

tion enjoyed by the various photographic societies in London, but not one of the London Associations is so well off in this respect as the Society of Amateur Photographers in New York, as each active member of this latter Society is entitled to use the dark room at any time. Here is the rule:—Each active member is entitled to the free use of the Society's dark room and library at any time, access to the rooms being had by a key in the elevator, which key will be given to the member on showing his membership ticket to the elevator boy.

A curious light is thrown on that very indefinite being, the photographic canvasser, by some proceedings which took place last week in the Marylebone Police Court. One of the fraternity was charged with assaulting an operator. According to the evidence of the latter, the canvasser entered the studio, where "he had no right to be," and on being warned that he must behave himself, struck the operator a blow in the jaw; whereupon a scrimmage took place, in the course of which the canvasser added to the blow a scratch on the face. The defence was that the canvasser asked the operator to give him his canvassing frame out of the studio, and as the operator would not, he went for it himself, and in return the operator "went" for him. The magistrate did not take a very serious view of the matter, probably considering the statement that "both parties had been drinking together," a full explanation, and bound the canvasser over to be of good behaviour. It is to be hoped that only the operator suffered in the affray, for a more unsuitable place for a pugilistic encounter than a photographic studio we cannot imagine. Canvassers must evidently be very dangerous individuals, or it would not be held that a studio is a place where they "have no right to be."

According to the *Lady's Pictorial*, an artist mounted on a scaffolding has been sketching what remains of the countenance and figure of good Queen Anne, whose statue in front of St. Paul's has for so long been an object of derision. If it is necessary to produce a duplicate of the present not very noble object, why is it not photographed?

Nothing in the whole range of annoyances to which the photographer is subject is worse than the cracking of a valuable negative in the printing-frame. It is a fatality difficult to guard against, and impossible to foresee. Unequal pressure, unequal expansion, an inequality of surface, will each effect the purpose; but the cause primarily is the brittle and unyielding nature of glass. We are not aware whether De la Bastie's toughened glass has ever been used for photographic purposes; probably, were it not for the awkward fact that the merest scratch sometimes sends it flying into a thousand splinters, it would prove superior to the ordinary article.

Mr. F. Siemens, of Dresden, has, however, been making experiments, which have resulted in a glass quite as tough as De la Bastie's, without the drawback referred to. Mr. Siemens heats his glass in a radiation furnace, and cools it

between metal plates in a press, by which means it is enormously increased in strength, and, if desired, can be made so hard that a diamond will not make an impression on its surface. This hard surface presents another advantage for photography, as the chances of a chemical combination being set up with the salts of silver in the film are reduced to a minimum. In the days when plates were used over and over again, troubles from this source were innumerable.

Patent Intelligence.

Applications for Letters Patent.

3755. HAROLD DENNIS TAYLOR, 6, Grosvenor Terrace, Bootham, Yorkshire, for "The improvement of photometers for estimating photographic exposures by the employment of standard parliamentary candles, &c."—24th March, 1885.
3766. ALFRED HORACE DAWES, 8, Quality Court, London, for Improved apparatus for transporting and exposing sensitised films or plates."—24th March, 1885.
3778. ALEXANDER MELVILLE CLARKE, 53, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., for "Improvements in photographic paper and in sensitive emulsions therefor."—*E. & H. T. Anthony and Co., United States.*—(Complete Specification.)—24th March, 1885.
3996. ALEXANDER COWAN, 36, Porchester Terrace, Bayswater, London, for "An improved automatic camera and changing-box combined."—30th March, 1885.

Patents Sealed.

3865. THOMAS JAMES, 37, Renshaw Street, Liverpool, county of Lancashire, Sewing Machine Agent, for "Improvements in the process of obtaining typographical impressions from photo-relief surfaces."—Dated 25th February, 1884.

Specifications Published during the Week.

424. ALEXANDER LAMONT HENDERSON, of 49, King William Street, in the City of London, Photographer, "Improved method of and apparatus for coating glass or other plates, paper, cardboard, or other material, with liquefied gelatine or other fluids particularly applicable for coating plates for use in photography."—Dated 12th January, 1885.

A band and reservoir apparatus, having some resemblance to the apparatus figured on page 199, but the point specially claimed is a stop-cock arrangement for regulating the flow automatically as each plate comes under the duct.

7606. DUNCAN CAMPBELL DALLAS, of 12, Crane Court, Fleet Street, in the City of London, Engraver and Printer, for "Improvements in obtaining printing and other surfaces."—Dated 6th February, 1885.

My improvements have for their object the production of drawings or designs upon metal and other suitable surfaces by means of a heated pen of the character described in the specification of Letters Patent granted to John Henry Johnson, dated 9th May, 1881, No. 2016; and in the specification of a Patent now being applied for by William Henry Dalton, dated 26th February, 1884, No. 3985, both inventions being communications from Samuel Henry Crocker, late of Railton, Tasmania, but now of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, Mechanical Engineer.

When the drawing is complete, the surface is rendered conducting by any of the well-known means which will not injure the drawing—viz., by coating with plumbago, copper, or other suitable metallic bronze powders or solutions. After a sufficiently thick deposit of metal has been made upon the drawing, the surfaces are separated, and after being properly prepared for the purpose, it can be printed from after the manner of copper-plate printing, or used for any purpose to which intaglio designs can be applied, such as for rollers for calico printing, dies, and surfaces for embossing, plates for pottery decoration, goldsmiths' work, furniture plaques, and other artistic work.

In place of depositing metal upon the original drawing made by means of the hot pen, casts may be taken therefrom in plaster of Paris or other suitable material, which can be employed either for stereotyping, printing, or for decorative or other artistic purposes either in intaglio or relief.

8566. GEORGE WILSON MORGAN, Photographer, 5, Crimon