photograph

Listen to part of a lecture in a world history class.

Photography is another technolo gy within interesting international history. There were

a number of people who were separately but simultaneously, mainly in England and France, who made significant contributions to the invention. Unfortunately few receive much credit and they were probably untold members whose contributions were never documented. The only inventor most people associate with inventing photography is Louis Daguerre France. We all were familiar with the first daguerreotypes, right?

Daguerreotypes, those early photographs made on silver plates? Good. Now although

Daguerre was the first to officially announce and present the photographic process in

1839, he owns a substantial debt to his contemporary当代. He used other people’s techniques to produce his own. And without others’ input, he might not have been so

successful. So let’s take a look at some other inventors who contributed.

One was Antoine Florence, also a France. Florence was an artist who traveled to

Brazil and settled in a remote area and there he painted landscapes and portraits and

endeavored to write a book. Living in such a remote area he couldn’t obtain certain

things he needed for printing his book, so he was forced to conceive, think of a new

technique for printing. So in around 1832 he developed a process that he called

photography, which means light writing. Now this wasn’t photography as we think of

it. It was more like a type of printing, but it did incorporate some of the techniques

that would eventually be used to create photographs.

What Florence did was he took glass plates that were coated with dark substance, I believe it was a mixture of gum Arabic and soot, and he scratched line onto the plates.

Well these scratches were , light could shine through the dark coating and through the

glass. Then Florence placed these glass plates on paper that he treated with silver

chloride. Now silver chloride makes paper sensitive to light, so it darkens when light

hits it. So Florence let light shine through the glass plates onto silver chloride paper

and it would make a kind of crude copy of whatever he did engrave on the glass.

Now if you were producing something like diplomas. You know, like you receive

when you graduate from high school or college, Florence’s technique was fine

because all you needed was one tonal black to reproduce the various letters of the

alphabet. But the technique couldn’t produce the range of blacks, whites and grays.

You need to capture the details of, oh, say, a person’s face or a landscape.

Now another scientist, a British scientist by the name of William Talbot. Talbot came

up with several methods of producing a photographic image by exposing

light-sensitive paper to the sun. This in itself was nothing new but one thing Talbot

did was he took light-sensitive paper and laid various objects on it. Things that light

could shine through, like, oh like a leaf for example. Now when you hold a leaf up to

the light, some parts are going to be darker than others, because, because they’re

opaque. They don’t let much light through. And other parts of the leaf are going to

appear brighter because they’re translucent. They let a lot of light through. Now think

about what happens when you laid that leaf on a sheet of light-sensitive paper and let

light shine through it. The lighter parts of the leaf will let more light shine through,

right? And the more light that shines through, the darker the light-sensitive paper will

get. So the lighter part of the actual leaf becomes the darkest part of the image of the

leaf, and vice versa. Essentially Talbot had created what we now call a negative image, and Talbot realized that if you treated these negative images with chemicals to make them permanent, you could then lay them on photographic paper, let light shine

through them and create positive images, photographs and from the one negative

image you cold print lots of photographs. Sound familiar?

And yet another inventor who made particularly notable contributions was Joseph

Niepce. And all the lesson known contributed to photography, Niepce is the one who

really should be given the most credit, at least as much as Daguerre I think. Niepce

has been acknowledged for producing the first permanent photograph and this was

back in 1826. Niepce made some major breakthroughs for the technology had some

supporters, including Daguerre who attempted to generate interest in the Niepce’s

project. At the time Niepce was extremely secretive about his methods. In fact he kept

the details hidden until 1829 when he began collaborating with Daguerre. When

Niepce died four years later, Daguerre continued Niepce’s research and eventually

created the first daguerreotype.

{"1": ["C"], "2": ["A"], "3": ["C"], "4": ["A"], "5": ["D"], "6": ["B"]}