

Alfred Letellier, "Le Daguerreotype," 2 January 1839

(Keywords: Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre, Joseph Nicéphore Niépce, Alfred Letellier, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography)

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Le Drapeau Tricolore (Chalon-sur-Saône) (2 January 1839): [page information not recorded]. The notice in this semi-weekly newspaper appears under the header, "Variétés."

LE DAGUERRÉOTYPE:

Sous cette dénomination M. Daguerre, peintre, inventeur et directeur du Diorama désigne un procédé à l'aide duquel, sans aucune notion du dessin, sans aucune connaissance en chimie et en physique, on pourra en quelques minutes prendre les points de vue les plus détaillés, les sites les plus pittoresques. Chacun à l'aide du *Daguerreotype*, pourra faire avec facilité et promptitude la vue de son château ou de sa maison de campagne, même un portrait au naturel. L'idée première de cet important procédé est due à un de nos compatriotes, au studieux et savant Nicéphore Niépce: après une mort prématurée qui vint enlever M. Niépce à la science et à ses nombreux amis, un d'entre eux, M. Daguerre recueilli les notes prises sur ce procédé et, à force d'étude, il l'a enfin conduit au degré de perfection où il est aujourd'hui. Une souscription doit être ouverte en janvier 1839, dont le but sera de livrer aux souscripteurs la connaissance de cet admirable procédé.

Alf. Letellier

[End of text.]

EDITOR'S NOTES:

The full name of the author, Alfred Letellier, is provided on the web site of the Musée Nicéphore Niépce.¹

A circular was printed for the subscription, but it may be that the circular was never distributed. A photographic copy of the circular was included in the Cromer collection now in the collection of the George Eastman House.² The intended subscription was negated by the negotiation for a pension to be provided Daguerre by the French government.

For reference, the following is an *uncorrected* translation of the text using *Google Translate* (<http://translate.google.com/#>):

The Daguerreotype:

Under the name M. Daguerre, a painter, inventor and director of the Diorama means a process by means of which, without any notion of drawing, without any knowledge of chemistry and physics, we can take a few minutes viewpoints more detailed, the most romantic sites. Everyone using the daguerreotype, can be easily and promptly saw his castle or her home country, even a natural portrait. The basic idea of this important process is due to one of our compatriots, studious and learned Niépce: after a premature death that came to remove Mr. Niepce science and its many

friends, one of them. Mr. Daguerre collected notes on this process and by dint of study, he finally led to the degree of perfection he is today. A subscription should be opened in January 1839, which will aim to deliver to subscribers the knowledge of this wonderful process.

1. <http://www.museeniepce.com/>
2. http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/M8380001_DAGUERRE_BROADSIDE_FR_1838.pdf

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(http://fotohist.blogspot.com/2010/08/1839-2-de-janeiro-le-drapeau-tricolore_31.html)

Original spelling/punctuation/grammar generally maintained without correction. Any in-text corrections are bracketed.

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