

Any arrangement that will provide for the exposure of one-half the plate first and the other half later, can be used to produce "doubles." A simple method, and one which, we believe, has never been published, although it has been used for some time, is to fit the shutter of the dark-slide with a flexible extension in the form of a roller-blind. This is made adjustable, so that the distance between the end of the shutter and the front of the blind may be equal to half, one-third, one-quarter, or less of the length of the plate. If set for a quarter, the first exposure is made by pulling out the shutter a quarter of its length. By pulling it forward another quarter, a fresh surface of plate is uncovered, while that which has been exposed is covered by the blind. An important point is to have the shutter marked so that the quarter, half-way, etc., distances may be accurately seen, which will prevent any necessity of taking the dark-slide out of the camera during a series of exposures.

We need only describe one other method which has the advantage that it can be worked with a cheap camera without reversing back, whereas a reversing back is necessary in the other cases. This can only be satisfactorily used for doubles, and not for three or more exposures. The apparatus needed is a little piece of blackened tin or thin copper, cut to fit inside the lens hood, and then rather less than half of it turned up to form a sort of handle and to allow the light to pass. The disc should cover more than half the lens, and for one exposure will be placed to cover the right-hand side, while for the other it covers the left. On a pinch this may be made of cardboard, or it may be in the form of a lens cap to go over the hood instead of a disc to go inside.

In all these cases, especially with three or more exposures, it is necessary to have the ground-glass very carefully marked to show the successive portions to be exposed; or if the work is being extensively done, to have the background marked well above the sitters.—The Photogram.

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**An Aid to Retouching.**—Mr. E. R. Evesrep, writing in a contemporary, says: "During the long-continued dull weather that characterized the past winter, retouching was often a serious problem. I used an ordinary mirror reflector, but even that was sometimes insufficient, so I had just to do like my neighbor, 'grin and bear it,' and wait for more light, till one day a bright idea struck me, viz., I procured a concave mirror and found that by using it as a reflector at the proper distance to focus the light on a small portion of the ground glass back of my negative, I could have a dazzling brilliancy even in the dullest weather, while by varying the distance I could soften it to any required extent. Retouching is now a pleasure."