

Dr. GEBARD SMITH asked if the paper would not become slower if wetted.

Mr. FRY said not if plain paper were used.

Mr. HARVERSON asked what would the exposure be for artificial light, and was informed that it depended on the quality of light; if oxy-hydrogen, just about the same as daylight.

Mr. LAW wanted to know whether an ordinary lens would do for enlargement.

Mr. FRY thought it perfectly suitable. Other members took part in discussion.

The demonstration then took place; no acid bath was used; the paper and opals were washed with a large piece of cotton wool. A stain was perceptible as of fog, but on being treated by the lecturer with tincture of iodine it disappeared. In answer to a question by the secretary as to the extra cost of opals over bromide paper, Mr. Fry informed the members that there had to be such great care exercised in the cleaning that extra cost was incurred thereby, the slightest finger-marks affecting result.

The next meeting will be on April 9th, owing to adjournment for the holidays.

THE GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held in the Association's rooms on Monday, 16th March, when five new members were elected.

Mr. J. W. MCKENZIE gave a description and demonstration of the parchment collographic process recently brought before the London societies by Mr. Warnerke. Mr. McKenzie produced a number of prints, and the process was watched with interest by the members.

Mr. HUGH REID exhibited a camera fitted with a telescope as a focussing finder, and showed negatives of vessels in motion taken with the apparatus.

The meeting closed with the usual show of lantern slides, amongst which were ninety-five views in the Yellowstone Park, U.S.A., and a number of miscellaneous slides by members.

Mr. SHAPOOR N. BHEDWAR, who won one of the gold medals at the Liverpool International Photographic Exhibition, was a photographic pupil of Mr. R. W. Robinson.

PHOTOGRAVURE PRINTS.—We have received from Messrs. Annan and Swan some specimens of exceedingly fine prints by the photogravure process, which is noted for its capacity to give highly artistic results. One of the prints is an admirable likeness of Mr. J. W. Swan, which ought to be on public sale because of the great scientific services he has rendered to photography and electricity.

RECEIVED.—From Messrs. Perken, Son, and Rayment, the sixteenth edition of "Intensity Coils," being a beginner's guide to electricity, describing the way to make batteries, bells, coils, electric light, telegraphs, phonographs, and so on.—From Mr. H. Park, a catalogue, including a useful list, with prices, of camera fittings, with illustrations of the latter in exact sizes.—Another catalogue to hand is that of the Thornton-Pickard Manufacturing Co.'s photographic specialities, including shutters and shutter accessories, and cameras with accessories. The Company call attention to the improvement made in the "time and instantaneous" shutter, whereby the pointer does not require setting for each exposure, as in the earlier patterns.—From David Nutt, specimen pages containing Appendices and Vocabulary for Cyclists and Photographers, to appear in a new edition of "Swan's Colloquial French for Travellers."—From Ross and Co., a new catalogue, from which we learn that they have erected large new works near Clapham Common, and putting an improved form of iris diaphragm in their lens mounts.

ALL communications should be as brief as the importance of the subject will permit, when speedy publication is desired. Our space is overcrowded, and we now have contributions waiting for insertion which have been in type for some weeks.

Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, except advertisements, intended for publication, should be addressed to the Editor of the PHOTOGRAPHIC NEWS, 5, Farnival Street, London, E.C.

All questions requiring a reply in this column should be addressed to Mr. John Spiller, F.O.S., 2, St. Mary's Road, Canonbury, London, N.

All Advertisements and communications relating to money matters, and for the sale of the paper, should be addressed to the Publishers of the PHOTOGRAPHIC NEWS, Messrs. Piper & Carter, 5, Farnival Street, London.

The PHOTOGRAPHIC NEWS will be published on THURSDAY next, on account of the Easter holidays. All communications should therefore reach the office not later than Wednesday morning.

L. A.—*London Rainfall.* Our results do not quite agree; slight differences are, however, to be expected. We had, at Canonbury, an unbroken period of thirty-four dry days, viz., from February 1st to March 6th inclusive; then heavy rain fell on Saturday, 7th inst., amounting to .47 inch, followed by more rain on the 8th, and then the blizzard.

W. A. & Co.—*Postage Stamp Portraits and Cheap Enlargements.* Several houses undertake reproductions of this character; amongst others the Artistic Photographic Company, Imperial Mansions, Oxford Street, W., and Mr. Harold Godwin, 2, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C.

EXHIBITOR.—*Liverpool to Crystal Palace.* The dates are so close that it seems hardly possible for you to get your picture back from Liverpool in time for reception on the 6th April at the Crystal Palace Exhibition; but as the entry form for the latter need not be sent in until Monday week, 30th inst., there is still left to you the possibility of enquiring whether any grace is allowed to the Liverpool exhibitors.

A. M. M.—*Calculation of Cost.* From information received from a most trustworthy source, confirmatory of our own past experience, it seems almost impossible to work out a fixed ratio between profit and gross returns in any professional photographic business. As a rule, "the larger your return, the larger the proportion of profit," but much will depend upon outlay for rent and character of the work executed. The prices of platinum and hyposulphite are advancing, and silver also has been oscillating in recent years, facts which add to the difficulty of making a close calculation. In the same establishment profits have varied from 25 to over 50 per cent., according to the amount of business going, and this was one where spoilt prints and plates were, by good practice, assuredly kept down to very moderate limits. With a lower-class business, according to the locality, the profits might be either higher or lower than the scale now given.

C. T. (Sheffield).—*Photo-Mechanical Prints.* In your district probably Mr. Graham Glen, of 2, Commercial Street, Leeds, could undertake the work.

E. FISCHER (Amsterdam).—*Blue Carbon Paper.* This was made formerly by M.M. Marion & Cie., Courbevoie, Paris, but there is not now much demand for a pigment paper of that colour.

W. M.—*Fluoride of Silver.* You are under a misapprehension with regard to this body; it cannot be precipitated within the texture of the paper, like chloride of silver, for it is extremely soluble in water. The easiest way of making it is by dissolving granulated silver in hydrofluoric acid contained in a platinum basin. Be careful not to inhale the fumes, and make it neutral by stirring in, finally, a little oxide or carbonate of silver.

E. W. F.—The papers have been sent on to you by post. We are told that the proviso on top line may now be disregarded.

D. H.—*Yellow Colouring Matter.* So far as can be judged from the small sample sent, the peculiar tint is got from fluoresceine. This body is soluble in water, especially in presence of alkalis, and gives with bromine a pink colour due to the formation of eosine.

J. T.—*Bronze Printing.* A reliable test is to moisten it with nitrate of silver. Pure gold leaf is not at all affected, whereas the imitation article at once reduces the silver from solution. By blotting off and touching the filter paper with yellow prussiate, you will see by a red-brown stain the indication of copper.