

THE DAILY GRAPHIC

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The Daily Graphic is a good source of magic lantern-related material because it tended to cover local events and illustrated them with sketches. It was launched in London in 1889 by William Lusson Thomas's company, H.R. Baines and Co., and was the first daily illustrated newspaper in England. Thomas had earlier launched the weekly illustrated newspaper *The Graphic* (see slide set on page 15) as a rival to *The Illustrated London News*. Here are two extracts.

The first (right) is 'Photographic Exhibition at Crystal Palace' from *The Daily Graphic*, Thursday 13 March 1890. This is the third annual photographic exhibition there, which opened on 11 March 1890 and ran for two weeks. Names such as O.G. Rejlander and Henry Van der Weyde were showing photographs that had been on display at the 1890 Paris Exhibition. In the case of Rejlander, the exhibitor was his widow. Exhibits were arranged in separate alcoves. The collection of pictures was the largest ever brought together in England and photographic clubs from all parts of the country contributed. *The Daily Graphic* drawing shows the powerful dissolving-view lantern of Noakes and Son used in the theatre each evening. In the illustration Mr Noakes is shown turning and fitting a rectilinear lens. Photographs of statuary and scenery were thrown upon the screen 100ft distant resulting in a picture measuring 38ft square.



HAPPY EVENINGS FOR EAST END CHILDREN: SKETCHES AT THE BOARD SCHOOL, NICHOL STREET, SHOREDITCH.

On Monday night a "Happy Evening" entertainment was held for the boys of the Nichol Street Board School, Bethnal Green. Lady George Hamilton presided, and Miss Heather-Bigg was at the piano. Conjuring tricks by Dr. Nix, magic-lantern by Mr. Hamilton, and music by Miss Heather-Bigg highly delighted the crowd of little lads, who were sent away rejoicing, bearing with them ample donations of nuts and oranges from Mrs. Jeune.



In the apparatus section, most of the equipment makers had paid great attention to 'detective' and 'touring' cameras. In order to achieve a lightweight product several were made using aluminium, including those of Watson & Son and R. & J. Beck. At the stand of Theobald & Co. young ladies were hard at work painting photographic lantern slides. An attractive feature was the lantern display where Mr William Brooks showed slides filling the whole proscenium. One slide contributor was Gambier Bolton with his fine collection of animal photographs (see example above).

The second extract is 'Happy Evenings for East End Children: Sketches at the Board School, Nichol Street, Shoreditch' from *The Daily Graphic*, Wednesday 12 March 1890 (left). This is another interesting sketch of a lantern in use. There is no other information given except that on the drawing. We are told: "on Monday night a 'Happy Evening' entertainment was held ... Lady George Hamilton presided and Miss Heather-Bigg was at the piano. Conjuring tricks by Dr. Nix, magic lantern by Mr. Hamilton, and music by Miss Heather-Bigg highly delighted the crowd of

little lads who were sent away rejoicing, bearing with them ample donations of nuts and oranges from Mrs. Jeune." Board schools were the first state-run schools in England, set up under the Education Act 1870 and funded by rate payers.