

Mr. GEORGE WARDLEY stated that the collodion used must have been of a very powdery nature; and in the general discussion which followed, he (Mr. Wardley) said that for collodio-albumen plates he preferred a simply iodised collodion in preference to bromo-iodised, as he had found that when a bromo-iodised collodion was used the bromide of silver was converted into iodide of silver upon the application of the iodised albumen.

Mr. CHAPMAN exhibited two  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by  $6\frac{1}{2}$  tourists' cameras, made by Mr. Lane, of London, and an instantaneous shutter. Mr. W. J. Chadwick (Hon. Sec.), on behalf of Mr. Chapman, described these, and called attention to their extreme portability and the novel arrangement of swing-back and other important improvements. The cameras and shutter were much admired by all present.

After a vote of thanks to the gentlemen who had contributed to the interest of the proceedings, the meeting was adjourned.

#### GLASGOW PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION.

THE first annual supper was held in the "Athol Arms" on Thursday, April 15, under the presidency of Mr. John Urie, with Mr. A. Robertson as croupier. There was a good attendance of professionals and amateurs, and with toasts, music, and conversation, a most agreeable evening was passed. The proceedings closed by drinking the Chairman's health with Highland honours.

### Talk in the Studio.

**SOUTH LONDON PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.**—The next meeting of this Society will take place on Thursday next, May 6th, at 8 p.m., in the rooms of the Society of Arts, Adelphi, when papers will be read by Mr. E. Cocking, "On the Pyramidal form of Composition in Pictorial Works," who will also give practical demonstrations on the black board; and by Mr. F. York, on "The Ferrous Oxalate Developer, with Results of Experiments."

OUR versatile correspondent, Mr. George Bradforde, of Bath, sends us a selection of cabinet pictures, for the most part bust portraits, bright, vigorous, and well modelled. The lighting not only proclaims the well-trained photographer, but the art-student as well. A genre picture Mr. Bradforde also sends, is something more than a portrait; a roguish little scamp of some three or four years has wandered upon forbidden ground, and wickedly thrown down the board enjoining "trespassers beware." The satisfaction of the tiny lad as he sits there after this flagrant outrage is very apparent in his laughing face.

**SUICIDE OF A PHOTOGRAPHER WITH CYANIDE OF POTASSIUM.**—An extraordinary suicide took place on the 1st ult. at Fitzroy (Australia). W. H. Brace, a lad of fifteen, conceived a strong affection for a girl named Rosa Coote, three years younger than himself. They had a quarrel, during which she, doubtless in jest, told him to kill himself. Unfortunately, he took the remark seriously. He obtained some cyanide of potassium—which he could easily do, being employed in a photographer's establishment—swallowed it, and laid himself down opposite the girl's father's house, where he was found on Sunday night in a dying condition. He expired shortly afterwards. The following letter was attached to his wrist:—"February 29th, 1880.—My dear Rosa,—I will have by the time you get this letter faithfully obeyed your command by killing myself. You hated me, and I loved you.—I still remain yours, W. H. BRACE."

**DAGONET**, in *The Referee*, says:—"I see that the early photos of Gladstone are being looked up, and we are threatened with one of him as a child of three. This sort of thing adds a new terror to photography. Fancy what our heroes will come to in later days. Imagine, if photography had flourished in the olden times, and to-day we were asked to admire the Duke of Wellington in long clothes, or Nelson in his perambulator. Fancy Tommy Carlyle, aged one, naked on a velvet cushion, and described as 'Thomas Carlyle, the Chelsea Sage,' or Gladstone, aged two, in a little chemise, as 'Ginx's Baby,' and labelled in the shop windows, 'Early Portrait of the Premier.' I was photographed when I was four, in a short frock and drawers and long ringlets. Fancy, some day when I'm Laureate, how horrified I shall be to see this stuck up in the Burlington Arcade, and labelled, 'Dagonet.'"

### To Correspondents.

All Communication connected with Advertisements and Business to be addressed to Messrs. PIPER AND CARTER, "Photographic News" Office, 5, Castle Street, Holborn, E.C. Advertisers are requested to make all Cheques payable to Messrs. PIPER AND CARTER, and crossed "Union Bank, Photographic News Account."

**ENQUIRER.**—Both the oxalate and the iron are reducing agents; together they work very vigorously. The acid is the restrainer. The density is controlled by the period you permit the plate to remain in the developing bath.

**STUDIO.**—We cannot offer advice as to your taking up photography. Gelatine plates will have no effect in altering the build of studios, although they will permit photography, no doubt, to be undertaken in ordinary rooms. From our "At Homes" it will be seen that few studios are built on cut-and-dried principles. No. 1. Oblong shape with ridge roof is a good form; one side should be lighted from the north if possible. No. 2. Papier mineral would be no doubt very suitable, but it should be removable. No. 3. No objection to a wood-lined iron studio; as to comparative cost, we must refer you to a builder. No. 4. We repeat, Messrs. W. and D. Downey's studio is all ground glass where transparent; as to extent in your own, you must form your own judgment. We will consider your suggestion, and thank you for it.

**INFLAMMABLE.**—A simple way to render fabric unflammable is, by using borax in the starching. One teaspoonful of borax should be used to each pint of starch after water has been added.

**BLOT.**—One of the best ways to remove ink stains from paper is to apply with a brush—

Chloride of tin	...	...	...	...	2 parts
Water	...	...	...	...	4 "

afterwards pass the paper through cold water; writing can of course be removed in the same way.

**NEMO.**—An oxy-hydrogen lamp would be the most suitable for you. You will find the formula for sensitizing and developing, in a practical paper of Dr. Van Monckhoven, which appeared in the *Photographic Journal* of Dec. 1869, and a few days afterwards in the *News*.

**G. J.**—*Bulletin de la Societe Francaise*, 20, Rue Louis-le-Grand, Paris.

**A. B. J.**—The ordinary protosulphate as used in the wet collodion process. We employ distilled water, but it should not be necessary. We cannot account for your non-success; put the iron into your developing cup first.

**DR. SCHNAUSS.**—Thank you for letter duly received.

**ADOLPH OTT.**—Your change of address noted. We shall always be glad to hear from you.

**A SUBSCRIBER.**—It is the lens, and not the camera, that has focal length. For 15 by 12 pictures your camera should be able to open out to 28 or 30 inches, but it all depends on the kind of lens you use. You must get to see a few cameras, they are constructed so differently. "Practical Portrait Photography" is a simple book, and can be obtained on application to our publishers.

**E. J. ELLERY.**—We will make enquiries for you.

**HELIO.**—You will find an article in another column on this very subject; the way the sun's rays are flashed a distance of fifty miles in a straight line, and made to speak, is there explained. The instrument is called a heliograph; hence your mistake.

**W. L.**—You may levigate the pumice-stone powder yourself. Powder the pumice-stone as fine as you can, and put an ounce of it into a quart vessel of water; stir well, and allow the liquid to remain for ten minutes, then pour off half of the water carefully, which contains the finer particles in suspension, into another vessel. You may either allow the fine particles to settle, or you may filter. These particles are what is termed levigated. It is a process often used by chemists for separating coarse particles from the fine.

**JULIUS CÆSAR.**—If you tone with iridium and gold you will find your transparencies much improved; they will not have the "dirty look" you complain about. See "Answers to Correspondents" three or four weeks ago.

**BRIGHTON.**—Dynamite is simply a siliceous earth impregnated with nitro-glycerine, which is made in a different manner to gun-cotton. To make nitro-glycerine, you mix ordinary glycerine with nitric acid, and let the mixture fall drop by drop, or in a thin stream, into water, when the nitro-glycerine separates. Chemists explain the change in this wise. The oxidizing action of the nitric acid removes three equivalents of hydrogen from the glycerine, and replaces them by equivalents of nitric peroxide. As it is rather difficult to employ an explosive in liquid form, a spongy earth is chosen to suck it up. The clay in the dynamite fulfils no other purpose than that of a sponge.

**F. MORRIS.**—So long as you do not mix the two solutions of oxalate and protosulphate of iron, they will keep for an indefinite time. As the material is very inexpensive, you can have no compunction in throwing away the liquid.