Talk in the Studio.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ALBANY.—Messrs. George Tuohy and Co., of Richmond, send us two capital groups of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Albany and other visitors on the occasion of the distribution of prizes at the Royal School for Daughters of Officers in the Army at Roehampton. Messrs. Tuohy state that it was "raining steadily" during the time; but they do not say whether they attribute the success of the pictures to this circumstance.

NOTTAGE AND ANOTHER *v.* JACKSON.—This was an appeal of the plaintiffs from a judgment of Mr. Justice Field, at the trial of this action in Middlesex. The plaintiffs were Mr. Alderman Nottage and Mr. Kinnaird, who carried on business under the title of the London Stereoscopic Company, at Cheapside, and Regent Street, W. They had sought to restrain the defendant, who was a photographer at Leeds, from infringing on their copyright of the "Australian Cricketers" taken on their behalf at the Kennington Oval in June, 1882. It appeared that the plaintiff's manager arranged with the captain of the Australian team to photograph the group at the Oval, and their artist, Mr. Reynolds, attended and took the negative from which the positives were taken. The negative was subsequently sent to the works of the plaintiffs at Barnet, where copies were made, and the photograph was registered under the Copyright Act, and the names of the plaintiffs appeared on it as the authors. The photographer who took the negative was admitted to be in the service of the plaintiffs, and was their paid servant directed to do certain duties, a part of which was to take negatives under instructions. Objection was taken at the trial that the plaintiffs were not the authors of the photograph, but Reynolds, who took the negative; therefore there was no ground of action. The defendants contended that the man who actually took the negative was the author of the photograph, and in him alone the copyright was vested. The negative was vested in the photographer, as he actually did the work. The plantiffs maintained that they were the authors of the photograph, and had registered themselves as such; but the defendant responded that the plaintiffs were merely the proprietors, and nothing more. The learned judge who tried the action, took the view of the case as set up by the defendants, and entered judgment for them. Their Lordships said that they would take time to consider judgment.

MAUD [looking at a picture of the Laocoon group].—"Why are the men in that photograph up there making such faces, Aunty?" AUNTY: "Because they have sinned, dear; and, as a punishment, there came two great snakes and bit them most fearfully." MAUD [after a pause]: But, Aunty, wasn't it silly of them to be photographed when they were like that?"—*Funny Folks.*

A LEAKY ELECTRIC CONDUCTOR.—A crowd of men and boys gathered on the sidewalk in Maiden Lane, New York, one Saturday afternoon recently. At very frequent intervals somebody would exclaim, "Here comes one!" and then everybody would smile with a pleasurable expectation, and turn their eyes towards an approaching horse and truck. The driver, meanwhile, with that supercilious indifference peculiar to his class, would scarcely deign to notice the crowd or remove his gaze from his jogging beast. Suddenly, when his horse reached a certain spot in the street pavement, the animal would give a spavined and convulsive leap, shake up the driver with a violent jerk, and continue on his way at a lively pace. Then the crowd would laugh and the driver swear. When a team came along sometimes only one horse would be affected, but the pair always jumped ahead in rattling style. These phenomena invariably occurred when the horses reached the same spot in the street pavement. The underground electric light wire had become disarranged, and a metal plate in the roadway was strongly charged with electricity, so that when the iron shoe of a horse touched it, the animal experienced a severe shock. The fun lasted until a policeman came along and warned drivers to take the side of the road.—*Detroit Free Press.*

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB.—At the next meeting of this Club, August 1st, the subject for discussion will be "On the Selection of Views."

To Correspondents.

CHARLES WILKINS.—The alcohol of the varnish dissolves the pyroxyline, and the addition of a few drops of water to each ounce of varnish will probably prevent this.

S. ROSENTHAL.—We regret your disappointment, but it shall not last long. Our columns have been so crowded of late, that it has been difficult to find space for the articles in question. Now the Societies are not so busy, we shall be able to have matters more our own way, and hope to gratify you.

J. MAYCHELL.—1. Try the compound emulsion of Dr. Vogel. Details for its preparation will be found on p. 378 of the present volume. 2. Your best way will be to obtain Pritchard's "Studios of Europe."

F. H. DAVIES.—First make as good a copy as practicable in case of injury to the original; after which the original should be flooded with a five-grain solution of potassium cyanide, this being allowed to act until the stains disappear. Wash well with water.

N. B. C.—1. It cannot be so, as excess of nitrate is always present. 2. Use a solution of pure wax in benzole, 10 grains to the ounce.

V. X.—You will doubtless be able to pay it into a bank for its full value, but if you prefer to make it into chloride, proceed as follows:—Note the weight, and next dissolve it in a mixture of three ounces of strong hydrochloric acid and one ounce of nitric acid, the most convenient mode of dissolving being to put the materials in a glass flask, and this flask on a dish of sand placed on the kitchen hob. The fumes will then go up the chimney and do no harm. When solution is complete, pour out the contents of the flask into a clean saucer, and allow this to remain on the dish of sand until all the free acid has evaporated, and a crystalline residue remains, after which add water at the rate of two drachms for each grain of gold originally used. The solution may be regarded as containing one grain of chloride of gold to each drachm, and the small proportion of copper which is present will not interfere with the process of toning.

TORY.—Put a handful of salt in your water. If you have our "Studios of Europe," consult Mr. Payne Jennings on Toning.

H. SCHUSTER.—Thank you very much; but, as you will see, our friend, M. Léon Vidal, forwards us French correspondence regularly.

A. BARRETT.—We rather think the defects are due to grease in the gelatine. Try another sample. Otherwise, the emulsion appears to be very good.

E. D. G.—Try the following:—

Best arrowroot	3½	ounces
Water	28	,,
Gelatine or glue	160	grains
Methylated spirit	2	ounces
Carbolic acid	12	drops

Mix the arrowroot, with six ounces of the water, into a paste, then add rest of water and the soaked gelatine. Boil and stir for three or four minutes, then let partly cool. Finally, add the carbolic acid and spirit. Keep stirring till properly mixed. This mounting solution will keep, and does not cockle the prints. You can, of course, take less quantities if you please.

T. W.—We think your error lies in over-development. Pushing too far is bound to produce flat pictures, and then intensification is necessary. The "little boy" would have been better but for this. Intensify this negative with the bichloride formula on p. 197 of our YEAR-BOOK, and we think you will be satisfied with the result.

B. COLLENETTE.—Very likely the mounts contain sodium chloride, or common salt. Soak two or three of them in distilled water for a couple of hours, and then add a drop of nitrate of silver solution, to see if any turbidity results. If this is the case, salt is present, and this attracts moisture, and will ruin the print. The experiment is a very simple one. We have frequently found salt present in black mounts.

RETORT.—From the circumstance that the phenomenon appears in the plate, on development, even when the latter has not been exposed to light, there is little doubt, we think, that the defect is due to coarse grains of silver bromide. According to Dr. Eder, reduction will take place. It is possible you boil a little too much; or that the silver solution you use is rather too concentrated. The fault may arise from either of these heads. Mr. Cowan, who employs salycilic acid, is quite satisfied with it, and the amount you employ is not excessive.

B. SANDILAND.—Test the solution with red litmus paper; if it turns blue, the salt is alkaline, and should be rejected.

C. LIGHTFOOT.—1. See Leader this week. 2. A name occasionally applied to 10 by 8 plates. 3. A glass vessel is much to be preferred.

J. HARROLD.—Considerable changes are likely to take place shortly, the scale of fees being considerably reduced. It may therefore be worth your while to wait.

ANDREW C——.—1. We imagine your glass has been imperfectly cleaned. A good mixture is made by dissolving one drachm of iodine in one pint of methylated spirit, and adding three ounces of tripoli. 2. The bath should just show a faint acid re-action when a piece of litmus paper is immersed, and as you become more experienced, you will be able to work satisfactorily with a bath more nearly neutral.

G. F. WEBBER, PHOTOGRAPHER, and several other Correspondents in our next.