

**“Taking Daguerreotypes,” (Henry W. Bradley, San Francisco) 23 July 1850**

(keywords: Henry William Bradley, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography)

---

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

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

<http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org>

**EWER ARCHIVE N8500008**

---

Published in:

*Daily Alta California* (San Francisco) 1:175 (23 July 1850): n.p. (second page of issue).

TAKING DAGUERREOTYPES.—Some “artist,” desirous of procuring a stock of daguerreotypes by a more rapid process than the ordinary one, adopted a new expedient on Saturday night. The operation, as described to us, was simple and effective. Mr. Bradley, who has an establishment in Montgomery street, over the Pacific Baths, had hanging in front of the entrance to his place six large frames, each containing half a dozen portraits, taken by himself. Some modern artist “froze” to them and took them to his own studio. Their intrinsic value was about \$400—their loss to Mr. Bradley irreparable, as many were portraits of friends far away.

[End of text.]

---

**EDITOR’S NOTES:**

While any gallery sign is obscured by other signs, Bradley’s gallery above the Pacific Baths can be seen in a Frederick Coombs half-plate daguerreotype view of Montgomery street. Attic skylights are visible in the view. The daguerreotype is reproduced in Drew Heath Johnson and Marcia Eymann, *Silver and Gold: Cased Images of the California Gold Rush* (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press for the Oakland Museum of California, 1998): 46.

See also an editorial puff for Bradley, “Daguerreotypes,” *Daily Alta California* (San Francisco) 1:172 (19 July 1850): n.p. (second page of issue).<sup>1</sup>

Additional information regarding Bradley is found in Peter E. Palmquist and Thomas R. Kailbourn, *Pioneer Photographers of the Far West: A Biographical Dictionary, 1840–1865* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2000): 115–18.

1. [http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/N8500008\\_BRADLEY\\_DAC\\_1850-07-19.pdf](http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/N8500008_BRADLEY_DAC_1850-07-19.pdf)

**EWER ARCHIVE N8500008**

URL: [http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/N8500009\\_BRADLEY\\_DAC\\_1850-07-23.pdf](http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org/texts/N8500009_BRADLEY_DAC_1850-07-23.pdf)

Document author: Gary W. Ewer

Creation date: 2010-02-12 / Last revision (proofread): 2010-05-19

Citation information: *Daily Alta California* (San Francisco) 1:175 (23 July 1850): n.p. (second page of issue).

Prepared from: imaged original text from *California Digital Newspaper Collection*. (<http://cdnc.ucr.edu>)

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

The source text is Public Domain and may be freely quoted. As noted below, this document is copyright.

If citing directly from this document, please reference the Ewer Archive number and provide the following citation credit:

Gary W. Ewer, ed., *The Daguerreotype: an Archive of Source Texts, Graphics, and Ephemera*, <http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org>

**THE NECESSARY DISCLAIMERS:**

The document creator has made every effort to insure the accuracy of the transcription. However, the information provided in this document is provided without warranty, either express or implied. The document creator will not be liable for any damages caused or alleged to be caused directly, indirectly, incidentally, or consequentially by the information provided by this text.

The document creator assumes no responsibility for accuracy of fact; the text is prepared "as found." Factual inaccuracies of the original text are generally **not** noted by the document creator. If this text is used in academic papers, accuracy should be confirmed by consulting original sources.

The document creator also assumes no responsibility regarding the correctness, suitability, or safety of any chemical or photographic processes that may be described by this text. Many of the chemicals used in early photographic processes are extremely toxic and should not be handled without a *thorough* knowledge of safe use.

The opinions expressed in this text are solely those of the original author and are not necessarily those of the Archive editor. Some texts may contain derogatory words. Any such word is certainly one that would not be used today. The words remain in the transcription, however, to maintain truthfulness to the original text.

© 2010, Gary W. Ewer. <http://www.daguerreotypearchive.org>

---