

AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION.

We are glad to perceive that a move has at length been taken in the right direction, to place American Photography as a science, in the same high position which it occupies as an Art. It is impossible for an Artist to be uniformly successful, unless he be fully acquainted with the philosophy of his Art, and posted up, as it were, to the late improvements made either at home or abroad. It is almost impossible for the American Artist to become so, as at present situated, and this untoward position has been felt so necessary to be combated and overcome, that some of our Artists have with the assistance of a few men devoted to abstract science formed the plan of an American Photographic Association. The first steps have been taken. Some of the most eminent savans of the country have been consulted, and given their hearty concurrence in its advantages and hopes of its success. Already some of our leading Artists have promised their active coöperation in its proceedings; every movement made has uniformly met with success.

We hail this initiative step to wed art and science together, as the greatest advance made for some time back, and a movement which we are confident must be supported by the great mass of our Artists. What pleasanter occupation could they feel than in spending a few hours listening to the advance and progress of the Art in England and France; to the suggested improvements, and last not least, how beneficial to the whole body, to have a point of meeting, when jealousy would cease to exist, a good feeling be established, and a happy *esprit du corps* to crown the final result. For ourselves, we shall aid to the utmost the undertaking, and give an official report of its proceedings. The preliminary meeting will be held in a few days; the result we will give in our next.

STATUE OF CALHOUN.

We are happy to be able to say to our readers, that Powers' statue of Calhoun has been removed from the wreck of the ill-fated ship the *Elizabeth*, under which has been buried since the 19th of July last Capt. Walden of the Morris, coöperating with Mr. Lewis, an officer of the Custom House, first discovered the position of the statue. To these gentlemen great credit due, and also, no small degree of praise due Mr. Johnson, for his public spirit, and unremitting exertions, in rescuing this noble work of art from the bed of the deep. These gentlemen have been patient and persevering, having for the past three months been in waiting upon his majesty, Neptune, for his lashing to cease, and at the moment he was at rest, they grasped from his bosom a gem that a Nation is proud to own.

On Tuesday, the 28th of Oct. the sea was favorable for the first time in several weeks and at daylight on Wednesday morning operations commenced. Mr. Johnson had previously procured a pair of powerful cable hooks, weighing iron tongs, or pair of grappling hooks, weighing about 500 pounds. These were placed around the case by Mr. Whipple, who descended in his sub-marine armor. By arranging a lever on the deck of the yacht a heavy purchase was obtained and through the united strength of twenty men, the hooks were firmly closed around the case, and the end lifted from the same sufficiently to allow a sling-chain to be slipped under.

The statue, which weighs about a ton and a half, with an equal weight of hard sea-sand in addition, was hoisted to the surface without much difficulty, but the utmost strength of the hands was necessary to get it safely on deck.

The only injury it had sustained was the loss of a part of the right arm, but as the fracture is concealed by the drapery, the loss can readily be replaced.

The statue left this city on the 9th for Charleston.