

# THE CANADIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNAL.

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DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER.

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GEORGE W. GILSON, - - EDITOR

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**FOR 1897.**

In bidding our many readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, we may be permitted to note that the said New Year will, we expect, be made much happier by certain alterations in style of their old friend the CANADIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNAL.

Many of us do not recognize the great deficiency in our population, but if any of our readers were to commence the publication of a journal in some special field, they would soon find how small it was compared with England or the neighboring republic. We have been making special efforts this year to extend our circulation abroad, and with the happiest results. This enables us to give our readers next year one of the handsomest dollar journals in the world. We will allow you to judge. Again wishing you the merriest of Christmases and the happiest of New Years, we remain,

Yours faithfully,

YE EDITOR.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC FAILURES.

By DR. HUGO ERICHSEN.

Of course, the best pictures we ever took were on those plates that were spoiled. At least we think so, and would be very indignant if somebody should contradict us. And yet—possibly those negatives would not have pleased us so very much after all, and their beauty exists only in our imagination. That quality of the mind is a clever painter, but its pictures are not always true to life.

Before a tyro becomes a full-fledged amateur photographer, he must pass through the ordeal of failures. If he becomes disheartened at the outset, he will be a failure himself. The plates he spoils, the paper he wastes, the mounts he ruins, are so much tuition money. That is the way to look at it! None of the arts may be learned without expenditure, why should photography? Even photographic artists, men who stand in the first rank and have an international reputation, register an occasional failure. *Errare humanum est!* None are perfect. But these persons have learned to bear failures, whether due to themselves or extraneous causes, with equanimity, and mindful of the good old American maxim they try and try again until they are triumphant in the end.

The photographs that take the first prize at photographic exhibitions,