

Photographic Notes.

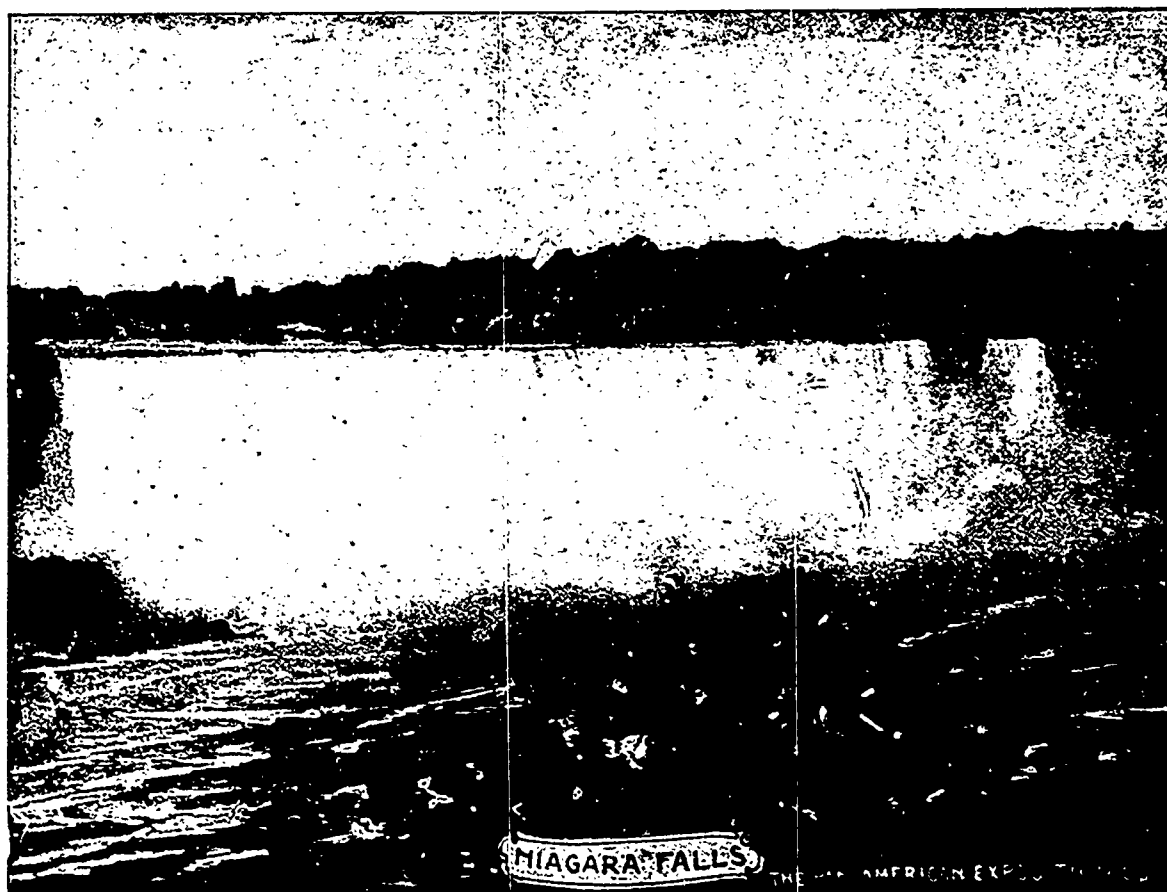
THE FIXING BATH.—The following considerations will show that the fixing bath should not exceed certain limits of strength. The fixing of a plate in hypo really consists of two chemical operations. First, a double hyposulphite of soda and silver is formed—but, as this is soluble in fairly strong hypo, it is usually dissolved again as quickly as formed. If, however, the bath be too weak in hypo, or what comes to the same thing, weak-

Selections.

Tripod screws also have a knack of becoming lost to sight. It is well to tie them to the tripod top with a piece of string, but their absence may be compensated for by cutting a piece of soft wood a trifle larger than the screw hole in the camera and tripod, and using this in place of the screw. If one end is left tolerably large, there will be no trouble

they may be removed by first soaking the film in water, and then applying a little of the ferricyanide and hypo reducer to the stains by means of cotton wool. If this fails, we advise you to make a transparency, retouch out the flaws and make fresh negative.

Double exposures on one plate are not altogether unknown, especially if one is working in a hurry. A simple way to avoid them is to stick a piece of gummed paper over the join of the shutter and frame of the dark slide. An exposure cannot be made without first breaking this piece of paper, which will thus serve



ened by continued use, the double hyposulphite formed is not dissolved, and fixing does not really take place, stains, etc., result. On the other hand, nothing is gained by making the bath too strong. Not only is it a mistake to suppose that a great gain in point of time must accompany a very strong bath, for this is not the case. But, in addition, it must be remembered that a very strong bath is apt to produce blisters, or to cause the gelatin emulsion to leave the plate, i.e. frill at the edges.—*Photography.*

about screwing it home and making firm contact.

Collotype glaze is water varnish prepared by dissolving 30 to 50 parts of borax and 100 parts powdered bleached shellac in 500 parts water, with a gentle heat. Add a little spirit (about 1-50) to clear, filter, pour in a flat dish, float the collotypes on it for one minute, hang up to dry in a warm place, and hot roll.

SILVER STAINS ON FILM.—If fresh,

as an indicator. The same slip is useful for marking the rapidity of the plate when several speeds or qualities are being carried.

A gale of wind is liable to shake the camera during exposure, or at any rate makes focusing an awkward business if both hands are required to hold the camera upright. The good old plan for steadying the camera is to attach a net bag to the tripod screw and fill it with good-sized stones. The stability so gained is remarkable and a decided help in boisterous weather.