

# AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHERS

Photography is an art which is utterly lacking in traditions. This is probably due to the fact that its pictures are created by mechanical and not by manual means. Wherever the artist forms the pictures he has conceived by means of his own craftsmanship, he is bound to his home traditions, if only through the influence of earlier work which has been used to train his hand.

Matters are quite otherwise in the case of modern photography. The same preliminaries are found everywhere, no matter whether the photographer be a Russian, a Frenchman or an American. Each picture is subject to the same preliminary condition, that is, its inevitable connection with technique; the pictures are only differentiated by the photographer's conception of his subject. On this account we cannot speak of a specific national photographic art, but only of modern photography in general. Precisely of late, various publications have demonstrated the fact that a great many photographs dating from the earliest days were artistically just as valuable as work of the present-day. Only the idea of what constitutes a picture has changed in accordance with the changed conception of life cherished by the photographer of to-day.

Regarded from this point of view, we reproduce the work of the American photographers here assembled without any further especial commentary.

Translated by E. T. Scheffauer



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für Pape's Dispepsia  
for Pape's Dispepsia