

large-sized sheet of paper with a considerable quantity of expensive developing solution.

It only wants to be once optically demonstrated to cause the brush being for ever afterwards adopted for such a purpose.

But very little consideration will be required by any one having experience in the development of enlargements on bromide paper to see at once that not the least of the advantages pertaining to the use of a brush lies in its economy. With metol at 2s. 6d. per ounce, and which is now so much in vogue for the development of bromides and which bids fair to rival and supplant our good old friend, ferrous oxalate, this question of economy alone becomes an important factor, for, in reality, the adoption of brushing in place of flooding necessitates the employment of a very much smaller amount of developing solution (probably only one-fifth of what is required in flooding) when such is employed to the entire surface of a print in one full wave of developer.

It is not, however, on the score of economy alone that the advantages lie with the use of a brush; there are several others of which mention should be made, viz., the power an operator possesses of retarding or hastening the development of any desired portion of the image during the time such is seen coming into existence. With a brush the entire operation of development is at all times completely under control, and many a fully exposed proof can be manipulated in such a manner as to cause the same eventually turning

out an acceptable print, which, by the method of flooding, would only yield poor, flat results; whereas, when brushing is resorted to, at no time does an operator lose control or allow the image to get beyond his being able to retard or accelerate the development of such as a whole or in part, for by means of one or two extra brushes, which should always be kept at hand, well charged by soaking the same in specially prepared redeveloping solutions provided for this purpose, certain portions may be kept back, and others hastened forward in quite a marvellous manner to those unacquainted with this extremely useful and practical method of development.

Any one who for a moment gives this subject a little thought, and who judges these manipulations from a common standpoint, is very apt to imagine that such a method as I am advocating is more liable to cause streaks or surface markings than would be the case with the old, or rather more commonly practised (for brushing is not a new idea), method of flooding the entire surface with one full wave of the developer; but in practice such objections do not exist, although those workers who have never seen a print brushed into existence are very liable to imagine that such would be the case; and especially is this so with those who, for the first time, are eye-witnesses of the operation, for the first brush marks invariably bring into view those parts where the brush has applied the developer at the very outset, somewhat in advance of those parts where the brush was applied a few seconds later.