better than a pitchy darkness; our science is more trustworthy than facts which rest on supposition or ignorant observation.

We know something concerning uranium salts which is pertinent to their photographic use. The proto salts are deoxidisers; the per salts are reduced to proto salts under the action of light. All the salts give precipitates with proper reagents, which are of various colours. Uranium salts in their properties are strikingly like the iron salts; what one does it may be expected the other will do. Iron photographs have been made of various colours, so ditto uranium photographs. Proto salts of iron develop collodion pictures; will not proto salts of uranium do the same thing?

Now as to the toning bath. Proto salts of uranium are deoxidising agents, *i.e.*, reducing agents. They should reduce the gold of the toning bath, perhaps make the toning more prompt and more beautiful, and—perhaps prove worthless. If uranium salts prove advantageous, try iron salts as a substitute, etc. What proto salt to use, and how much, must be found out by the practical men.

Thus we have reasoned before, with our little science, at the same time calling upon the careful, practical men with their facts to help us.

Mr Corlies' testimony in the case goes a great way with us; we think it will be confirmed by the experience of others.—*American Journal.*

Proceedings of Societies.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.

THE Sixth Annual General Meeting of this Society was held in the Society's Hall, 51, George Street, on Tuesday, 13th May, 1862, Mr. WALKER in the chair.

Professor MACDONALD read a paper on the subject of Stereoscopic or Straboscopic vision, in which he explained, assisted by diagrams, how this effect was produced. After referring to the paper of Dr. Carpenter, where it was clearly shown that Mr. Wheatstone had in 1833 constructed a reflecting telescope, and also a prismatic one, and thus was entitled to the credit of having invented the principle of the stereoscope in its modern form, he also referred to a conversation between Sir D. Brewster and an eminent teacher in St. Andrews between 1841 and 1843, where Sir D. Brewster showed the prismatic form was most probably that already proposed by Wheatstone.

Referring to the photographs of Chimenti's drawings, he contended that the slide was really as stereoscopic as the near similarity would admit.

In connexion with this subject, the Honorary Secretary read extracts from a communication addressed by Professor Tait to Sir David Brewster, in which he said that, putting the argument in its feeblest form, in asserting that it is at least 1,000 to 1 that the sketches were designedly drawn as views by separate eyes or a single eye displaced.

The Honorary Secretary then read the following Report by the Council:—

In accordance with the rules of the Society, the Council have to present their Report at the conclusion of the sixth year of its existence.

They regret that it is not in their power on this occasion, as has previously been the case, to offer their congratulations to the Members on the continued progress of the Society.

In common with many kindred institutions, and with the country at large, they have to lament the death of His late R. H. the late Prince Consort, the Patron of the Society. As is known to the Members, it was considered to be the duty of the Society to present an Address of Condolence to Her Majesty.

The Council regret also to have to report that the Monthly Meetings have not been so successful as might have been expected in a Society holding so high a position, and including among its Members so many ardent photographers. The Council are aware that an idea is generally prevalent, and has affected other photographic societies as well as this, that the object for which it was instituted has now, to a large extent, been fulfilled, and that the interest of the Meetings and the usefulness of the Society will be partially nugatory until some new and important discovery is made in one or other of the departments of the art. While admitting that such a discovery would give a great impulse to the art, and necessarily increase the attractiveness of their Meetings, the Council cannot avoid repeating an observation made by them on a previous occasion, that there is ample opportunity for maintaining the interest and success of the Monthly Meetings, in the free and unreserved communication by Members of the results of their investigation and experience in connection with known processes; and they would again urge upon Members to assist them in this way in maintaining the efficiency of the Society.

Looking to the experience of the past year, the Council are disposed to recommend that in the meantime the regular Meetings of the Society should be limited to three, to be held on the second Tuesdays of December, February, and April; and that, in addition to the reading of papers, an effort should be made to add to the attractiveness of the Meetings by the exhibition of works interesting from their novelty or successful manipulation;—the Council having power to call extra Meetings whenever they think it advisable to do so.

As the Society is aware, the Annual Exhibition was opened in Mr. Hay's Fine-Art Saloon, George Street, in December last, and continued open about three months. Like all similar exhibitions, it suffered from the prevailing public depression caused by the lamented death of the Prince Consort, and has resulted in a loss to the Society of about £40.

The Exhibition itself, it is scarcely necessary to remind Members, was one of the best which has been held under the auspices of the Society. On this occasion, three Silver Medals were offered as prizes. For the best portrait or group, the prize was awarded to Mr. D. O. Hill, R.S.A., for his artistic picture of "Dr. John Brown and his Cousin Dr. John Taylor Brown;" for the best frame of six *cartes de visite*, Mr. H. P. Robinson, of Leamington, was the successful competitor; and for the best photograph of any other kind, the Medal was awarded to Mr. Mudd, for his beautiful picture of "The Tay above Dunkeld."

The Council have alluded to one cause of the unsatisfactory result of the Society's last Exhibition, in a pecuniary point of view. They have also for a considerable time been aware that the present place of Exhibition is not well situated for the purpose, and that this operated largely against the success of their Exhibitions. While, therefore, it is very far from their wish to recommend that the Society should discontinue holding their Exhibitions, notwithstanding the loss which has been sustained this year, they would suggest that it should be left to the Council to fix whether or not there should be an Exhibition next year, according as they may succeed in finding rooms better adapted for the purpose, or may otherwise have reason to expect that the Exhibition will not be attended with loss to the Society. In the event of an Exhibition being held, the Council would recommend that the Society's Silver Medal be again offered for the best *portrait* or *group*, and the best *landscape*; and, in addition, that a Medal be given for the best *instantaneous picture*, embracing figures in motion, and of a size not less than 7 inches by 9 inches.

As recommended at the last General Meeting, the Council selected from the Exhibition, and distributed among the Members, a number of valuable photographs. Any Member who may not, from residing in the country or otherwise, have received his copy, will do so, on application to the Honorary Secretary.

As required by the laws of the Society, the President, the Senior Vice-President (Mr. Sheriff Moir), the four senior Members of the Council (Messrs. Scott Elliot, Walker, Kinnear, and Moffat), the Honorary Secretary, and the Honorary Treasurer retire upon this occasion, but are re-eligible.

The Council would suggest that the President, Secretary, and Treasurer be re-elected to their respective offices; and that Mr. Kinnear, who filled the office of Secretary so satisfactorily, be elected a Vice-President; and that the vacancies in the Council be filled up by the re-election of Mr. Elliot, and the election of the Rev. T. D. K. Drummond, Mr. Moir, and Mr. Tunny.

The Treasurer's accounts are herewith submitted to the Society, and a state of the funds is annexed, showing the sum at the Society's credit to be £356 9s. 7d., as compared with £386 18s. 11d. at the close of the preceding year.

After some discussion as to the propriety of reducing the stated Meetings of the Society, it was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the Council. And,

On the motion of Major BELL, seconded by Professor MACDONALD, the Report was unanimously adopted.

On the conclusion of the ordinary business, an exchange of photographs among the Members took place.

State of the Funds at 1st May, 1862.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due by Royal Bank				375	10	[illegible]
Arrears of Subscription considered recoverable				5	[illegible]	[illegible]
				380	[illegible]	[illegible]
Balance due for Photographs purchased	22	6	6			
Balance due to Treasurer	1	19	0	24	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amount of Funds				£356	[illegible]	[illegible]

List of Office-bearers, 1862-3.

President.—Sir David Brewster, K.H., F.R.S., &c.
Vice-Presidents.—Horatio Ross, C. G. H. Kinnear.
Council.—Alex. Young Herries, T. B. Johnston, J. Ramsay Lean, Findley Anderson, Wm. Scott Elliot, Rev. D. T. K. Drummond, George Moir, James Tunny.
Honorary Treasurer.—H. G. Watson.
Honorary Secretary.—A. F. Adam.
Honorary Auditor.—John Cay.

MANCHESTER PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

THE ordinary meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, the 4th ult., 1862, JOHN PARRY, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair.

Mr. CONSTERDINE presented two views for the Society's portfolio,