

E. C. Hughes, "Recipes in the Daguerreotype Science," 20 June 1851

(keywords: E. S. Hughes, R. D. Benton, G. H. Wolcott, Recipes, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography)

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Manuscript text:

Notes dated 20 June 1851 by E. S. Hughes, "R. D. Benton's Recipes in the Daguerreotype Science."

Original line breaks preserved. Included in the manuscript text is additional text, "The Way to make Money."

[first page]

South Wales June 20 1851 E. S. Hughes
R. D. Benton's Recipe's in The Daguer-
reotype Science Copied from G. H. Wolcott

To Clean Plates

First turn the edges then brush off the dust,
burn over an alcohol lamp. Then clean
with rotten stone and prepared wash. Then
Buff

To make wash for cleaning Plates

1/3 Alcohol 1/3 water 1/3 Spirits ammonia

To make gilding Take 1 1/2 pint water
1/2 in 1 bottle and 1/2 in another bottle 1 bottle
gold 1 bottle 40 grains of hyposulphate of
Soda in another. When dissolved pour
the gold solution into the other to be filtered
before use

[second page]

To make a wash to absorb coating

Take 1 Teaspoonful of hyposulphate of Soda
in 1/2 pint of water _____

To mix quick battery take 1/4 pint water
put 1/8 bottle quick. if it works to fast add
water if slow add quick _____

To Coat Plates

Coat over to straw color over quick gold color, then over iodine to violet color, which will be about 1/3 as long as first _____

To Clean gilded Plates

Clean with Spirits Turpentine and rotten Then burn them clean as other plates _____

To Make Adhesive Paper

Take gum arabic & izing glass equal parts

[third page]

dissolve in water to about the condition of varnish. Then put it on with a brush 2 coats is the best

To Make Quick

Take 1 pint lime water 1 oz bromine. 3/4 oz chloride of Iodine. To every oz of quick add 10 or 12 drops of chlorine _____

To make Chloride of Gold

Take pure gold dissolve in crucible with 1 part nitric and 2 parts muriatic acid When dissolved to every part of gold add 1/2 drachm of rock salt. Dissolve in water then vaporate until dry. 30 grains of Gold will make 1 bottle.

[fourth page]

To Make Silver Solution

Cut the silver with nitric acid then precipitate with common salt. Then wash until you can neither taste the salt or acid. Then dissolve enough potash in water to take up the silver which will be about one oz to 2 shillings silver.

[fifth page]

The way to make money

Call every man a D— fool that insults you and show your impor-

tance and independance in every and any place. Always appear cheerful whether up or down hearted and you will finnanly humbug the world and make money every time.

Shakespere _____

L. L. Treat's Esq Recipes

For making quick take one quart of lime water, add to it one oz Chloride of iodine then add enough bromine to take up the iodine and about 1/2 a teaspoonful more of bromine

[sixth page]

Liquid Quick Coat over Iodine to a deep yellow, then over quick to a light red— then over iodine from 1/4 to 1/6 as long as at first

Dry Quick

Take lime just slacked one pint. dry it on a plate of iron or on a stove, and when cold put it in a ground stopper bottle and add ~~a few drops~~ one oz of bromine a few drops at a time shaking well after each addition. Directions for using Spread about a teaspoonful over the bottom of your box. Coat over iodine to a light yellow. Over quick to a light red and recoat from 1/4 to 1/6 over iodine. Your battery will need strengthening every morning.

[seventh page]

For making gold solution Take 1/2 pint rain water add 1 teaspoonful of hyposulphate of soda next take 1/2 pint rain water add 1 bottle of gold after dissolving pour the gold solution into the soda then shake & add a teaspoonful of pure fine salt then filter it. _____

To Make Bleaching Solution Make a saturated solution of muriate of ammonia (sal ammmoniac) in pure rain water and filter it through paper reduce with

an equal quantity of rain water when used. When the [illeg.] or any part of the impression is badly solarized after removing the coating rinse with water then pour this upon the surface in same manner as the gilding pour off with out rinsing. Then apply the gilding. The whole operation must be quickly done or the Chloride soon attacks the shades of the picture _____

[eighth page]

Chloride of Gold

Take \$500 [\$5.00?—ed.] worth of gold dissolve in nitro muriate acid and evaporate to dryness before getting dry add some water and evaporate most to dryness when add a tablespoonful of common salt then bottle it _____

John Roach's Quick

After your liquid quick stands 3 or 4 months in the bottle add 10 or 20 drops of bromine _____

South Wales June 20 1851

[End of text.]

South Wales June 20 1851 C.S. Hughes
R.O. Bentons Receipts in the Daguer-
reotype Science Copied from G.D. Holcott

To Clean Plates

First turn the edges then brush off the dust,
burn over an alcohol lamp. Then clean
with rotten stone and prepared wash. then

Buff

To Make wash for cleaning Plates
 $\frac{1}{8}$ Alcohol $\frac{1}{3}$ water $\frac{1}{3}$ spirits ammonia

To Make gilding. Take $\frac{1}{2}$ pint water
 $\frac{1}{2}$ in 1 bottle and $\frac{1}{2}$ in another bottle $\frac{1}{2}$ bottle
gold 1 bottle. 40 grains of hyposulphate of
Soda in another. when dissolved pour
the gold solution into the other to be filtered
before use

To make a wash to absorb Coating
Take 1 Teaspoonful of hyposulphate of Soda
in $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of water

To Mix quick battery Take $\frac{1}{4}$ pint water
put $\frac{1}{8}$ bottle quick. if it works to fast add
water if slow add quick — — —

To Coat Plates

Coat over to straw color over quick gold
color, then over sodine to violet color, which
will be about $\frac{1}{3}$ as long as at first — — —

To Clean gilded Plates

Clean with spirits turpentine and cotton
then burn them clear as other plates —

To Make Adhesive Paper

Take gum arabic & izing glass equal parts

dissolve in water to about the condition of
varnish, then put it on with a brush
2 coats is the best—

To make quick

Take 1 pint lime water 1 oz bromine, $\frac{3}{4}$ oz
chloride of Iodine. to every oz of quick add
10 or 12 drops of clove oil —

To make Chloride of Gold

Take pure gold dissolved in crucible with
1 part nitric and 2 parts Muriatic acid
when dissolved to every part of gold add
 $\frac{1}{2}$ drachm of rock salt. dissolve in water
then evaporate until dry. 30 grains of
Gold will make 1 bottle

To Make Silver Solution

Cut the silver with nitric acid then precipitate
with common salt, then wash until you can
neither taste the salt, or acid. then dissolve enough
potash in water to take up the silver which
will be about one oz to 2 spellings silver

The way to make money

Call every man a fool
that insults you and show your impor-
tance and independence in every and
any place. Always appear cheerful
whether up or down hearted and you will
firmly humbug the world and
make money every time

Shakespeare

I. J. Treat's Esq. Recipe

For making Luick Take one quart of lime
water, add to it one oz. Chloride of Sodium
then add enough bromine to take up the
Sodium and about $\frac{1}{2}$ a teaspoonful more
of bromine

Liquid Luick Coat over Sodium to a
deep yellow, then over quick to a light red-
then over Sodium from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{6}$ as long as at first

Dry Luick

Take lime just slacked one pint, dry it on
a plate of iron or on a stove, and when
cold put it in a ground stopper bottle and add
a few drops one oz. of bromine a few drops
at a time shaking well after each addition

Directions for using Spread about a
teaspoonful over the bottom of your Box.

Coat over Sodium to a light yellow, over
quick to a light red and redact from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{6}$
over Sodium. Your battery will need
strengthening every morning

For making Gold Solution Take 1 pint rain water add 1 Teaspoonful of Hyposulphate of Soda next take 1/2 pint rain water add 1 bottle of gold after dissolving pour the gold solution into the Soda then shake & add a teaspoonful of pure fine salt then filter it.

To make Bleaching solution make a saturated solution of Muriate of ammonia (Sal ammoniac) in pure rain water and filter it through paper reduce with an equal quantity of rain water when used when the linen or any part of the impression is badly Solerized after removing the coating rinse with water then pour this upon the surface in same manner as the gilding pour off with out rinsing. then apply the gilding. the whole operation must be quickly done or the Chloride soon attacks the shades of the picture

Chloride of Gold Take \$500 worth gold dissolve in nitric Muriate acid and evaporate to dryness before getting dry add some water and evaporate most to dryness when add a Table spoonful of common salt then bottle it

John Roach's Quick
quick stands 3 or 4 months after pour liquid
add 10 or 20 drops of borax in the bottle

South Wales June 26 1851

EDITOR'S NOTES:

John H. Fitzgibbon mentions "recipe instructions" such as this in J. H. Fitzgibbon, "Daguerreotyping Simplified," *Western Journal, of Agriculture, Manufactures, Mechanic Arts, Internal Improvements, Commerce, and General Literature*. (St. Louis) 6:6 (September 1851): 380–85.¹

1. http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/P8510018_FITZ_DAG-SIMPLIFIED_1851-09.pdf

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