

Alfred Letellier, "Le Daguerreotype," 2 January 1839

(keywords: Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre, Joseph Nicéphore Niépce, Alfred Letellier, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography)

THE DAGUERRETYPE: AN ARCHIVE OF SOURCE TEXTS, GRAPHICS, AND EPHEMERA

The research archive of Gary W. Ewer regarding the history of the daguerreotype

<http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org>

EWER ARCHIVE N8390018

Published in:

Le Drapeau Tricolore (Chalon-sur-Saône) (2 January 1839): [page information not recorded]. The notice in this semi-weekly newspaper appears under the header, "Variétés."

LE DAGUERRÉOTYPE:

Sous cette dénomination M. Daguerre, peintre, inventeur et directeur du Diorama désigne un procédé à l'aide duquel, sans aucune notion du dessin, sans aucune connaissance en chimie et en physique, on pourra en quelques minutes prendre les points de vue les plus détaillés, les sites les plus pittoresques. Chacun à l'aide du *Daguerreotype*, pourra faire avec facilité et promptitude la vue de son château ou de sa maison de campagne, même un portrait au naturel. L'idée première de cet important procédé est due à un de nos compatriotes, au studieux et savant Nicéphore Niépce: après une mort prématurée qui vint enlever M. Niépce à la science et à ses nombreux amis, un d'entre eux. M. Daguerre recueilli les notes prises sur ce procédé et, à force d'étude, il l'a enfin conduit au degré de perfection où il est aujourd'hui. Une souscription doit être ouverte en janvier 1839, dont le but sera de livrer aux souscripteurs la connaissance de cet admirable procédé.

Alf. Letellier

[End of text.]

EDITOR'S NOTES:

The full name of the author, Alfred Letellier, is provided on the web site of the Musée Nicéphore Niépce.¹

A circular was printed for the subscription, but it may be that the circular was never distributed. A photographic copy of the circular was included in the Cromer collection now in the collection of the George Eastman House.² The intended subscription was negated by the negotiation for a pension to be provided Daguerre by the French government.

For reference, the following is an *uncorrected* translation of the text using *Google Translate* (<http://translate.google.com/#>):

The Daguerreotype:

Under the name M. Daguerre, a painter, inventor and director of the Diorama means a process by means of which, without any notion of drawing, without any knowledge of chemistry and physics, we can take a few minutes viewpoints more detailed, the most romantic sites. Everyone using the daguerreotype, can be easily and promptly saw his castle or her home country, even a natural portrait. The basic idea of this important process is due to one of our compatriots, studious and learned Niépce: after a premature death that came to remove Mr. Niepce science and its many

friends, one of them. Mr. Daguerre collected notes on this process and by dint of study, he finally led to the degree of perfection he is today. A subscription should be opened in January 1839, which will aim to deliver to subscribers the knowledge of this wonderful process.

1. <http://www.museeniepce.com/>
2. http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/M8380001_DAGUERRE_BROADSIDE_FR_1838.pdf

EWER ARCHIVE N8390018

URL: http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/N8390018_LETELLIER_DRAP-TRI_1839-01-02.pdf

Document author: Gary W. Ewer

Creation date: 2011-01-11 / Last revision (proofread): 2011-01-12

Citation information: *Le Drapeau Tricolore* (Chalon-sur-Saône) (2 January 1839): [page information not recorded].

Prepared from: imaged original text provided in a blog by Manuel Magalhães:

(http://fotohist.blogspot.com/2010/08/1839-2-de-janeiro-le-drapeau-tricolore_31.html)

Original spelling/punctuation/grammar generally maintained without correction. Any in-text corrections are bracketed.

The *source text* is Public Domain and may be freely quoted. As noted below, this document is copyright.

If citing directly from this document, please reference the Ewer Archive number and provide the following citation credit:

Gary W. Ewer, ed., *The Daguerreotype: an Archive of Source Texts, Graphics, and Ephemera*, <http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org>

THE NECESSARY DISCLAIMERS:

The document creator has made every effort to insure the accuracy of the transcription. However, the information provided in this document is provided without warranty, either express or implied. The document creator will not be liable for any damages caused or alleged to be caused directly, indirectly, incidentally, or consequentially by the information provided by this text.

The document creator assumes no responsibility for accuracy of fact; the text is prepared "as found." Factual inaccuracies of the original text are generally **not** noted by the document creator. If this text is used in academic papers, accuracy should be confirmed by consulting original sources.

The document creator also assumes no responsibility regarding the correctness, suitability, or safety of any chemical or photographic processes that may be described by this text. Many of the chemicals used in early photographic processes are extremely toxic and should not be handled without a *thorough* knowledge of safe use.

The opinions expressed in this text are solely those of the original author and are not necessarily those of the Archive editor. Some texts may contain derogatory words. Any such word is certainly one that would not be used today. The words remain in the transcription, however, to maintain truthfulness to the original text.

© 2011, Gary W. Ewer. <http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org>
