

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC NEWS.

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SENDING PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE EXHIBITION OF 1867.

We are glad to be able at length to announce some arrangements which will, we trust, facilitate the transmission, &c., of photographs to the forthcoming Exhibition. The best arrangements we can announce, however, are the result of individual effort rather than of organization or combination amongst photographers. We proceed briefly to describe the most recent steps in the matter, and the present state of affairs.

In accordance with an announcement in our pages a few weeks ago, a meeting of intending exhibitors was held on the evening of the 27th ultimo, at the Society of Arts, in a room kindly lent by Mr. Peter Le Neve Foster, who had also obtained a communication from Col. Wylde, in which he specifically stated the modifications in the general arrangements which would be made on behalf of photographers. The British Executive, he stated, would undertake to receive in Paris, unpack, and hang all the works of British photographers. All other necessary steps must be undertaken either by individual exhibitors, or by such agent as a combination of them might appoint.

It remained therefore for this meeting to arrange for the transmission of the contributions to Paris, to take charge of the packing-cases there, and to repack and retransmit the pictures to England at the close of the Exhibition. An agent who was in attendance was wishful to undertake the framing and glazing of the photographs in Paris, receiving them in London unframed, and making a charge for the use of the frames. Besides the fact that most photographers who intended to exhibit were already in possession of frames, and that many would prefer to frame their pictures according to their own taste, the terms proposed appeared to be prohibitory. The price proposed for the use of frames was six shillings per superficial foot, which would average about a guinea for each 12 by 10 photograph, with the usual margin. In addition to this, a charge of fifteen shillings per square foot would be required for looking after the pictures, and a charge of ten shillings per hundredweight for carriage. This agent was indisposed to take charge of the transmission simply. After some discussion of plans, the meeting was adjourned for a week, to obtain information as to possible means for effecting the end required.

The first meeting was scantily attended, but the adjourned meeting was worse, only three intending exhibitors being present. Whether this was due to the extremely bad weather, to the prevalent festive engagements, to a reliance felt by the many that somebody would do the duties, or to sheer apathy, we cannot say. We hope not the latter, as it would augur ill for the display of British photography in Paris. Mr. Debenham, who ably

occupied the chair on both occasions, read various communications and offers of service. These were for the most part of too indefinite a nature to base operations upon. We were fortunately able, however, to place a proposition before the exhibitors present, of a practical and satisfactory nature, which was at once accepted by those present.

Some weeks ago Mr. C. E. Elliott, having read in our pages the statement of the dilemma in which photographers were placed in this matter, wrote to us, offering to receive the packages of photographers in London, and transmit them in bulk to Paris at a comparatively nominal cost, not with a view to making profit out of the transaction, but from an unwillingness to "see photographers fleeced." This offer referred simply to the transmission of goods to Paris; and as, soon after receiving this letter, the question of a meeting for combined action was raised, we allowed Mr. Elliott's offer to remain in abeyance until we saw what organization might effect. After the first meeting, however, we felt it desirable, on behalf of photographers, to see Mr. Elliott, and, if possible, induce him to extend his offer to the return of the pictures to London at the close of the Exhibition as well as their transmission to Paris. This we were able to effect, and we will now state detailed instructions.

Mr. Elliott undertakes to receive at his warehouse, 36, Jewin Street, E.C., the cases of photographers intending to exhibit, where he will pack them in large cases, and transmit them to the Exhibition Building in Paris, and deliver them to the proper authorities. He will take charge of the packing-cases, repack the pictures, and bring them back to his warehouse in London at the following charges for the whole transaction:—For every fifty pounds' weight, or part of fifty pounds, the sum of ten shillings, payable in advance.

To facilitate arrangements, the following conditions should be strictly observed:—All pictures must be framed and glazed and packed properly in cases by the exhibitors; and, for safety, it is desirable that the glasses should be firmly fastened in the frames with strips of glued paper, so as to lessen the risk of fracture by vibration. Each frame should have the name and address of the sender, with a memorandum of the number of frames sent, and the specific number of the frame in question, pasted on the back. A similar statement of the name and address and number of frames should be pasted at the bottom of the case, and inside the lid of each case.

The packing-cases containing the pictures, fully addressed, should be forwarded to Mr. Elliott, 36, Jewin Street, London, E.C., the name and address of the sender, and the word "Exhibition" outside. Every case must be delivered to Mr. Elliott, carriage free, before the 15th of February.

It is desirable that each photographer intending to avail himself of this arrangement should inform Mr. Elliott of