

for the representation of remarkable sites the point of view as well as the optical conditions under which the perspective and the details of the objects will be brought out with the greatest clearness.

"Photography, as a faithful representative of nature, alone offers the guarantees of accuracy and truth which must be sought for in the preparation of the new diorama. Photographic proofs are, therefore, valuable materials which the Imperial Commission will thankfully accept from all persons who may be willing to co-operate in this part of its work. Special mention will be made of those who send contributions which may furnish useful information. Contributions are to be addressed, carriage paid, and as free gifts, to the Councillor of State, General Commissioner, Palais de l'Industrie, Champs Elysées, Door No. 4, before the 11th of November, 1866."

Recent Patents.

MAGIC PHOTOGRAPHS.

BY WILHELM GRUNE.

This process, which only received provisional protection, consists, it will be seen, of the well-known method of producing what are termed "magic photographs":—

The object of my invention is to prepare photographs in such a way that, if desired, they may be made invisible upon the paper, and afterwards be permanently reproduced in their original condition and with the greatest facility.

The photographs from which it is desired to obtain copies are taken upon albumenized paper which has been previously washed with a solution of silver and dried. The photographs are then fixed with subsulphite of soda, and afterwards washed and dried; they are then put into a solution of chloride of mercury, and there left until the picture has become totally invisible; they are then soaked for about six hours in cold water, and afterwards dried.

To cause the reproduction of the photograph upon the paper I prepare a filtering paper, which is made by soaking in a solution of subsulphite of soda, and when the same is dry, and it is desired to reproduce the photograph upon the first-mentioned paper, I lay the sheet of paper upon which the invisible photograph is, with the glazed side uppermost, and take a sheet of the filtering paper and place it on the top of the aforesaid invisible photograph; I then moisten them with water until both are completely saturated, when it will be perceived that the photograph, which was before invisible, will rapidly make its appearance, which effect is caused by the action of the subsulphite of soda in the filtering paper, which dissolves and "brings out" the photograph. The picture is then to be washed several times in clean water, and, when dry, may be mounted in any desired manner.

NEW EFFECTS IN PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITURE.

BY W. SILVESTER LAROCHE.

The object of this invention, which received provisional protection only, is to produce a picture in which the portrait is enclosed in a frame. The details are as follows:—

My invention consists in placing the person or persons whose portrait or portraits is or are to be taken, in front of any background in use among photographers, and then placing in front of and close to the sitter or sitters a screen or frame about six feet high and five feet wide, or any other suitable dimensions, covered with canvas or linen, or any other suitable material, and having an opening cut in the centre of it, of any required size or shape; the front of such opening to be fitted up and surrounded with an ornamental frame of any design. The ornamentation can be removable, and so be changed and arranged to be emblematical of the position in society or occupation of the sitter or sitters by using figures, trophies, models, or any other description of ornamentation.

The screen or frame, covered with canvas or linen, and having the opening therein fitted up as aforesaid, is made to slide up and down a groove in a framework, which is made to

support it in a perpendicular position, and can be raised or lowered to suit the height of any person or persons, by means of counterweights with ropes attached, running over wheels fitted to the framework, or by means of a rack-and-pinion adjustment fixed at the side of the aforesaid framework, and worked with a crank handle, or in any other suitable manner. I then employ a photographic camera and lens, and, by means of any of the photographic processes now in use, photograph the frame and sitter or sitters at the same time, the result being a complete cabinet picture of any size, with portrait and ornamental frame complete; the negative to be printed in the usual manner.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CHAMBERS OR TENTS.

BY EDGAR COX.

MR. Cox exhibited an example of his very ingenious and convenient tent before the Photographic Society last session. The patent was not completed. In the provisional specification it was described as follows:—

This invention has for its object improvements in portable dark chambers or tents, for the purposes of photographic manipulation in the field, and of containing and transporting the necessary apparatus, and is as follows:—I make use of an oblong or other conveniently formed box or case, having a lid or cover hinged to it at one side. To this lid or cover is hinged or jointed an additional part or flap, which turns down and lies beneath it when the box or case is closed. To each end of the box or case is hinged a flap corresponding in length with that of the combined lid or cover and flap before mentioned, so that on placing them together with the lid or cover and its flap in a vertical, or nearly vertical position, they may join and be secured together by thumbscrews or otherwise, at their corresponding sides or edges, so as to form three sides of a parallelogram or analogous figure. Within the box or case, and beneath the cover and flaps described, is situated a washing trough or sink for enabling the plates in course of preparation to be washed as required; and above it (when the chamber or tent is in use) is situated a tap or cock, which, at other times, is removed and carried in the trough or sink, which is also at those times made to contain a cistern capable (when the cover and flap are placed in their vertical position) of being suspended outside, and connected by india-rubber tubing or otherwise with the tap placed above the washing trough or sink as described, the waste water from which is carried off by means of a similar tube attached when working to the outside of the box or case. Within the box or case, and beyond the ends of the washing trough or sink, are trays or cases for carrying the chemicals required for immediate use, the tap, india-rubber tubes, and other miscellaneous articles, as also a stand for such bottles as may for the time be in use when an operator is working. A deep recess extending below the level of the trough or sink is provided for containing the bath, which, when in use, may be raised partially out of the recess, and made to rest upon a ledge or shelf, which may be drawn out or let down for the purpose. In operating, the necessary amount of non-actinic light is admitted to the chamber or tent by means of windows of coloured glass in the raised flap of the cover of the box or case, all other light being excluded by means of a tent cloth or cover stretched across and secured to the tops or around the edges of the flaps, and after passing over a removable frame carried by the flaps descending loosely at the back of the operator, round whose waist it is then secured in such manner as to prevent the passage of light between his body and the cloth, the straight edge of which is secured by screws and slips or otherwise to the front of the box or case, the necessary air being admitted through the box by a suitable channel excluding light. The box or case is formed with a door giving access to a space (situated beneath the trough or sink and trays before mentioned), in which may be carried the tent cloth or cover, and necessary instruments, as also such chemicals as it may be necessary to carry in addition to those carried for immediate use above. In order to transport the box or case from place to place as required, and to support it (when opened and in use) at a suitable height for the convenience of the operator, I make use of a four-wheeled carriage, which may, if desired, be made to take in pieces, and upon the frame of which the box is carried. The carriage is also constructed with a water tank or reservoir, in which water