

**PHOTOGRAPHIC MANIPULATION.
THE COLLODION PROCESS; THE
ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY WITH
CATALOG OF PHOTOGRAPHIC
APPARATUS AND CHEMICALS**

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Photographic Manipulation. The Collodion Process; The Art of Photography with Catalog of Photographic Apparatus and Chemicals by Thomas H. Hennah

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THOMAS H. HENNAH

**PHOTOGRAPHIC MANIPULATION.
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APPARATUS AND CHEMICALS**

**HENNAH'S
COLLODION PROCESS.**

Chas. E. Morgan. M. D.

Photographic Manipulation.

THE

COLLODION PROCESS,

BY

THOMAS H. HENNAH.

FIFTH EDITION.

LONDON :

PUBLISHED BY GEORGE KNIGHT AND CO.,

Manufacturers of Photographic Apparatus,

FOSTER LANE, CHEAPSIDE.

1857.

PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION.

After the lapse of but a few months the writer of the "Collodion Process" finds, notwithstanding its incompleteness and many faults, that another edition is required. The only alloy to the gratification he derives from so flattering a mark of approbation is, that the small amount of time he can spare will not allow of his making it, as it ought to and could be made, a *complete* manual of the process.

So many suggestions are daily made—most of them, however ingenious, practically useless, and all requiring careful examination before the good can be distinguished from the bad, that the task of selection alone is a long and difficult one, the more so, as in a work professing, as this does, to teach, it is necessary to exclude every thing that is at all doubtful.

Since the publication of the last Edition no improvements worth particular mention have been made in the process; indeed, considering the numbers engaged in the art, and the zeal with which most of them are actuated, its progress is remarkably slow and disappointing, when compared with its rapid strides at first.

The great impediment is the absence of a collodion of uniform character. This has not yet been found, nor from the writer's experience does he see much prospect of improvement, most makers occasionally, some frequently, produce it nearly perfect, but if a second quantity is applied for, it is almost certain to be different; not from want of care, but because no one yet understands all the conditions of uniformity.

All who have the time are earnestly recommended to give their attention to the perfecting of collodion, as the most likely means of rendering this beautiful art not only more popular, but also of extending the range of its usefulness far beyond anything it has yet reached.

If in the next Edition he can state that this bar to its progress is removed, not one of his readers will hail it with more pleasure than will

Their obedient servant,

THOMAS H. HENNAH.

Brighton, December, 1855.

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

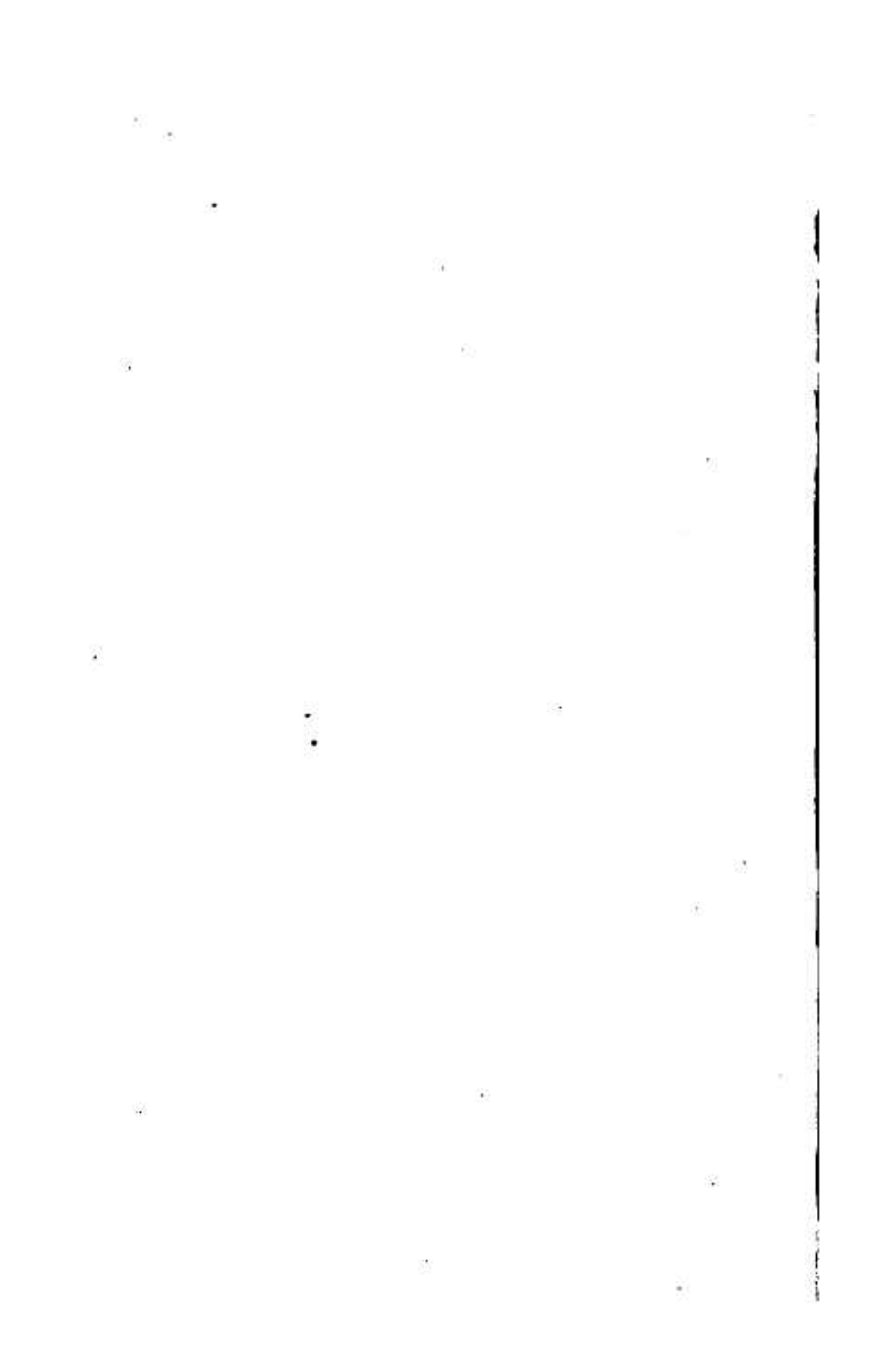
IN offering a new edition of "the Collodion Process," the writer has to express his warmest thanks for the flattering manner in which the previous ones have been received, and at the same time to claim indulgence for the present, in which he fears that, notwithstanding all his efforts to bring it up to the time of publication, a few things may still be wanting.

He has to regret that some things stated in the last Edition were given without proper cautions attached, and so, instead of being beneficial, were hurtful; in others they were wrong. To the first of these proper explanations have now been added, and the last have been rejected altogether.

Much that is new, and it is trusted valuable, is added in the present Edition, and where anything is withheld it is in cases where so little certain is known that error instead of success might be the result of publication.

THOMAS H. HENNAH.

Brighton, April, 1855.



PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE object of the present little pamphlet is to lay before its readers, in a plain manner, the method of taking pictures by the collodion photographic process; and as to render it really useful in that respect, it is thought necessary to confine attention to one direct course, rather than to offer a pointless summary of all that has been published, no other choice is open than to give the result of personal experience. In doing so fear is entertained that prejudice may so far exert its influence as to cause much that is useful to be passed over; and, what is still more to be feared, much that is useless to have undue weight given to it; still for this the apology must be accepted, that for all that is wrong or wanting, the writer suffers as much as those whom he may mislead, nothing he practises being omitted, and nothing he has reason to condemn being mentioned.

With regard to the means of availing ourselves of the most valuable property possessed by the collodion *negatives* (their power of yielding an unlimited number of prints or proofs fac-similes of each other), a different course has been pursued, such that the writer knows to be good but difficult being omitted, to give place to methods more simple and easy, although it may be not quite so perfect in the end.