

# THE PHOTOGRAPHIC NEWS.

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## CONTENTS.

	PAGE	PAGE	
Prizes of the Society of Arts .....	565	New Process of Engraving .....	571
Photographic Progress .....	565	New Photogs for Obtaining Portraits at Night. By M. Mc A. Gaudin .....	572
On the Tannin Process. By W. Warwick, King .....	566	Proceedings of Societies—North London Photographic Association .....	572
A Tribute to the Amateurs. By Mr. Jabez Hughes .....	567	Correspondence—Transferring Negatives to Gutta-percha—Qui Capit, Ille Facit—Photographic Lenses and Distortion—In Self-Defence—Photography in Colours .....	574
Jottings from the Note-Book of a Photographer's Assistant. No. VI.—Alkaline Toning Solutions considered .....	568	Photographic Notes and Queries—Stormy Weather and Photography .....	575
Photographic Residues. By Jacob Ewing .....	568	Talk in the Studio .....	575
Photography in the County Court—Jno. Louis v. Schnadhorst and Hellbronn .....	569	To Correspondents .....	576
Researches on Positive Printing. By MM. Davaune and Girard .....	569	Photographs Registered during the past Week .....	576
1st.—Toning with Acid Chloride of Gold .....	569		
A Few Words in Regard to Lighting Operating Rooms for Portraiture .....	570		

### PRIZES OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.

In the list just issued of subjects for premiums to be distributed by the Society of Arts, during the sessions 1863-4, and 1864-5, are several entries to which we desire to call the attention of photographers. Despite all the arguments to the contrary which have at times been urged, and despite the petty jealousies and discontents which sometimes arise out of the awards, the system of prize-giving is incontestably a stimulus to emulation and competition, and these to improvement and progress. The premiums offered by the Society of Arts have been, in times past, productive of much good, from which the public at large have reaped solid results; and we do not doubt that the prizes offered in the list just issued will materially aid in giving point and direction to ingenious effort and inventive energy in the coming sessions. Various improvements and desiderata in photography, and the allied arts, are set down for prizes. The subjects are, as might have been anticipated, chiefly those improvements in photography in relation to ornamental purposes and to economics; the processes desired being such as are of the utmost importance in themselves, and well worthy the best energies of the ingenious photographer. We shall look with much interest for the issue, and hope that a brisk competition will be followed by the most perfect results.

The subjects for which the Society's medal is offered are as follows:—

**PHOTOGRAPHS ON ENAMEL.**—For the best portrait obtained photographically and burnt in in enamel.

**PHOTOGRAPHS ON CHINA.**—For the production of a dessert or other service, in china or earthenware, ornamented by means of photography and burnt in from an impression obtained, either directly from the negative, or from a transfer from a metal plate obtained directly from the photograph.

**PHOTOGRAPHS ON GLASS.**—For a table service in glass ornamented by means of photography, under similar conditions to the above.

**PHOTOGRAPHS ON WINDOWS.**—For the production commercially of ornamental glass for windows by means of vitrified photographs.

There are many other subjects for which prizes are offered which may interest the chemical and photographic experimentalist, such as a rapid means of reproducing designs for calico printing, in which it is probable photographic engraving and block-printing may be found useful; for a cheap spectroscope; for a simple and efficient dialysing apparatus; substitutes for albumen, &c. For details regarding these, we must refer our readers to the Society's published list.

We subjoin the conditions of competition which it will be seen are wide and liberal, taking no advantage of any kind of the competitor, but affording him the fullest opportunity of deriving the fullest profit, as well as honour from his invention:—

Patented inventions are not excluded from receiving the Society's awards.

The Society is willing to receive communications on subjects not included in the following list, but in all cases expressly reserves the power of rewarding any communication according to its merit, or of withholding the premium altogether.

The degree of originality and extent of suggestions for improvements will have material influence on the adjudication of the award.

In all cases a full account and description of the invention for which a premium or medal is sought must be sent to the Society.

All communications must be written on foolscap paper, on one side only, with an inch and a quarter margin. They must be accompanied by such drawings, models, or specimens as may be necessary to illustrate the subject. The drawings should be on a sufficiently large scale to be seen from a distance when suspended on the walls of a meeting room.

In regard to Colonial Produce of all kinds, it is absolutely necessary that a certificate from the Governor, or other qualified person, should accompany the samples sent to the Society, certifying that they really are the produce of the particular district referred to. The samples should be sufficient in quantity to enable experiments to be made, and an opinion to be formed of their quality; and it is desirable that the cost price in the district from which they are forwarded should be given. In every instance the probable extent of supply, with the average yield, if cultivated; and whether similar articles have hitherto been exported from the colony or not, and in what quantities, should be stated.

All communications and articles intended for competition must be delivered, addressed to the Secretary, at the Society's House, free of expense, either on or before the 31st of March, 1864, or on or before the 31st of March, 1865, except where otherwise stated. In the first case they will be considered during the session 1863-64, in the second case during the session 1864-65. This restriction, as to the date of receipt, does not apply to articles of colonial produce, in respect of which this list is valid until 31st December, 1865.

A communication rewarded by the Society, or any paper read at an ordinary meeting, will be considered as the property of the Society. Should the council delay its publication beyond twelve months after the date of its being rewarded or read, the author will be permitted to take a copy of the same, and to publish it in any way he thinks fit.

Unrewarded communications and articles must be applied for at the close of each session, between the third Wednesday in June and the last Wednesday in July, after which the Society will be no longer responsible for their return.—By order,  
October, 1863. P. LE NEVE FOSTER, Secretary.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC PROGRESS.

Amongst the many signs of the prosperity of photography and of its growing and extending importance, we are glad to record the establishment of photographic societies in places where, until recently, nothing of the kind existed. A photographic society is at the present in course of being established in Berlin. A provisional committee has been appointed to make the preliminary arrangements, and to invite the leading photographers of the city to a general