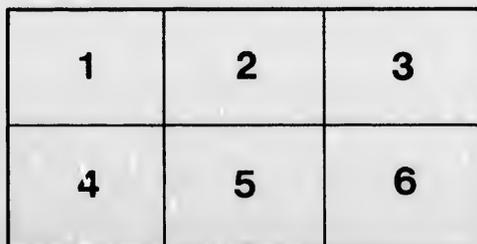
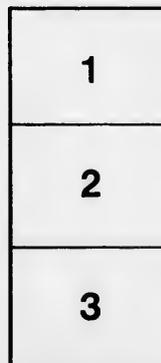
Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.





POPULAR READING AT POPULAR PRICES.

MEEKINS'S TWINSES:

A PERDUCKSHUN UV

MOZIS ADDUMS.

A fine uv \$5 fur Readin tnis Thing out'n a Slo' Walk
Git a Duzen kopies—I'm arfter Munny fur Meekins.
These Buks is sold fur no Falt uv 'Thern,

TORONTO:

J. ROSS ROBERTSON, 67 YONGE STREET.

1878.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

MEEKING'S TWINS:

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

BY
MEEKING'S TWINS

1911

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

CHICAGO

TO THE BODY WITH THE...
...
MEEKINS'S TWINS.

DEDIKATION.

To the Hapy Man that aint Got but One Chile & Him
growed up, and Doin uv a Good Biznis in a
Fur Distunt Lan', whar He kant be
Heerd a cryin in the Nite
fur His Bottil,

I DEDIKATE THIS WUK—

This Brocher, as they says in French.

M. ADDUMS.

MEEKINS'S TWINSSES.

Babis in ginrul is bald-headed, bo-legged disturbers uv the peece. The cums into this worl' frownin' horrid, flats dubbed up, red as peper, hot as jlnjer and hongry as hogs. You got to 'ten' to um—got to drap all biznis and 'ten' to um then and thar, or elts you'll heer from um cry and ofting. The nuss launche's um into life with a dram of some kind, and then wunders they luvs whiskey when they has growed up.

But twinses is misteyus vizitatin' uv Providens; a urthquake in 2 colyums, the rite and lef' wings uv a hurrykate that thar a't no accountin' fur. The cums like claps uv live thunder out'n a clere sky in the midil uv the day or nite (they aint a keerin which) and kon stirnates the naberhood. Nobody aint never prepared fur um, and thar is a rushin' 2 and fro ov docters, nusses, and wimmin that shakes the chimblays and jars the whole visinity. A feerful tiem!

They fetches no baggie, not a rag, not a blame thing, not even a swaller-tale kote and a stand-in' collar, but they cums to stay. Thar is much borri' in uv klothes—it takes nuf dry goods to set up a firm uv twinses as to stok a good size Brod st. sto—and you've got to opin a milk depo and free bodin hous on the spot, lookin' fur yo' pay in a nuther and a better worl'. Becoz twinses has but vage id'es uv settin' bills.

Many wimmin arrives at yo' maunshun, and thar is much nistratin. The po' men fur sevrul bloks aroun' gethers on the cornders uv the streets and wunders to eche uther if twinses is ketchin' like mezils and chicken pok. Thar minds is onesy. They goes to Pothekerries to git sum intineat' agin the thinses.

But taint no use, no manner uv use. Kwinine nor brimstone nor kerosiv sublimit, nor nuthin' knowd to man can't keep um off. Twinses is misteyus things, and thar is no akoantin' fur um one way nor the uther. Hew Biar, the Druggar, can't put upnuthin' to fend um off, nor Tom Doswell, with all his experyuse, can't inshure um. If they ar a cumin, they ar a cumin, and if they aint a cumin ain't creashun cant hurry um up. Twinses is the most obstinut and opinyunated kattil I know.

Thar is a nuther misteyus thing 'bout twinses. Them that wantsum cant have um—thar is men in this vale uv dadshinness and limitid spondulix that never duz ketch up with what they is running arter, no matter what they do—and them that dou' want um, and kin hardly turn thout treddin on childun, has um shure. Here they come a hoopin and holrin. Now me and Tom Cuckportrik is the very pattun uv men for twinses, was cut and dride you may say to be fathers uv twinses, but wary a trin have cum these 30 year, tho' we have been d'rin fur um. On the uther hand, look at Meekins; uv all and uv all humins! Meekins—but me anon. No; twinses is misteyus. To the rich man childun cum one at a time, like balls down the troft uv a tenpin alley, but to the po man they cums

————— 2 by 2,

Like the elifant and the kangeroo."

Twinses is like the pistums or the walking beam uv a stembote—when you lays one down you takes the u'eer one up, and when they both opin their skapepipes and squalls at the same time, why lettin' off steme is Quaker meetin to t.

F'yar well, vane worl',
I'm a gwine home.

No you aint—you're a gwine to 'ten to them twinses, 'ten to nuthin but them if you don't want the hous to cum down; and a piczant tiem you'll have uv it. You may talk to me 'bout Gypchun bordidge, but a muther at ded uv nite worstlin with two bawlin squallin twinses, one holrin to see if his holrin aint louder holrin than the holrin uv the uther one holrin—a mother endurin uv that bondige sturs my sympathies mor'n the Gypchuns and Izralites combined.

A quare thing is that the man gits all the kredit fur twinses, while the womun, that has ten thousand times a heap the hardest tiem, don't git num. Folks is inclined to blame her and tell her "no mo' uv that, now." But the man puts on his hat and walks 4th with a ar uv modist pride, like the man that chawed the ho's off'n a steer fur a bet. "I don't take no kredit fur this," he kinder seems to say. "I recly don't, but still I want to get the kredit all the same. 'Taint everybody has twinses, and then is unbil 'bout it like me." And they tell me thar is wimmin that actilly is onvus and jellus uv wimmin that has twinses, and wood fain git the respie if that was one. Well, thar is childun that brags 'bout being sicker than uther childun, and its a twisted sort of a worl' we live in enyway. I don't onderstan t no way—nor I don't ever hope to. It gits me—got me long ago.

The last obzurvashun I got to make 'bout twinses ar this: The kin do more krylin to the mint and kive: a squar inch quicker and thicker with brawl and squawl than any uther livin thing excep: a Linchburg ockshuneer uv lugs.

These few remox is drovd 4th by Meekins. Uv all and uv all—but I'm a cumin to that dreckly. Peter Meekins is my naber—our back lots jines. He is the wevil-eatnest man I know. Somethin is always the matter with his durn tung, and from gum-blies to corns thar aint nuthin that he don't have and keeps on havin it. Dispepsy is his stanby, and when he aint got that he fills up the chinx with dipthery. He can't barly walk, becoz he's got the furtogo. Things won't gee with him, so he is always in a state uv wo'. Uv all and uv all, he takes a melanoly view. This worl' looks to him like a mixer uv misry, bluein and lamp-black. Uv all humins! I kinnot understan it. Thar aint sho'n enuf uv him to make a do mat, he is very shucky and shaky, and is fraziled out at its edgis into sumthin that answers as led, unns and legs. Now uv and uv all humin beins who should hav twinses but this same Meekins: It's a fac, by gum! and it just Knox me down you know. I aint' fetch breth good since I heered it.

My wife must have told me, but my mind have bin so occupied with politix that I disremembered it till the uther day when I met him on the strete. He were very sadd. His chin wiggled and his nose wobbled, he were so very sadd.

"In the name of mizry," says I, "Meekins, what's the matter?"

"Ah!" he says, groanin, and the water gathered in his eyes.

"How is your drotted tung, now?" I says.

"Taint that," says he, and the teers cum rollin down his holler cheex, and his nose trimmed.

"Tell me, tell me quick," I says; "I feel so sorry fur you, and I want to do sumthin fur you rite away."

Well, he says, in a voiz that went to my very hart, "I were—I were took down with the twinses 'bout 3 month ago, and bin very lo ever since."

"What!" I exclaimed, "you? uv all and uv all, you got twinses? Giv me yo' han!" and I grabbed him to kongratulate him.

But I heered sumthin like krockin crackin inside uv him, and feerin he would cum to peeces in my han, I let him go.

"Yes," he says, "they has lit down on me in my ole age, and they is hevy." And he weept.

"Well, well, well!" I says, "Uv all and uv all—this beats bobtail. Gearls ov corse?"

"No," he says, sorrowful, "two uv as fine a boy as ever swollered catnip."

And you cryin about that?" says I.

"Two nusses," he says, "two krips, two sets uv—uv—uv everything—two—." And he sobbd—he actilly did.

"Cheer up, my lively lad" (much lively 'bout him), "cheer up," I says.

But he wood'n cheer a bit.

"Two baby carriages, two par uv shoes, two soots uv kiothes, too everything, too much! too much! too much!" And he fairly boohood.

Says I, "Meekins, fur goodness sake don't giv way so—you'll bust the breechin uv yo very soul if you kepe on that a way."

But he kep on, and throwing his face down into his hands, said in a pashun of teers,

"Dubil tile and dubil trubil,
Children bile and babis bubbil."

Jokin stan a good deel, but my temper giv way at this. Says I, "You infurnil old son uv a fopensapeny, if you don't stop howlin here in the strete in brord day life 'bout nut in but twinses, I'll ketch you by the nap uv yo nek, hang you to the middil uv Mills's garding, and leave you thar a mass uv fragmints fur boys to fing at kats' with."

This stoop him. "Ah!" he says, "ah! this 'at a worl' uv much wind on the sunmick and skeersly nuthin in the breeches 'pocket." And with that he shuffled off his mortalkile in the dreeksahun uv his own house. I went to mine madd—madd with a doub'l "d." And I says to my wife,

"Did you know old Meekins had twinses?"

"I know it?" she says, "didn't I tell you the very day they was borned?"

"May be you mout," I says, "but my mind hav bin so gummad and glude up with politix and Returnin Bodes that—"

"—if you bored me every tiem you returned home till I wish them bodes, as you call um, was bald over your mouth."

"Well," I says "what doo you think uv it?"

That were the wrongest questun that ever I axed in all my life. It let down the tale-bode uv her naturally large tumler cart uv eloquence, and she drowned me then and thar.

"Think uv it?" she skreakt. "Think uv it? Its the outrageousest owdashusest peece uv impertinence that's bin puppetrated in my naberhood in 40 odd year. It's a sin and a shame and a shockin overwhelmin skandil that pepil pretendin to be desent shood act in that way. Gentel pepil, like sum I know, don't hav no twinses—they've got more regard fur aerslety than to hav um. But I know these Meekinses uv old. They had um a puppus—a puppus—" stompin her foot and drappin her jistin—"jest to git into notils and to git good things to eat. And mo things has cum to the Meekins since them twinses was borned than I got pashunse to tell about. Br. ad, cake, pies, puddins, breakfasts, dinners, appils, oranges, prunes, dux, potridges, Mallegz grapes—that is old Meekins a eatin sum this very minit—"

Shure nuf, thar was old Meekins settin by his sellar dore a doin sum of the dolefnest chawin you ever see.

"Yes," she went on, "its a delibrit, depe-lade plan to git notyriety and rise in serslety. But they couldn desevey me,—no! I never encouraged twinses, and never will. They gits no custard and thin biskit from this house, nor they never wout." And then her wurdz duv-taled and run into one nuth r that fast that I couldn ake out nuthin she said—nuthin but "Jib jib jib—jab jab jab—jibjab jibjab jabber—jabber jabber jabber jabber jabber jabber—whing whang fang fang bing bang ding dang ling lang ping pang ting tang ring rang—r-r-r—attertatterolatersplatter!"

Whew! I had heerd uv a heated turm, but here was a heated turmigt uv the wust kind with a venjunce. Judge! she jest did leave me the top uv my hed, and that were all. I were thankful fur that, becoz I see how it were in a flash—the old 'oman were black mad with jelus envy uv the po' littil afflicted Mrs. Meekins, a good a woman as her husband is no count.

I riz. "Madum!" says I, "drawin' myself up to my fool hight, "Madum;" I says in tones uv sope-suds and thunder: "Madum! taint no use, no ertly use. I ain't Aberham, and stoopin down and pokin my face into hern, "nor you ain't Sary, neither. So shet rite up!"

She's 50 last grass if she's a day, and got Irish blud in her too, but she didn't even open her lips. She sniff me down with kontemp and konsintrated venom that druv me spar'g out'n the hous, and I foun myself in the back poche, holrin' at the pitch, tar, and turkentine uv my voiz, "gimme ar! gimme ar! fur mersy's sake gimme ar!" fur I were neerly ded, that whirlwind of words had tuk my breth away so.

Old, Meekins's cook, Lizer, a likely woman, cum outn the kitchen to see what were the matter. I reckon she thot I were distracted, but old Meekins didn even turn his hed, he were so bizzy with his Mallegz grapes.

My son Floojin, my yungest child, 'bout nine yere old goin on ten, and a good boy, tho' I say it—"loojins had heerd his' muther what she said, and folrin' me into the back poche, went down the steps, sayin as he went by:

"Doggoa my akin of kats! I'll fix him."

With that he begun huntin round the yard till he diskivered a rusty old padlock, and takin good aim at Meekins, he let fly, and by the livins I he prestovetod him off'n the face of the earth. He jest blotted him rite out. Thar were the cheer he set in, thar were his hat and sum few skatrin grapes, but Meekins was nowhar. Floojins had wiped him into thin ar. I stood 'eff and dum with astonishment, fur Wyman hisself never played a trick equi to that.

But bimeby, ten minits by the wotch, here cum old Meekins out uv the sellar, a site to see

- a conglorashun uv blud, tears, har, eye-brows, skin and grape juist, fearful to behole. It were horrible, but it were funny too. I laift till I neerly dide, and Lizer cum out, took the old man to the hydrant, wo-ht him off with a dish rag, and led him slow and paneful into the hous.

This brot me to my senses, and shamed me so I didn know what to do. So I lookt down in the yard to find Floojins. Nary Floojins did I find. But presently I seen him in Mills's garding—he had gone thar to commune with his own little innersent and confiden self. I put on my hat, went over to whar Mr. Bowers, the stove man, is a bildin sum houses, gethered me a peece uv skantlin, and lit into that Floojins till ou would a thot the Chespeek & Ohier frate trane was a cummin in on them and a howlin.

It dun me good, and it dun the boy good, but it didn't help Meekins. He lost enuf skelp to

kiver a trab-ball, and I feel so sorry fer him. I'me a goin to take up a subskripshun uv cal skin to mend it. Dr. Koleman says the old man will be out in a week if the urrosipelus do'nt set in, and his tung don't git sore agin. But I'm not a goin to bed till I do what's rite by po' old Meekins

I've reccht a good old age, have traviled fur and wide, have eat a heep, bin to North Killny, livd in Am'erst, seen much and dun meny things, but Meekins havin twinsees lays over eything that ever hapined in my time. Its the ivont of the age. Uv all and uv all. Meekins! Twinsees! I don't bleeve it. Taint so. I kinnot onderstan it. My dried litenin bugs throws no lite on the subjec. Its a dark misteryus mistery.

MOZIS ADDUMS.

Nonfuxunery & Feed Sto,
Rockitts, Dec. 27, 1876.