

Photographic Notes.

Practical Photographic Notes.

Should any one have any waste celluloid films they can be easily utilized for making things waterproof. It is necessary to clean off the gelatin, and this can be readily done with a little warm water, and the celluloid should then be wiped thoroughly dry, and then dissolved in acetone to the consistency of syrup. If paper be immersed in this solution, and hung up to drain and dry, it will hardly



"The Shaded Way."

show any difference to the eye, but be waterproof; as a varnish for paper labels it is excellent.

DEVELOPERS.

Pyrocatechine, about which a correspondent asked a question a week or two ago, is an excellent developer for bromide paper, working cleanly and giving good black tones. We have found the following satisfactory:

Water	1000 c.c.
Sodium sulphite.....	25 Gm.
" carbonate	50 Gm.
Pyrocatechine.....	10 Gm.

Dilute with an equal quantity of water. This developer may also be made up into a concentrated form by reducing the quantity of water to 200 c.c. It keeps very well, the above having been kept in the concentrated form unchanged for over six months.

The following developer, which has lately been strongly recommended for instantaneous or under-exposed plates, has in our hands yielded excellent results:

Pyrogallol	0.2 Gm.
Amidol	0.1 Gm.
Sodium carbonate.....	0.65 Gm.
" sulphite	20 Gm.
Water.....	150 c.c.

For use, mix 1 part with 2 parts water and add a few drops of 10 per cent. solution of potassium bromide.

With both these developers no clearing bath is required, but it is in all cases advisable to use the acid fixing bath. To sell the fixing bath ready made up means, of course, large bottles and bulky parcels, but a strong solution of acid sulphite of soda may be put up with directions for addition to a certain quantity of fixing solution. If it is desired to make this, dissolve 250 g. of sodium sulphite in 750 c.c. of warm water, and add 62.5 g. of citric acid dissolved in 250 c.c. of water. The above quantity is sufficient to add to 4 litres of a 1 in 4 solution of sodium hypsulphite.—*Pharmaceutical Journal*.

STRENGTHENING WEAK PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES.—W. Forster, apothecary at Solothurn, informs the *Pharmaceutische Centralhalle* that he has had excellent success in deepening and strengthening weak negatives by immersing them in a mixture of equal parts of a 10% solution of copper sulphate, and a similar solution of potassium bromide. Stronger solutions may be used if necessary.

CLEANING FILMS OFF OLD NEGATIVES.—The gelatin film is best removed from old negatives or lantern slides which are going to be used for opaline glasses or covers for slides by allowing them to soak for a day or two in cold water, and then placing in hot water for a few minutes. In this latter the film will quickly dissolve. If the gelatin is wished to be removed in a hurry, soaking in a strong solution of acetic acid ("glacial" acid mixed with an equal volume of water) will enable you to rub it off with a rag.—*G.E.B.*, in *Photographic News*.

TRANSPARENT SPOTS ON NEGATIVES.—It occasionally happens that drops of water are accidentally sprinkled on the films of unvarnished negatives. The result, after the second drying, is a series of spots of greater transparency than the

surrounding film. To remove them the entire negative should be re-wetted for some time, and on again drying the spots will not be so much in evidence. By alternately wetting and drying a negative its density can be reduced to some extent.—*Amateur Photographer*.

Smokeless magnesium powder for photography is the subject of a patent recently granted to C. Henry, of Paris. Thirty parts of magnesium powder are kneaded to a paste with 25 parts of barium peroxide, and 45 parts of collodion, and dried. Instead of collodion, highly rectified petroleum may be used. The peroxide yields the necessary oxygen, while the collodion or petroleum furnishes a reducing agent. The products of combustion are dense and granular, and fall instead of rising as smoke. The mixture is preferably burned in a special amp, in which it is blown into a small hemispherical capsule, kept red-hot by a bunsen burner.—*Era*.

A FEW DARK ROOM HINTS.—Many amateurs do not pay sufficient attention to their dark rooms. One frequently requires to change plates in the daytime. If one can obtain a small room for this purpose, a good method of converting it into a dark room is to have a frame made so that, with India rubber packing round the edge, it will tightly fit the window. The frame can, of course, be made to any depth, and prepared ruby cloth (sold



Meekanac Wharf, Muskoka.

at all photographic dealers) tacked across it, shutting out all light. Such a frame could be taken down when desired: A bench or table is a requisite article of furniture, and a few shelves. A periodical clearance of old bottles is desirable. Some amateurs seem to highly value their old empty bottles. But you need not throw them away, for your photographic