

We learn that Mr. S. L. WALKER, who has for a few years past been established in Poughkeepsie, has opened a Daguerreotype gallery in Albany. Mr. W. was formerly a resident of the latter city, and as he is an experienced Artist, we predict he will meet with success among his numerous friends.

We notice that the local Committee of the State of New York, have approved Daguerreotypes from MR. O. B. EVANS, of Buffalo. We are happy to find this gentleman's name among the competitors for the "great prize." Mr. Evans is one of our oldest and most worthy Artists. As a gentleman, he has no superiors, and as an Artist few equals.

## Correspondence.

MONTROSE, Pa., Dec. 25, 1850.

S. D. HUMPHREY, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,—I have been privileged with the reading of the first two numbers of your Journal, and think the time spent in their perusal was far from being lost. A paper devoted purely to the interests of the Daguerreotypist is a thing altogether new; but, the fact that it is so, makes it the more pleasing. It speaks well for the prosperity of the Art, and is an enterprise that must succeed. It will give Artists a knowledge of the doings of their brethren, in different parts of our country, and show us that the pursuit in which we are engaged is one well worthy our attention. It will excite a spirit of investigation, and tend to make us, as a class, more scientific than before.

Thorough practical knowledge has been too much wanting in the majority of Daguerreian operators in northern Pennsylvania. If a person could make a picture that would pass, he was readily set down as an Artist of the "first water." Pocket improvement has been more looked to, than

the improvement of this truly beautiful and interesting Art. But, I am happy to say, that the community here are learning better to appreciate what a *Daguerreotype* really is. One who takes mere *whitened shadows* cannot succeed in our village, at present. I do not mean this as an indirect way of boasting of my own productions, but rather as a compliment to the growing tastes of our citizens. I have, however, made constant efforts to improve, and think I have succeeded in some measure.

Pecuniary advancement is of importance in this, as well as in other occupations in life; but, I look upon it as a fixed fact, that no man of *mind*, will make this his *sole* object, in an employment so interesting in its workings and results, as that of taking pictures by the agency of light. Mr. Mayall is right. This patenting every new improvement, for the sake of speculation, is most detrimental to the progress of Art; for it deprives investigation, and research, of their wonted interest, making them merely objects to carry out the grand scheme of the "multitude" *money-getting*. That which will benefit the fraternity at large, should be made public. Mr. Mayall has acted the manly part in regard to the "Crayon Daguerreotypes."

I have been making a few experiments in accordance with the plan given in his letter, and although not such as to fully satisfy me, yet I can safely say that it will impart a new beauty and richness to the Daguerreian image.

But I forget that I am wearying you. I wish you unbounded success in your bold undertaking. Bold, because you are on unbroken ground. I hope and trust that the future standing of our Art and Artists, will show that your untiring efforts have not proved unavailing.

IMPROMPTU.

Hail! Journal of the Artist, hail!

Upon thy form with pride we gaze,

May thy bold enterprise prevail,

Till all shall herald forth thy praise.