



John Draper. Miss Dorothy Catherine Draper. c. 1840. Daguerreotype.

This photograph is a portrait of John Draper's wife using the Daguerreotype process. In order to be caught in this photograph his wife Miss Dorothy Catherine Draper had to stay still without any sort of movement for hours in order to be caught in image. If she were to move the portrait would be blurry or will not come out at all. The portrait portrays the experience of having to stay motionless for hours to be caught in the image. You are able to see the stiffness in her posture and face expression.

At this time Daguerreotype process was finally unveiled to society. This process was being used everywhere resulting in Daguerreotype Mania. Many studios were open after the Daguerreotype process was available. It was very expensive to get your portrait done and was mainly for special events. For similar results and cheaper prices there was the Daguerreotype saloon.