

In the large hall of the "Odeon," we had occasion to witness a festival on the 22nd of February, which, as to its importance to German art and industry, may worthily be placed side by side with the celebration which Mr. Borsig, of Berlin, gave to his workmen on the occasion of the completion of the 1000th locomotive engine. In the optical institution of Messrs. Voigtlander and Son, the 10,000th photographic instrument had been completed already towards the end of the past year, and in celebration of this event, the head of the firm, M. Voigtlander, regaled his workmen with a splendid supper, followed by a grand ball, which was kept up till a very late hour, and was in all a very happy affair. The 10,000th instrument had been retained for the occasion, and stood finely decorated in the hall, surrounded by Austrian and Brunswick flags, transparencies, &c., headed by a portrait of M. Voigtlander. At supper, a large silver cup was presented to M. Voigtlander by the oldest workman, and an appropriate address made by M. Rossing, also one of the oldest men. After the ball, M. and Madame Voigtlander were serenaded at their residence.

As we spoke of the importance of this celebration, we owe, perhaps, a proof of it, which will be the more welcome as nearly everybody is greatly interested in photography. When Daguerre made his famous invention, he was confined to take lifeless objects, for, as is universally known, at that time only lenses with weak power of light were used; but when Voigtlander came out with his double lenses, made according to the calculations of Professor Petzval, it was possible to take portraits. The grand achievement was then universally applauded, and the inventor rewarded by a medal, struck expressly for this purpose in Paris. It is natural that owing to the great success of Voigtlander, many manufactories of such lenses were opened in all countries; but up to the present day the lenses of Voigtlander have preserved their old fame, the least proof of which is the 10,000th lens, and the fact that they are found in all the first establishments in the world. The manufactory of Messrs. Voigtlander and Son has recently been vastly enlarged, and yet it is impossible to satisfy the daily increasing demands; and they count on making 2000 lenses this year, whilst the 10,000 have been produced in twenty years, an average of 500 a year. Besides these lenses, the institution produces also a very large number of opera glasses, which they also made first with achromatic lenses. These are principally bought in England, where they are universally known by the name "Voigtlander," and at races will be found in the possession of every gentleman. It would occupy too much space to enumerate all the different branches of the establishment, and we will only mention, that even twenty-five years ago, M. Voigtlander produced telescopes, which, according to the judgment of Gauss, Schumacher, and others, were found equal, and even in some respects superior, to the renowned Fraunhofer telescopes. The present proprietor of the establishment, which was founded one hundred years ago by his grandfather, was always on the alert to extend the business as much as possible, and succeeded in doing this principally by his connections with other countries. Thus we meet here with the rare combinations of artistic efforts and commercial enterprise. We conclude this report, which we felt ourselves bound to make, with a hearty wish that we may soon be able to congratulate M. Voigtlander on the completion of the next 10,000 lenses.

#### CARD PROCESS FOR ALBUMENIZED PAPER.

BY A. SINCLAIR.

##### Silvering Solution.

Nitrate of silver ... ..	800 grains
Water .. ..	10 ounces.

Dissolve the silver in the water, then take two ounces of the solution, add aqua ammonia fortis (not concentrated) until the precipitate is just redissolved; then add nitric acid, until it is just neutral; mix this with the rest of the solution, the six ounces plain silver, and filter: float the paper three to four minutes.

The paper should be white and fine. I have, with thin negative paper, succeeded well with a sixty grain solution, but for ordinary paper I think eighty grains more reliable.

Print deep. Wash clean from free silver, first in clean

water, and then in a solution of one ounce of salt to a quart of water; rinse in clean water and tone.

##### Toning Solution.

Chloride of gold ... ..	15 grains
Carbonate of soda... ..	150 "
Water ... ..	15 ounces.

Dissolve the gold in one half of the water, and the soda the other, and keep in separate bottles in the developing room.

To use it, take one ounce of the gold solution, and add four ounces of water and one of the soda solution, then the other four ounces of water, and mix all together, making ten ounces of toning bath. Use tepid, and tone a little deeper than the colour required, as it will come back a little in the fixing bath. A little practice is necessary to obtain the correct tint, which may be varied from a chocolate brown to a deep blue black.

Rinse in clean water, and fix in—

Hyposulphite of soda ... ..	1 ounce
Water ... ..	6 ounces.

A strong solution of soda destroys the tone entirely.

Great care must be taken to keep the fingers perfectly from soda, as the least grain of it getting into the solution would entirely spoil it. If the toning solution grows weak while using, add more gold and soda. The bath can only be used once, but the fixing solution may be used as long as it remains clear, and works in twenty to thirty minutes.

This is the cheapest toning process I know of, as ten grains of gold make ten ounces of the toning solution sufficient to tone five or six dozen cards.

Rochester, January 18th, 1861.

[We should think it advisable in the above solution to add alcohol (some find ether good), to effect a more perfect coagulation of the albumen; a preliminary heating of the paper would probably effect the same purpose. Mr. Sinclair and his pupils, however, have had excellent success.]—Ed. *American Journal of Photography*.

#### TO HOLD THE MIRROR UP TO NATURE.

MR. EDWARD L. PORTER communicates to the editor of *The Scientific American* of March 22nd, the following suggestion to photographers.

"SUGGESTION TO PHOTOGRAPHERS.—A radical defect arises from the fact that the sitter being in a novel situation unconsciously assumes a constrained and unnatural expression of countenance, and having no means of correcting it, is of course repeated in the picture. Hence, so few are entirely satisfied with their photographs. The invention we suggest, is designed to obviate this defect by attaching to the camera an ordinary plane mirror, so adjusted that the sitter, instead of staring into blank space, with a feeling of what a ridiculous part he is playing, may look at his own reflection in this glass during the photographic operation. He will thus be enabled at once to assume the other that best pleases himself. The picture will thus be an exact reproduction of the image in the mirror, and will not fail of being perfect in every respect."

Our correspondent, Mr. E. K. Hough, informs us that he used a mirror in the manner above proposed, in North Carolina, about two years since. The practical effect was that the sitter put forth extraordinary exertions to look at some and wise; the picture was the exact reproduction of the image in the mirror, and did not fail of being an excellent comical caricature. Mr. Hough's experience will be endorsed by almost every practical photographer. It is a great and very difficult art of the operator at the camera to distract the mind of the sitter from thoughts of "do I look?" and "I must have a smiling countenance."