

"Daguerre," (accompanied with a wood engraving portrait) 1853

(keywords: Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre, Joseph Nicéphore Niepce, Charles R. Meade, Meade Brothers, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography.)

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

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

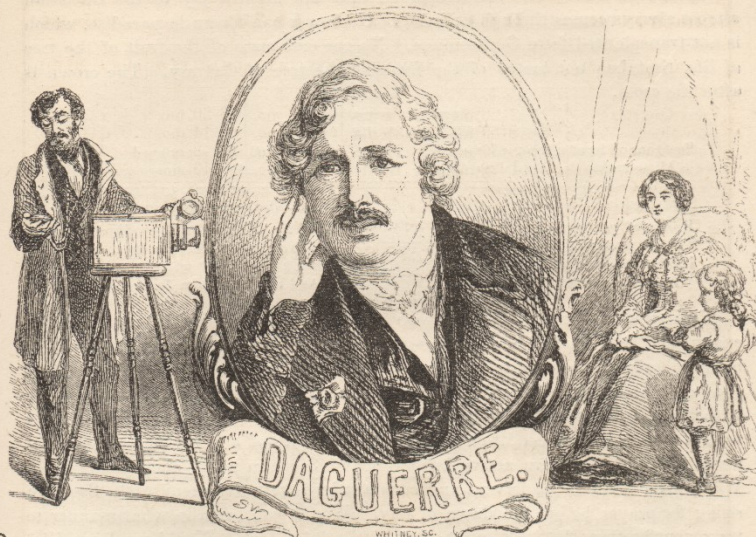
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Published in:

Illustrated Family Christian Almanac for The United States, for...1853 (New York: The American Tract Society, 1853): 17.

[SEE NEXT PAGE FOR GRAPHIC]



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EVERY one is familiar with the Daguerreotype, in which not only likenesses of persons, but images of all kinds of objects are transferred from the lens of the camera obscura, and permanently fixed on metallic plates. Though it is said to have been the joint invention of M. Daguerre and M. Niepce, yet common consent seems to have given it the name of the former. The engraving gives the appearance of the man whose name is thus associated with one of the most interesting discoveries of the age. It was copied from a daguerreotype of M. Daguerre, taken in France by Messrs. Meade.

WONDERS OF THE HEAVENS.—Sir John Herschel, in an "Essay on the Power of the Telescope to penetrate into Space"—a quality distinct from the magnifying power—says, there are stars so infinitely remote as to be situated at the distance of twelve millions of millions of millions of miles from our earth; so that light, which travels with a velocity of twelve millions of miles in a minute, would require two millions of years for its transit from those distant orbs to our own; while the astronomer who should record the aspect or mutations of such a star, would be relating, not its history at the present day, but that which took place two millions of years gone by.

INFIDELITY CONFOUNDED.—When Thomas Paine resided in New Jersey, he was one day passing the residence of Dr. S——, who was sitting at his door. Paine stopped, and after some general observations, said, "Mr. S——, what a pity it is that a man has not some comprehensive and perfect rule for the government of his life." The doctor replied, "Mr. Paine, there is such a rule." "What is it?" the infidel inquired. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbor as thyself," was the prompt reply. "Oh," said Paine, abashed and confounded, "that's in your Bible," and immediately turned away.

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[End of text.]

The graphic is also available in JPG format:

http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/graphics/P8530005_DAGUERRE_FAM-XIAN-ALMANAC_1853.php

EDITOR'S NOTES:

The half-plate daguerreotype of Daguerre (of which this illustration is derived) was taken by Charles R. Meade. The editor is unaware of any photographic reproductions of the original plate. The location of the original daguerreotype, if extant, is unknown.

The oval portrait portion of the portrait illustration subsequently appears in *Student and Schoolmate and Forrester's Boys & Girls Magazine* (Boston) 6:6 (October 1858): 196.¹

A similar illustration of daguerreotypist and sitters is seen in an advertisement for the gallery of J. D. Marsters, Baltimore. Both illustrations appear in 1853; It isn't known which one might have been copied from the other. See *Business Directory of Baltimore City, for 1853*. (Baltimore: Traveller Office, 1853): xviii.²

1. http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/P8580003_DAGUERRE_STUDENT_1858-10.pdf

2. http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/advert/P8530006_MARSTERS-AD_DIRECT-BALT_1853.pdf

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Graphic details:

wood engraving: 7.0 x 10.0 cm

sheet: 18.5 x 11.2 cm

A high-resolution TIF-format file may be available. Contact the Archive for details.

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