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A Manual of Photographic Chemistry, Including the Practice of the Collodion Process

By Thomas Frederick Hardwich

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Excerpt: . CHAPTER II. VOCABULARY OF PHOTOGRAPHIC CHEMICALS. ACETIC ACID. Symbol, $C_4H_3O_3HO$. Atomic weight, 60. Acetic Acid is a product of the oxidation of Alcohol. Spirituous liquids, when perfectly pure, are not affected by exposure to air; but if a portion of yeast, or Nitrogenous organic matter of any kind, be added, it soon acts as a ferment, and causes the spirit to unite with oxygen derived from the atmosphere, and so to become sour from formation of Acetic Acid, or vinegar. Acetic Acid is also produced on a large scale by heating wood in close vessels: a substance distills over which is Acetic Acid contaminated with empyreumatic and tarry matter; it is termed Pyroligneous Acid, and is much used in commerce. The most concentrated Acetic Acid may be obtained by neutralizing common vinegar with Carbonate of Soda, and crystallizing out the Acetate of...



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