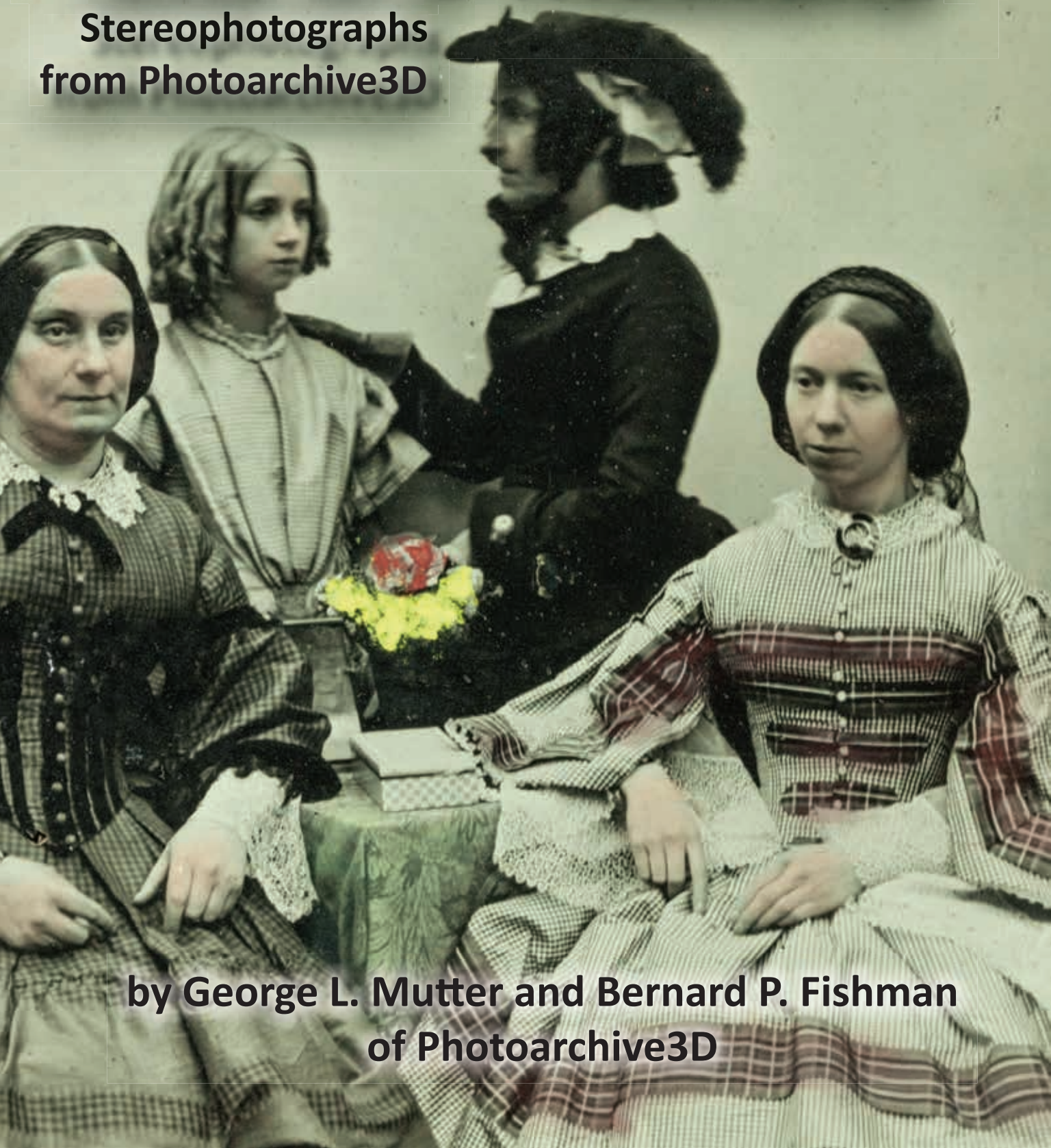


# One in a Thousand

Stereophotographs  
from Photoarchive3D



by George L. Mutter and Bernard P. Fishman  
of Photoarchive3D



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*Cover: Three women and a girl, posing with flowers and Brewster stereoviewer (next to box on table). c.1855-7, United Kingdom.*



# Preface



Three dimensional vision is our natural state, and an essential aspect of immediacy of place - “being there”. Before computer graphics and digital headsets re-interpreted lost worlds of the past, it was commonplace for a typical 19th century Victorian to travel across time and space, in 3D, in the comfort of their overstuffed parlors. This book shows you how they did it.

19th century stereophotographs were created as paired right and left photographs taken from a position separated approximately by the distance between a typical pair of human eyes. For 3D viewing it was necessary for each eye to be able to simultaneously see only one image. Hooded viewers with prismatic lenses were the most common type of stereoscopic apparatus. New versions of these dual lens viewers are available as lorgnettes (handheld), and dual lenses aligned to a fixed image window that can be placed against the print (Holmes style).

This book reproduces in high quality printing, in a flat page format, a series of historic stereophotographs suitable for viewing in the old fashioned way. It emerged as a companion effort to the **Photoarchive3D Handbook of Historic Stereophotographs** (by us, 2018), where reproduction costs prohibited doing the images full justice. The selection is the best of a digitized collection of 33,000 historic stereophotographs from Photoarchive3D.

You get to see them as the ornate objects that enthralled your grandparents, and great-grandparents. So, get hold of a viewer, and enjoy the world as a virtual Victorian.

George L. Mutter, Boston, Massachusetts  
Bernard P. Fishman, Augusta, Maine  
September 2018

# Thirty Three Examples, The Best of 33,000

Thirty three example images are reproduced here in full, from a total of 33,000 in the Photoarchive3D collection. These represent the variety of formats seen, range of locations and subjects encountered, and some rarities. Most were “published” as multiple identical copies for sale, of which only a fraction have survived. Others are unique: daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, autochromes, and tintypes were all direct exposures in the camera developed as single originals. Hand finishing of others such as tinted tissue or paper views rendered each different than another in their fine details.

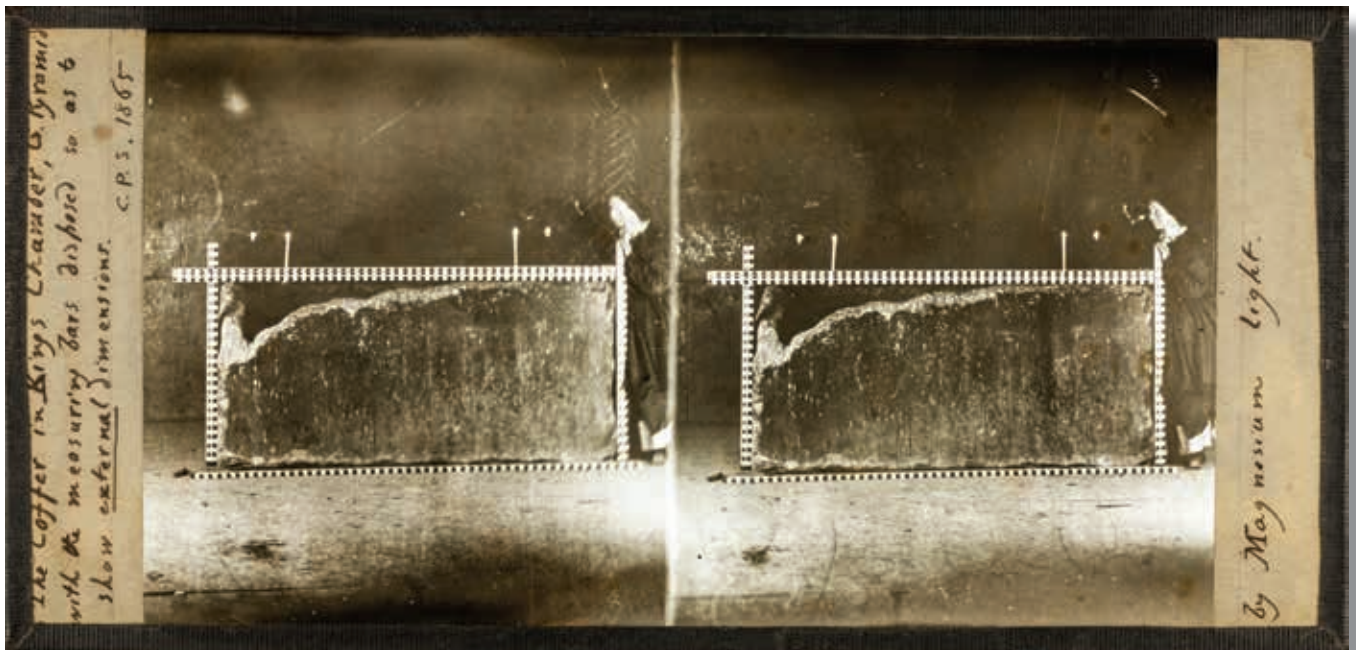
The physical stereocard images shown here can be viewed right from the page with an old style lenticular viewer. New versions of these dual lens viewers are available as handheld lorgnettes and dual lenses aligned to a fixed image window that can be placed against the print (Holmes style). An excellent new issue of a modified Holmes style viewer for standard sized cards (7”) is the Owl Viewer from the London Stereoscopic Company (<http://www.londonstereo.com/>).

Object numbers (ObjNr-xxxxxx) are Photoarchive3D accession numbers.



*Early stereoview manufacture  
c.1856, France*

**ObjNr-201707**



*First picture inside Great Pyramid, first flash picture series outside a studio.  
Charles Piazza Smyth Manuscript labels  
1864, Egypt (printed 1865)*

**ObjNr-008513**



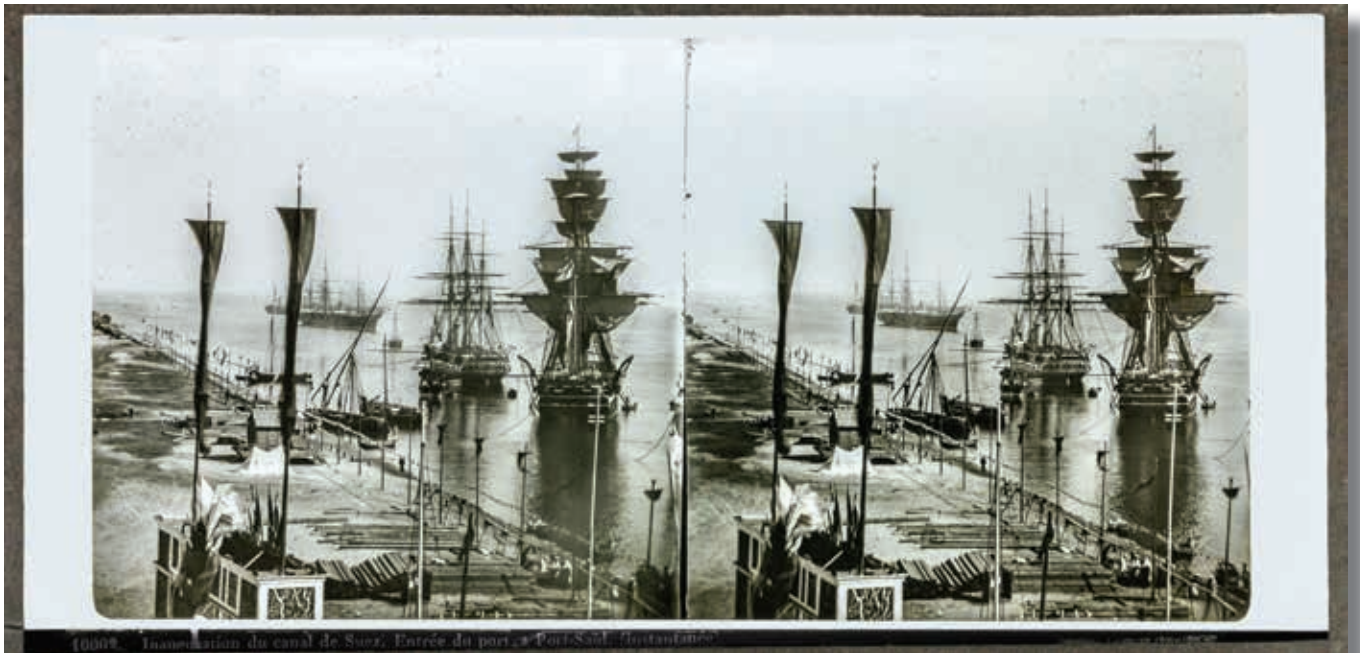
*St. Basil Cathedral, Moscow. Salt Print (Zuccalmaglio)  
1855-60, Moscow, Russia*

**ObjNr-010645**



*Venice (glass)*  
c.1858, Venice, Italy

ObjNr-209437



*Inauguration of Suez Canal (glass)*  
1869, Egypt

ObjNr-200015



*Daguerreotype portrait, tinted. Antoine Claudet, 1852-60, London, England*

*ObjNr-010502*



*Ambrotype portrait of 3 women and a girl, with stereoviewer c.1855-7, United Kingdom*

*ObjNr-010147*





*First Published photo of moon (on glass). De LaRue  
1859, United Kingdom*

*ObjNr-005695*



*Study of a chicken, Schreiber  
c.1875, Philadelphia, United States*

*ObjNr-003612*



*Earliest known photograph of modern Santa Claus  
1857, New York, United States*

*ObjNr-002345*



*Autochrome, Child at Beach (glass)  
1910, Scarborough, United Kingdom*

*ObjNr-005779*



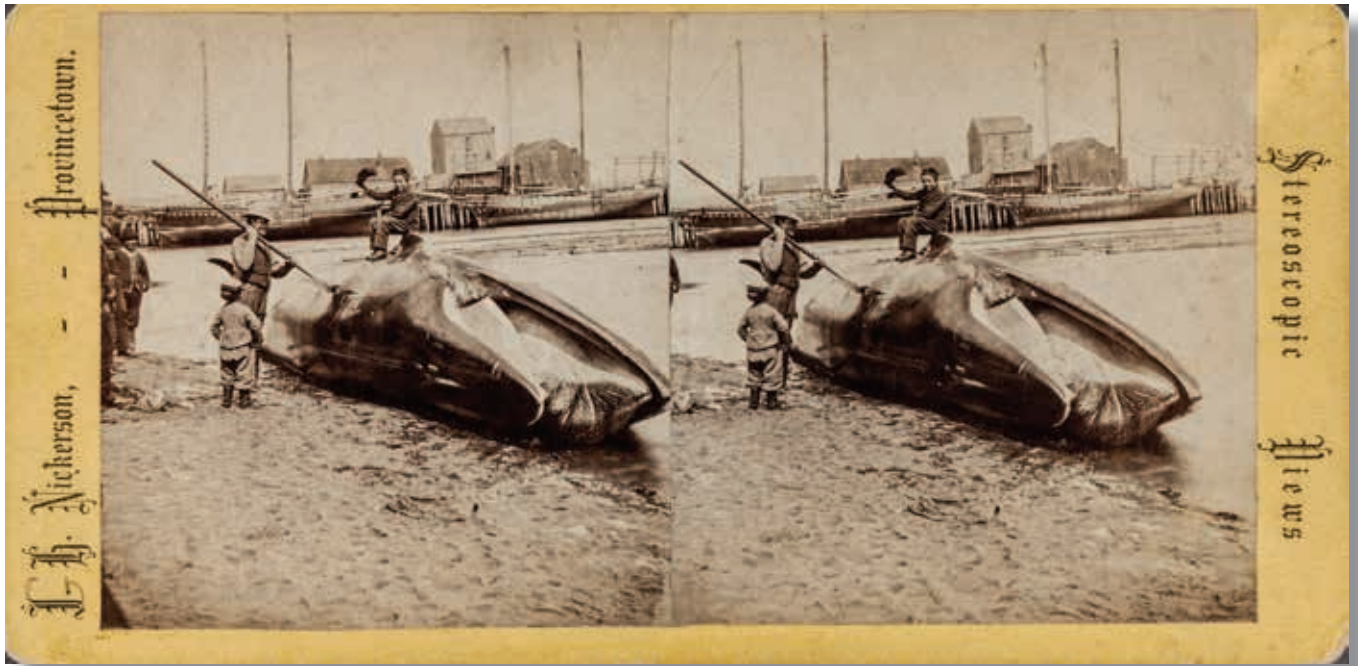
*English ambulance, Franco-Prussian War  
1870, Paris, France*

ObjNr-002565



*Imprint of Captain Werner Peterson of the L32 zeppelin  
1916, Billerica, United Kingdom*

ObjNr-002594



*Whale in Provincetown  
c.1875, United States*

ObjNr-207222



*Allied material abandoned on the beach with lounging German soldiers  
1940, Dunkirk, France*

ObjNr-007429



*Jerome, youngest brother of Napoleon lying in state  
Reflected-light tissue view.  
1860, France*

**ObjNr-004499**



*Jerome, youngest brother of Napoleon lying in state.  
Transmitted light tissue view.  
1860, France*

**ObjNr-004499**



*American section at Paris Exposition (glass)  
1889, Paris, France*

**ObjNr-209823**



*Paris 1937 Exposition, stereo autochrome  
1937, Paris, France*

**ObjNr-010299**



*Head of Liberty statue at Paris Exposition  
1878, Paris, France*

*ObjNr-209795*



*Mississippi riverboat  
c.1870, New Orleans, United States*

*ObjNr-008124*



*Early Canton, China  
c.1860, China*

*ObjNr-204922*



*Slaves in sugar house  
1860, Cuba*

*ObjNr-202132*





*Street puppet show with crowd  
c.1875, London, England*

**ObjNr-202802**



*Building the Thames embankment  
c.1864, London, England*

**ObjNr-203514**



*Moscovite peasant and his daughter  
c.1855-60, Moscow, Russia*

*ObjNr-203962*



*Nevski Prospekt, St Petersburg (glass)  
c.1875, St. Petersburg, Russia*

*ObjNr-209827*



*Nude in paradise*  
c.1890-1900, France



ObjNr-008699



*Javanese girl with batik (glass)*  
c.1870, Java

ObjNr-209796



*STEREOSCOPES OF MINNESOTA SCENERY.*  
Photographed by W. H. Illingworth.

*PREPARED BY HUNTINGTON & CO.,*  
60 West Third Street, Saint Paul.

Sioux Indians.

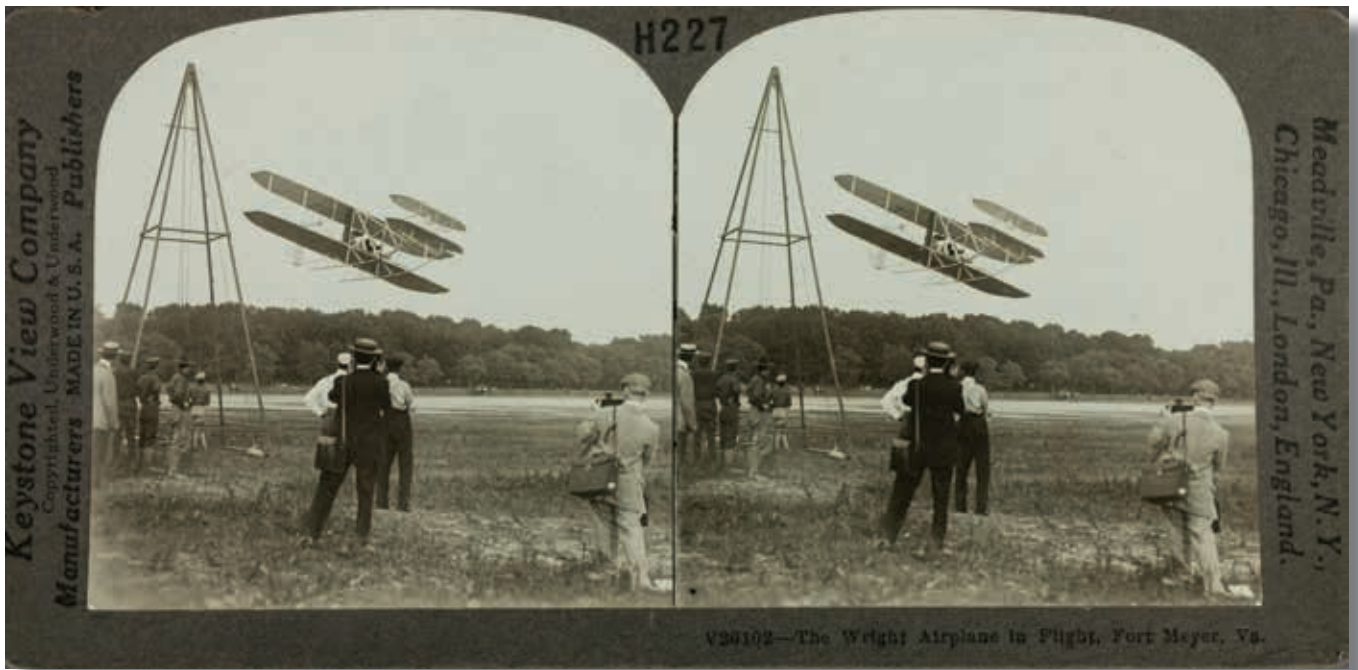
*Sioux Indians*  
*c.1870, Uited States*

*ObjNr-212647*



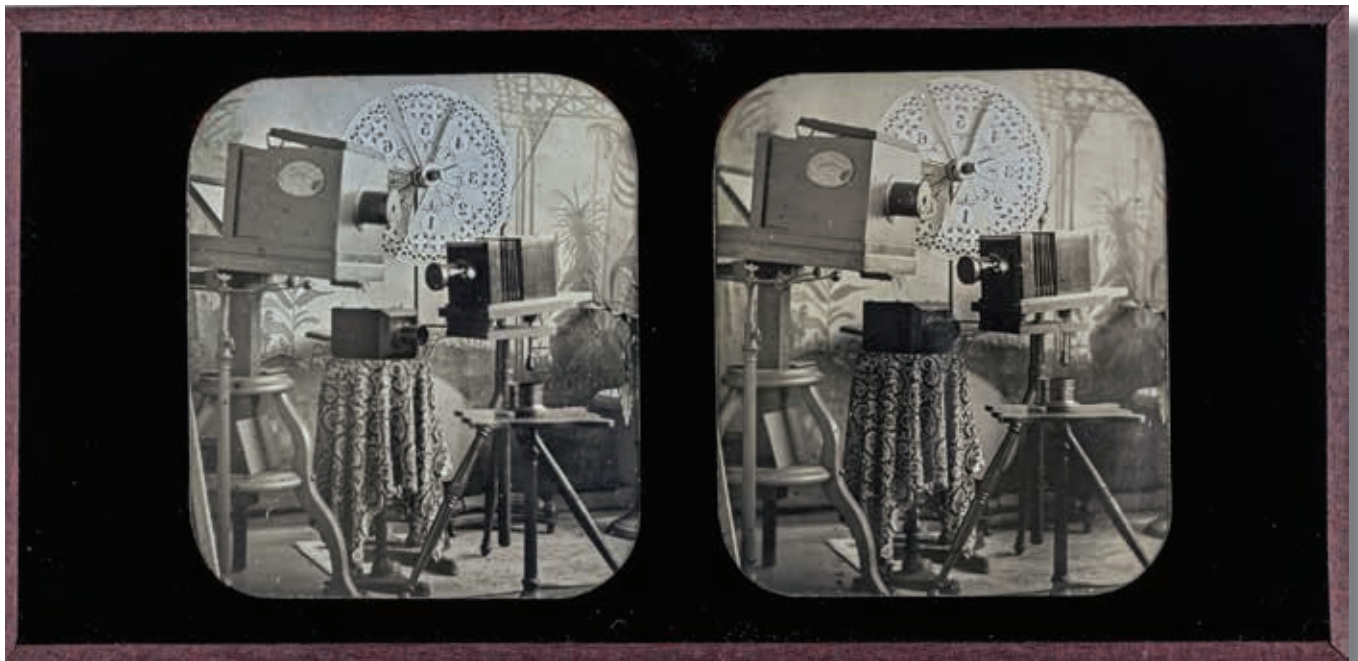
*Tintype stereo portrait of Rev. John Robinson*  
*1870, Uited States*

*ObjNr-010511*



*Wright brothers in flight  
1906, United States*

*ObjNr-001835*



*Century Darkroom photography equipment, daguerreotype  
2016, Mike Robinson, Toronto, Canada*

*ObjNr-010503*



[www.Photoarchive3D.org](http://www.Photoarchive3D.org)

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**George Mutter (Left) and Bernard Fishman(right) have over six decades of combined experience searching for, and studying, historic stereophotographs. The prospect of bringing these to a broad audience through digitization launched what has become a fruitful collaboration, Photoarchive3D. The result is a freshly digitized archive of approximately 33,000 original photographic stereo images covering many subjects, most of which has not been seen by the public in the last century.**

**George Mutter trained in medicine at Harvard and Columbia, is currently a Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School. He is a prolific scientist and educator, having authored over 100 scientific papers, and delivered numerous invited lectures internationally. Bernard Fishman is an Egyptologist trained at Columbia U. and U. of Pennsylvania. He worked in Egypt with the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago before becoming a nonprofit institution administrator. He is presently the Director of the Maine State Museum in Augusta, Maine.**

*Tintype wetplate photo by Mark Bingham, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 2011.*

**[www.Photoarchive3D.org](http://www.Photoarchive3D.org)**

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