

changes from extreme cold to extreme heat, that we venture to predict more complaints of bad chemicals and paper during the next thirty days than for the whole five months to follow—and we most unhesitatingly assert that the fault will not be in the chemicals, but in the mode of working them, and the sudden change from cold to heat.

Let us start with the *Bath*. The bath should be kept as near 60° or 65° as possible, in order to accomplish this, ice is very handy, but ice is not obtainable by every one. We advise that a box be made of wood, water-tight, large enough to hold at least a pail of water, in the moveable cover of which a slit for the bath should be made. A thermometer should be kept handy, and the temperature may be easily regulated by filling with water and adding a small piece of ice occasionally. When ice is not attainable then use cold *well* water, which can always be found at about 50° in any good well. The bath, too, should be reduced in strength to about 30 grains, and as it will deteriorate more rapidly when weak than strong it ought to be *fed* every night with a small quantity of pure silver solution of 35 grains strength, just to make up the loss by working and evaporation. Sometimes in hot weather pin-holes appear mysteriously, generally lowering the temperature will prevent them, but an excellent plan is that lately suggested by Mr. Smith, viz. : to tilt the bath over so that the film side is undermost in the bath (see Feb. Journal), it will be found of great service. It will also be found of great service to take the plate from the bath slightly before it is fully sensitized, see that your film is creamy, but before the streaks are all gone move gently up and down in the bath, till the surface is free from streaks, then withdraw and drain well on a blotting pad. *We cannot too carefully impress on every photographer the necessity of at all times thoroughly draining their plates.* It is the beginning of all good photography, good for the negative, good for the plateholder, good for the carpets—in addition to draining, wipe well the back of the plate, the best thing we know for this purpose is an old cotton rag—costs little, hangs on a nail, handy, and when saturated with silver may be burnt. We need not again insist on pads of blotting paper in the plate-holder below the negative, it is so well known that this is the only sure preventative of stains on the face in summer that surely no one omits it now ; and then your shields, how pleasant to have them dry and clean.