

**Research notes: "H. Whittemore"**

(keywords: H. Whittemore, Henry Whittemore, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography.)

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**THE DAGUERRETYPE: AN ARCHIVE OF SOURCE TEXTS, GRAPHICS, AND EPHEMERA**

*The research archive of Gary W. Ewer regarding the history of the daguerreotype*

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**TOPIC:**

***The daguerreian activities of H. Whittemore.***

This a collection of research notes regarding H. Whittemore, a daguerreotypist working in New York, the Caribbean, South America. This is continuing, active research and this file may be revised at any time. Additional information is in file.

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From Robert Hunt, *Photography: a Treatise on the Chemical Changes produced by Solar Radiation, and the Production of Pictures from Nature, by the Daguerreotype Calotype, and Other Photographic Processes. With Additions by the American Editor* [Samuel Dwight Humphrey—edit.] (New York: S. D. Humphrey, 1852): 257.

CHAPTER XXI.

VIEWS BY THE DAGUERREOTYPE PROCESS.

DAGUERREOTYPE views are at present commanding much attention in this country. Their interest is not confined to the operator alone, but the public appreciate the unequalled pencillings of nature. This department of the Daguerreotype art owes much to the well-known Artists, Southworth & Hawes, of Boston. These gentlemen have carried on their experiments with a very marked and important success. H. Whittemore, a gentleman who has travelled over most of South as well as North America, has probably made the most valuable collection of views ever produced in this country. His collection presents a map of paramount interest. I saw a single view of the Falls of Niagara, which surpassed anything of the kind that has ever been presented before me; the harmony of tone, the exquisite mellowness and faithful delineations, were unsurpassed, while the whole effect presented a charm rarely attending a Daguerreotype view. Mr. W. produced his views with a common mirror for a reflector.

I must not overlook the large collection of views taken by Mr. Vance, of California. He has over three hundred on whole plates. They are of one state, and consequently do

not present such general interest as those by Mr. Whittemore; yet they are a larger collection, and exhibit great skill and perseverance in the operator.

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“Premiums Awarded by the Managers of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Fair of the American Institute, October, 1852,” *Documents of the Assembly of the State of New-York, Seventy-Fifth Session, 1852* (Albany: C. Van Benthuysen, 1852): 595, 610, 618-19. The list appears under the header, “Manufacturing and Mechanical Department.” (volume available from *Google Books*.) The same text is also provided in *Transactions of the American Institute of the City of New-York for 1851* (Albany: Charles Van Benthuysen, 1852): 618-19.

#### DAGUERREOTYPES.

Judges—Napoleon Sarony, Geo. H. Kite, F. D'Avignon.

M. A. & S. Root, 363 Broadway, for the best daguerreotypes. *Gold medal*.

J. Gurney, 159 Broadway, for the second best daguerreotypes. *Silver medal*.

J. H. Whitehouse, 349 Broadway, for the third best daguerreotypes. *Diploma*.

J. D. W. Brinckerhoff, 383 Broadway, for still-life daguerreotype views. *Silver medal*.

S. A. Holmes, 289 Broadway, for still-life daguerreotype views. *Silver medal*.

H. Whittemore, Worcester, Mass., for the second best still-life daguerreotype views. *Diploma*.

Joseph Atkins, 219 Fulton street, Brooklyn, L. I., for Cameo daguerreotypes. *Silver medal*.

H. E. Insley, 311 Broadway, for illuminated daguerreotypes. *Silver medal*.

Krohl & Vetter, 499 Broadway, for phototypes. *Silver medal*.

Mrs. Bertha Wehnert, Beckman & Brothers, 385 Broadway, or phototypes. *Silver medal*.

C. C. Harrison, 85 Duane street, for daguerreotype cameras. *Gold medal*.

W. & W. H. Lewis, 142 Chatham street, for stools, tables, headrests, and gilding stands, for daguerreotypists. *Diploma*.

D. B. T. Davie, Utica, N. Y., for a photographic camera stand. *Diploma*.

W. & W. H. Lewis, 142 Chatham street, for a machine for buffing daguerreotype plates. *Diploma*.

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Entries for Whittemore occur in:

Palmquist / Kailbourn, Pioneer Photographers from the Mississippi to the Continental Divide. (Palmquist/Kailbourn provide the middle initial “W.” but I am yet unable to verify the accuracy of this middle initial.)

John S. Craig, Craig's Daguerreian Registry, vol. 3, (Torrington: John S. Craig, 1996): 617.

mentioned in:

Magaret Denton-Smith and Mary Louise Tucker, *Photography in New Orleans: The Early Years, 1840–1865* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982): 41, 43, 171.

Vicente Ges@@, *Historia de la fotografica en America ...* (Buenos Aires: Editorial Sui Generis, 1990): 254.

Louisiana history Vol. 20 (1979) page 406 (content regarding Whittemore...)  
Quarterly / Louisiana Historical Association.

Further texts to examine:  
(these were added 2008-12-10)

Arts and Entertainment in Louisiana

By Patricia Brady, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Center for Louisiana Studies  
Published by Center for Louisiana Studies, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2006

see Page 120

(New Orleans Commercial Times, January 20, 1848) WHITTEMORE In 1845 was partner with ... May 17, 1845) Whittemore in 1848 advertised daguerreotypes at No. ...

[ article requested via DPL 2008-12-10: ]

The Journal of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society

By Barbados Museum and Historical Society, Barbados Museum and Historical Society

Published by Barbados Museum and Historical Society, 1933

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see content: H. Whittemore will remain a short time to take Daguerreotype likenesses.

Miniatures put up in gold or morocco — \$3 to \$20. Rooms at Mrs. Roach's boarding

International Photography: George Eastman House Index to Photographers, Collections, and Exhibitions

By Andrew H. Eskind, Greg Drake, Kirsti Ringger, Lynne Rumney, International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House

Published by G.K. Hall, 1998

with content: ... A. Notes "A number of daguerreotypes are deposited by other makers. all of which .... American) Whittemore, H. (ca 1840s, American) Wilmarth (ca 1840s, ...

[ requested Prospector 2008-12-10: ]  
Pioneer Commercial Photography: The Burgert Brothers, Tampa, Florida  
By Robert E. Snyder, Jack B. Moore  
Contributor Jack B. Moore  
Published by University Press of Florida, 1992  
see page 9 regarding Whittemore

**[End of text.]**

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