DAGUERREOTYPES IN OIL.—A process has been recently discovered of transferring a daguerreotype impression to a metallic surface, that admits of its being finished in oil colors, equal in beauty to the finest miniature painting. It is said that a single sitting, of a few seconds only, is required for a portrait of a cabinet size. The discoverer of this new art is Mr. Wm. H. Butler, a Daguerreotype Artist, of New York city.

We saw, yesterday, one of the portraits, received by a gentleman in this city, by the last steamer from New York. It combines all the detail of the daguerreotype, with the finish of the miniature painting; and we are informed that they can be finished at a price much less than the common miniature on ivory. This system will take the place of all the other modes of taking daguerreotype miniatures.

[End of text.]
Butler’s “daguerreotypes in oil” are specifically mentioned—rather unfavorably—in a review of daguerreotypes at the Fair of the American Institute:

In connexion with this peculiar art we may mention the style known as “daguerreotypes in oil,” on exhibition by Mr. Butler. They are indeed very fair specimens of small cabinet portraits in oil. But as far as being daguerreotypes with all the faithfulness so peculiar to them they are no more to be compared to them, than a rushlight is to the noon-day sun, from which our beautiful productions emanate. Their whole beauty and truthfulness is destroyed by entirely covering the expression, as indeed the whole plate is painted over by the hands of the artist.


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