

In 1995 the Daguerreian Society made available for purchase by members a reproduction of the well-known 1839 lithograph 'La Daguerriotypomanie', and an article by Gary Ewer about it appeared in the *Daguerreian Annual 1995*. The following comment about the original publication of the lithograph in Paris in December 1839 was sent to that *Annual* in 1996 but was not published. The unpublished draft is set-out here in the style of the *Annual*.

'La Daguerriotypomanie' in *La Caricature*

by R. Derek Wood

In the *Daguerreian Annual 1995*, pp.134–147, a study was provided of Théodore Maurisset's lithograph 'La Daguerriotypomanie'. The author, Gary Ewer, recognised in his footnote No.2 that his knowledge about the publication in which this print appeared on 8 December 1839 was imperfect. It is therefore necessary to provide the following correction, for citation of the journal as *La Caricature* is not incomplete as has been suggested, and was not *La Caricature Provisoire*.

As can be seen from the reproduction from the journal at the British Library's Newspaper Library in Colindale, London, the title of the publication in which Maurisset's lithograph appeared was *La Caricature* with an explanatory subtitle of "Revue morale, judiciaire, littéraire, artistique, fashionable et scénique." Although Mr Ewer was correct to note that the original *La Caricature* ("morale, religieuse, littéraire et scénique") was suppressed in 1835 and that it was resurrected in 1838 under the title of *La Caricature Provisoire*, he was wrong to assume that it continued long in that style. There were thirty-five issues under that latter title from November 1838 to June 1839, and then a

second series of issues Nos. 36 to 61 were published every Sunday between 7 July 1839 to 28 December 1839 dropping the "Provisoire". Thus it should be made clear that Maurisset's 'La Daguerriotypomanie' did indeed appear in *La Caricature*. The word journal can be considered a rather grand characterisation for this weekly publication. The issue of 8 Decembre 1839 (Nr. 58, 1^{re} Année Deuxieme série) had two plates between (as was usual) four unnumbered pages. The first plate was 'Les Misères du pauvel Peuple' by C.– J. Traviès, the second plate is the one on the Daguerreotype by Maurisset. The text concerning 'La Daguerriotypomanie' is printed on the fourth unnumbered page of *La Caricature*.

Mr Ewer also said in his article that two versions of Maurisset's print exist, with and without a superscription of "Fantaises" and a notation of "1^{er} Livraison N° 6", in which the version with these extra markings, he thought, might have appeared in the journal while those without could have been for individual purchase. However, the plate bound in *La Caricature* seen by the present writer does not have those markings.

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A PARIS.
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LA CARICATURE

ABONNEMENT :
3 Mois, 10 francs :
6 Mois, 20 francs :
Un An, 40 francs.

REVUE MORALE, JUDICIAIRE, LITTÉRAIRE, ARTISTIQUE, FASHIONABLE ET SCÉNIQUE.