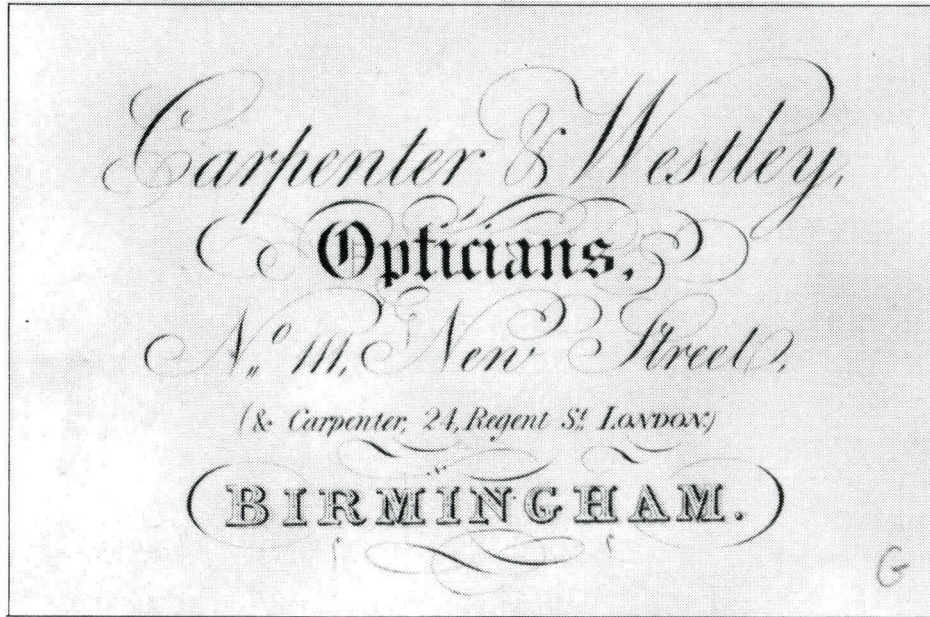


THE PIECES FIT



1

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Carpenter & Westley's trade card (1) shows them established under that name in Birmingham while Philip Carpenter alone occupied the Regent Street premises. Here an improved phantasmagoria lantern and the famous copper-plate sliders were introduced. Carpenter's *Elements of Zoology* (2) described one of the early series of these sliders, the book's introduction giving something of their background: About two years ago I brought out a new Magic Lantern, which I had invented some time before; on account of its being exceedingly well adapted to the exhibition of the Phantasmagoria, it was termed a Phantasmagoria Lantern. At the same time I published a Set of Copper-plate Sliders; and a Description of the whole was printed for the use of the Purchasers. The encouragement these have met with has induced me to make very

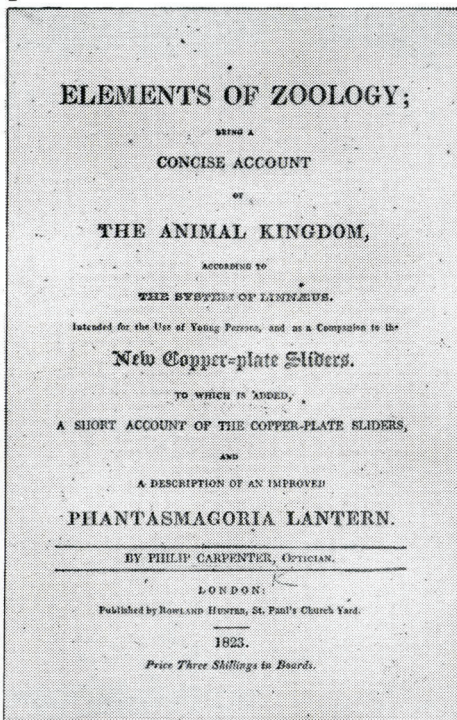
considerable Additions to them, particularly to the Natural History subjects, which, instead of eighteen the original number, now consists of fifty-five, containing upwards of (sic) of the most remarkable animals in the six Linnæan classes, the whole accurately drawn and beautifully painted: they are arranged in the Sliders in systematic order. The following pages were written as a companion to these Sliders; they are published partly to make them more known, and partly with the expectation that even without the assistance of the Lantern, the Book will prove useful as an Introduction to the systematic study of Natural History.

The sliders were clearly successfully received, for later in the same year we find Carpenter issuing his *Companion to the Magic Lantern Part II* (3), (*Elements of Zoology* thereby retro-

spectively becoming the *Companion to the Magic Lantern Part I*) containing a much expanded range of subjects. Carpenter noted the developments in his expanded introduction:

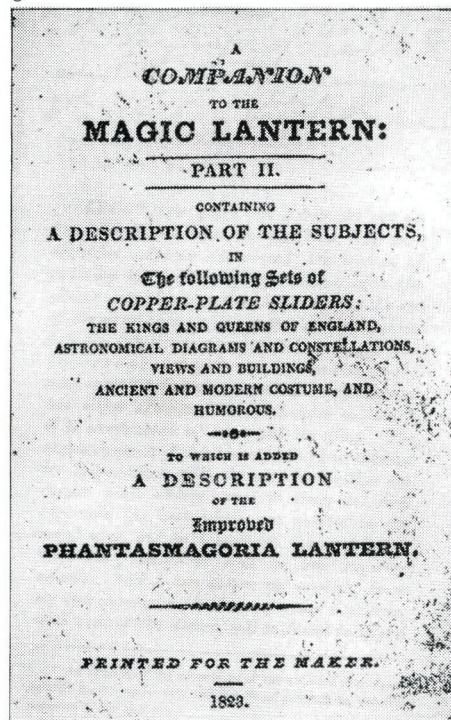
About two years ago I brought out an improved Magic Lantern, and at a very considerable expence introduced the method of printing the outlines of the sliders upon the glass.* At the same time I printed for the use of the purchasers, a description of the Lantern and the subjects in the sliders. This improved Lantern has met with the approbation of the most eminent Opticians, and of every one who has either examined the principles on which it is constructed or witnessed the effect. The encouragement I have met with has induced me to persevere, with the expectation that the copper plate sliders must in time, not only supercede the best which are

2



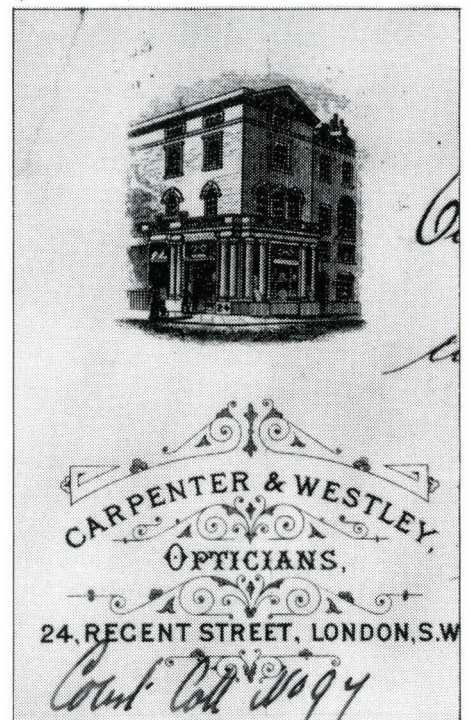
British Library

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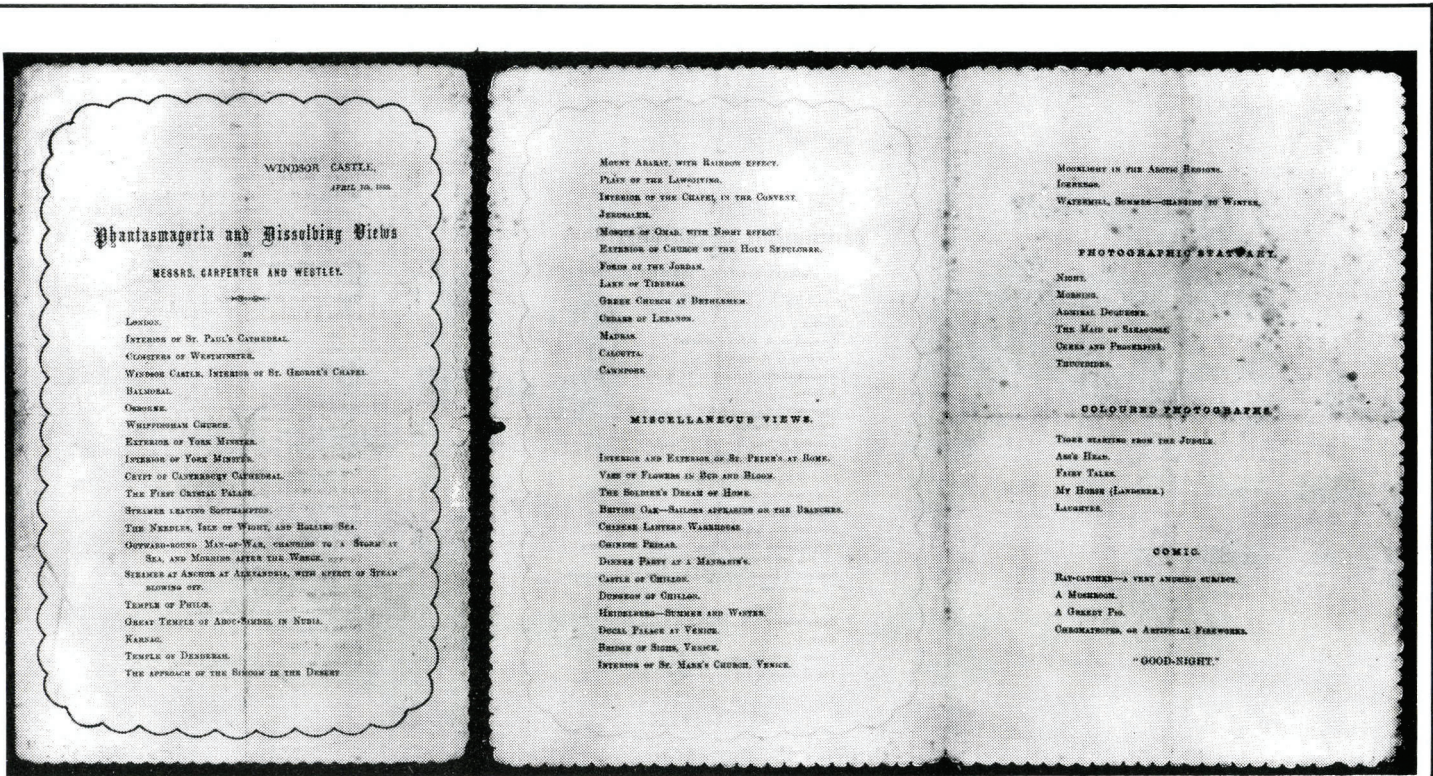


David Brooke

4



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5

Painted in the usual way, but be introduced into every well informed family, as well as into superior schools. And I can assure my readers, from my own experience, that one of these Lanterns, with a set of the sliders, will be found to afford a most amusing and rational way of spending an evening, not only to young persons, but to the sensible and well informed of all ages; and one when once introduced, will not be laid aside. Many improvements have been made in these sliders since they were first published, and the astronomical ones in particular, are now made in quite a different way, which, while they produce a very pleasing effect, have all the accuracy of copper plate engravings. These will, no doubt, be found admirably adapted to promote the views of those parents and instructors who are engaged in teaching the

elements of this sublime science. In the Natural History set, several of the figures which were not well drawn have been re-engraved, and instead of eighteen sliders, there are now fifty-six, which contain a great variety of subjects in each of the six Linnæan classes. To accompany these, a short, and I hope, a lucid account has been printed under the title of Elements of Zoology; which may either be had separately or bound up with this part. Additions have also been made to the views and humorous sets.

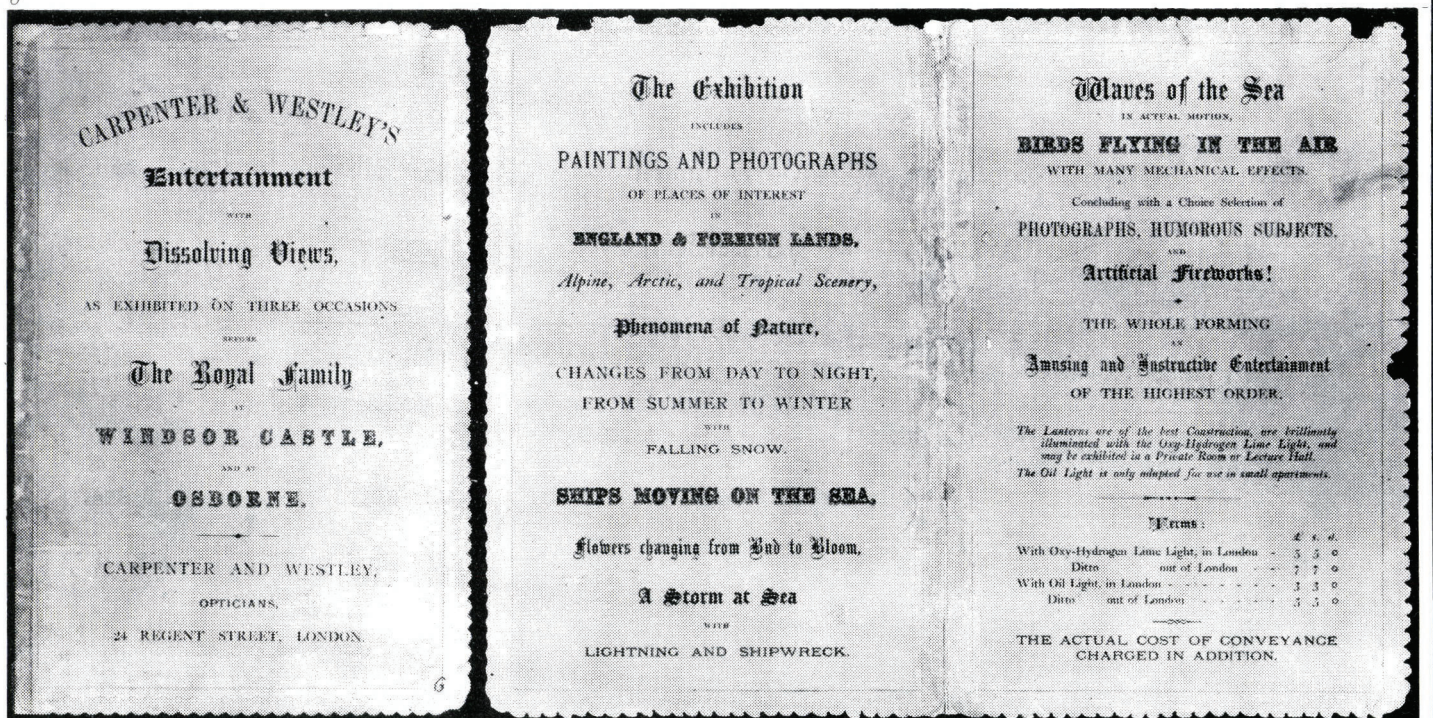
*An account of the advantages of these sliders over those painted in the usual way, will be found prefixed to the description of the Lantern.

Subsequent editions of this work were produced - the fourth appearing in 1850 under the Carpenter & Westley imprint entitled *A com-*

panion to the improved phantasmagoria lantern, containing a list of the subjects; to which is added a description of the lanterns and copper-plate sliders, with the method of exhibiting the dissolving views. (Item 118, Barnes Catalogue, Part II). We note the addition of dissolving views to the lantern repertoire.

The appearance of the Regent Street premises is shown in this trade card (4), which comes from the Science Museum collection. This collection, described in H.R. Calvert's *Scientific Trade Cards in the Science Museum Collection* (HMSO, 1971), also provides the programme for the lantern entertainment given by Carpenter & Westley at Windsor Castle on 7th April 1865 (5) and an advert giving details of similar shows available to the public on request, with details of charges (6).

6



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