



Historic Camera Club Newsletter

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DAYDARK Specialty Co.



In 1907 The Daydark Specialty Company was established at 1004 St. Ange Ave, Saint Louis Mo.. With the approval by the US postal service that post cards may contain a photo on one side and the increasing interest in instantaneous images the business opportunity arose for individuals to capture on the spot photos, especially at vacation destinations.

Daydark was a leading manufacturer of Street cameras. The Cameras contained all the necessary equipment and chemicals to produce an image in less than one minute. The company enticed street vendors to buy the camera and be their own boss. Use would afford an individual the opportunity to obtain high profits, as much as 500% profit on work sold.

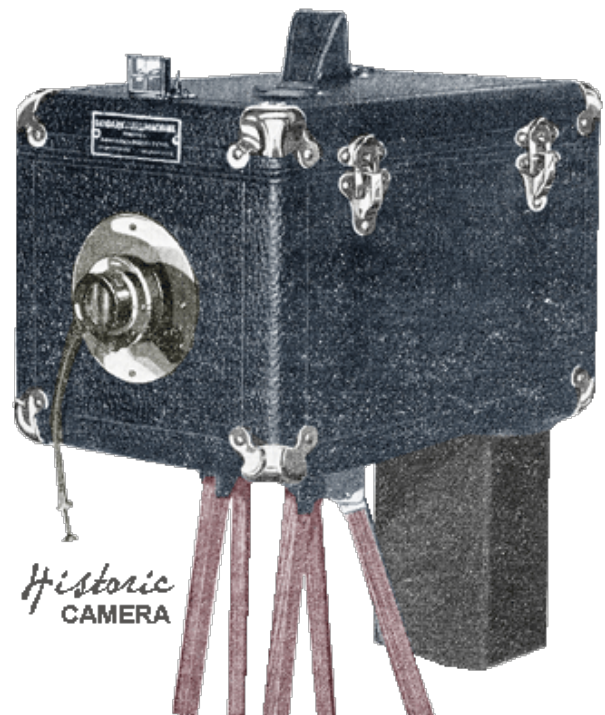
In 1910 the company is listed at 457 Temple Bldg. St. Louis, Mo.

In 1912 the company is listed at 1810 Cass

Ave, St. Louis Mo. and at Dominion Daydark Specialty Co. at 246 Vicotria St. Toronto , Canada.

in 1915 the Daydark company copyrighted the phrase - be your own boss (23699)

In 1942 the Daydark company is listed at 2828 Benton Street, St. Louis, Mo..



Ref:
1908 to 1942 various ads and brochures.
1910 Daydark Catalogue
1915 Catalog of Copyright Entries.

Catherine Weed Barnes



Pioneer female photographer Catharine Weed Barnes was born to William and Emily Weed Barnes on January 10, 1851 in Albany, New York. After completing her academic studies in Albany, she was accepted at the elite Vassar College, but illness forced her to leave before graduation. When her father was named to the International Statistical Congress delegation in St. Petersburg, Miss Barnes traveled with her parents to Russia, and the striking landscape sparked her interest in photography, which she pursued as a vocation in 1886. After the death of her mother in 1889, Miss Barnes assumed household responsibilities for her father in Albany, but spent whatever leisure time she had taking photographs and writing articles on photography. She became an editor of *American Amateur Photographer* in the spring of 1890, and became an active member of several predominantly male photographic organizations, including the National Photographers' Association of America, Society of Amateur Photographers

of New York, the New York Camera Club, and was named an honorary member of the Brooklyn Academy of Photography and the Chicago Camera Club.

By 1891, Catharine Weed Barnes had earned a reputation in New York as "the best known woman amateur in photography on this side of the Atlantic." She was the first female to compete against men in photographic contests, and after leaving her editorial post at *American Amateur Photographer* (and was replaced by an up-and-coming photographer named Alfred Stieglitz), she traveled to Europe to address the Photographic Convention of the United Kingdom in Edinburgh, Scotland. While traveling in London, she met and married H. Snowden Ward, a well-known editor of photography journals. Marriage, however, did not end her professional endeavors. She joined the editorial staff of the periodical *Photogram* and her photographs were featured in the illustrated *Shakespeare's Town and Times*.

As the nineteenth century drew to a close, Catharine Weed Barnes Ward had established herself as a tireless champion of women photographers. Photography had been long regarded as an exclusive "men only" profession, and some male society and club members threatened to resign if women were granted admittance. Mrs. Ward fired back that these societies should offer women "a fair field and no favor," and that photography should ultimately be judged by the quality of the work and not the gender of the photographer. In 1899, she and her husband toured the United States with a lantern slideshow to promote their text, *The Real Dickens-Land*, which featured photographs of Dickens' home at Gads Hill as well as the regions immortalized in his novels. She spent her later years making lantern slides and conducting lectures on the necessary equipment, light exposure, and developer. Catharine Weed Barnes Ward died in Hadlow, England on July 31, 1913 at

the age of 62. Though largely forgotten today, her efforts made it possible for female pioneer photographers like Gertrude Kasebier to take their rightful place alongside their male counterparts.

Ref:

1892 The American Annual of Photography, Vol. VI (New York: Scovill Manufacturing Company), pp. 186-188.

2010 Charles Dicken's American Audience (Plymouth, UK: Lexington Books), p. 42.

1988 The Positive Image: Women Photographers in Turn-Of-The-Century America (Albany: State University of New York Press), pp. 44-45.

1999 Women and Nature: Saving the "Wild" West (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press), p. 86.

1893 A Woman of the Century (Buffalo: Charles Wells Moulton), pp. 54-55.

Even D. Evans



Image Courtesy Alan Mays

Born in 1856 in Whales, England, Evan D. Evans at the age of twelve came to America with his parents and settled down in Scranton, Pennsylvania. By the age of eighteen, Mr. Evans began to serve as an apprentice in his brother's photographic gallery.

Later on he held responsible positions as operator in some of the leading galleries until he finally opened his own gallery in Corning, N. Y..

In approximately 1881 after building up a lucrative business, a devastating fire destroyed his gallery in Corning. Mr. Evans then relocated to Ithaca New York, to what was referred to as the Bernstein block on 74

and 76 East State street. There he opened the "Evans University Art Gallery" becoming the official photographer for College class books and other college publications. Here he achieved renowned success for his portraiture work of the many thousands of students who camera from around the country to study at Cornell University. He mastered many techniques including the striking and unique candle-light effects, that were greatly admired by many.



While living in Ithaca Mr. Evans built and owned one of the finest summer hotels and grounds in Central N. Y., called the Glenwood Hotel. It was situated four miles from Ithaca, on the shores of Cayuga, the "Queen of the Lakes." It was there that he would stay with his wife, daughter and two sons through the dull summer months.

In 1908 Mr. Evans moved to Erie Pennsylvania to live at Mrs. Margret Kennedy's residence. Eight years later at 4:30pm January 14th Mr. Evan D. Evans died of heart disease and pneumonia at the age of sixty. He was buried in Ithaca. Evan D. Evans has left a legacy with his thousands of portraiture and is remembered as the "College Photographer".

REF:

1900, The Professional and Amateur Photographer magazine, page 50
1916. The Bulletin of photography - Volume 18; Volumes 439-464 - Page 151
1916, January 15, Ithaca NY Daily News, page 5

George Smith Cook



George Smith Cook, known during the Civil War as "Photographer of the Confederacy," was actually born in Stratford, Connecticut on February 23, 1819. After being orphaned at a young age, he moved to Newark, New Jersey to live with his grandparents. In 1833, the 14-year-old boldly declared he was going out in the world "to seek his fortune." After finding occasional work as a miniature artist, he settled in New Orleans, where while studying painting, it is believed he learned about the newly developed daguerreotype process. Fully embracing photography as his vocation, Mr. Cook married the former Elizabeth Smith Francisco and opened a studio in Charleston, South Carolina. The couple would later have two children, George LaGrange and Elizabeth. Mr. Cook is believed to be one of the first photographers to make daguerreotype portraits of Southern blacks. His subjects - who may have been plantation slaves posing during their rare free time - were always well dressed and portrayed respectfully.

Mr. Cook received his first big professional break when famed photographer Mathew Brady selected him to manage his studio during a prolonged absence. He subsequently opened studios in New

York and Chicago in 1857 and in Philadelphia the following year. By the firing on Fort Sumter in April 1861, Mr. Cook's professional reputation throughout Charleston and the South had been well established. Because of his many contacts throughout the North and in Europe, he became a successful chemical blockade runner. With the numerous chemicals he accumulated, he was able to take several impressive photographs of the Confederate action. His most famous picture was of the Union ironclads (warships) Montauk, Passaic, and Weehawken firing upon the Confederate unit at Fort Moultrie taken on September 8, 1863.

As the Civil War was drawing to a close, Mr. Cook faced a succession of personal tragedies. His wife died in 1864, and the next year, a fire destroyed Mr. Cook's earliest daguerreotypes and several important documents. His personal life improved with his marriage to his late wife's niece, Lavinia Pratt. Together, they would also have a daughter (Lavinia) and a son (Huestis). Both sons also became successful photographers. In 1880, Mr. Cook left his beloved Charleston and moved with his family to Richmond, Virginia, where he soon established himself as a successful entrepreneur, purchasing photographic businesses and buying negatives from photographers needing to liquidate their inventories. George Smith Cook worked steadily until his sudden death on November 27, 1902 at the age of 82. Although the majority of his photographs were not published during his lifetime, those that survived have been featured in several Civil War compilations including *Divided We Fought* and *Images of War* as well as in the volume *Partners with the Sun, South Carolina Photographers 1840-1940* and in the biographical texts *Shadows in Silver* and *Photographer Under Fire*.

Ref:

2010 George S. Cook: Connecticut's Confederate Photographer (URL: <http://www.htfdcivilwarroundtable.org/GEORGESCook/GEORGESCook.htm>).

2002 The Library of Congress Civil War Desk Reference (New York: Simon and Schuster), p. 813.

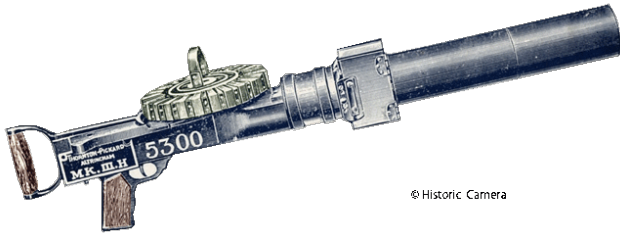
2005 *My Likeness Taken: Daguerreian Portraits in America* (Kent, OH: Kent State University Press), p. 249.

2005 *Photographer Under Fire, The Story of George S. Cook (1819 - 1902)* (Denton, TX: Historical Resources Press), p. 116.

2007 *True Richmond Stories: Historic Tales from Virginia's Capital*, (Charleston, SC: The History Press), p. 65-67.

Updated Camera Listings

Thornton-Pickard Mfg. Co. was updated with more camera listings thanks to Charlie Kameraman catalogue sharing.



New Camera Listings:



[DayDark Specialty Co. Camera Listing](#)



[Albert Bierstadt](#)



[John Dillwyn Llewelyn](#)



[J.P. Girault de Prangey](#)

ERNST
HAAS

[Ernst Haas](#)

New Biographies



Friedrich Wilhelm IV
Photo by Hermann Biow, 1847

[Hermann Biow](#)



[Johann Baptist Isenring](#)

Send Comments & Suggestions to
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