

From photobook to photobookwork: the early stages of photographic narrative in book form

'What is a photobook? This may seem a redundant question with an obvious answer. A photobook is a book – with or without text – where the work's primary message is carried by photographs. It is a book authored by a photographer or by someone editing and sequencing the work of a photographer, or even a number of photographers. It has a specific character, distinct from the photographic print, be it simply the simply functional 'work' print, or the fine-art 'exhibition print. However, while this might serve as a basic definition, it is not that simple. This study focuses on a specific kind of photobook and a particular breed of photobook producer.

Martin Parr & Gerry Badger

in The Photobook: A History, Vol. I (2004), London: Phaidon.

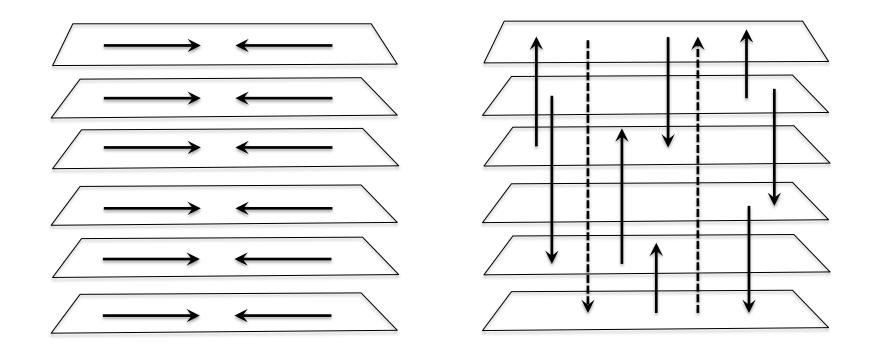


Fig. 1 - Photobook

Fig. 2* - Photobookwork

^{*}Diagram based on Keith Smith's "Graphic Representation of 'Conditional Movement' of a Visual Book" in Structure of the Visual Book (The Sigma Foundation Inc., 2005, p. 261).

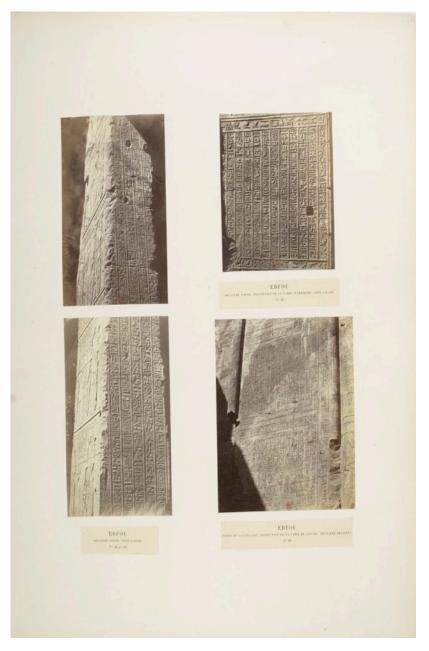




Henry Fox Talbot, *The Pencil of Nature*, London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans, 1844-46.



Maxime du Camp, Égypte, Nubie, Palestine et Syrie , Paris: Gide et J. Baudry, 1852.



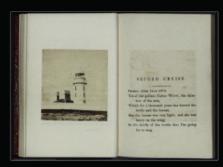
Emmanuel de Rougé, Album photographique de la mission remplie en Égypte, Paris: L. Samson, 1865.



James Nasmyth and James Carpenter. The Moon: Considered as a Planet, a World, and a Satellite, 'Plate II – Back of Hand & Wrinkled Apple', London: John Murray, 1874.

















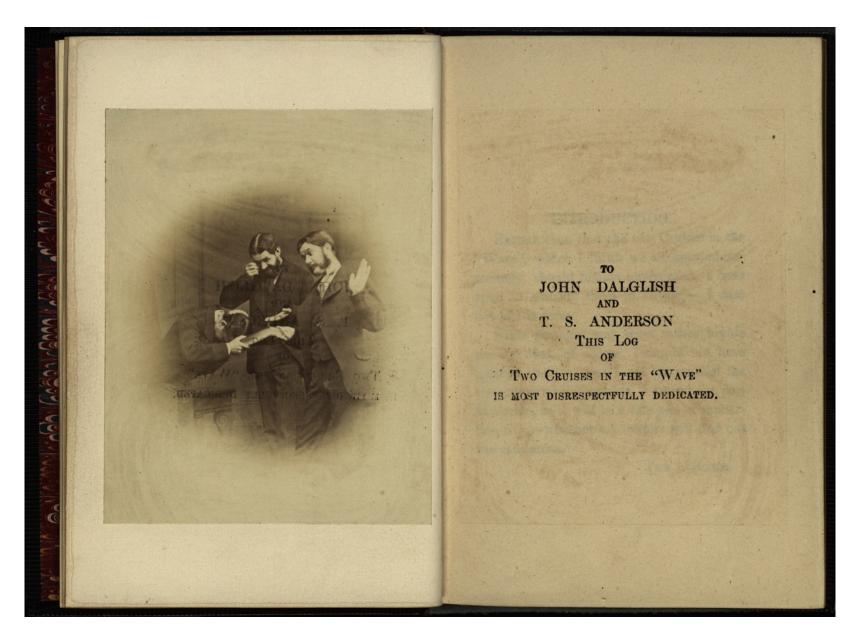




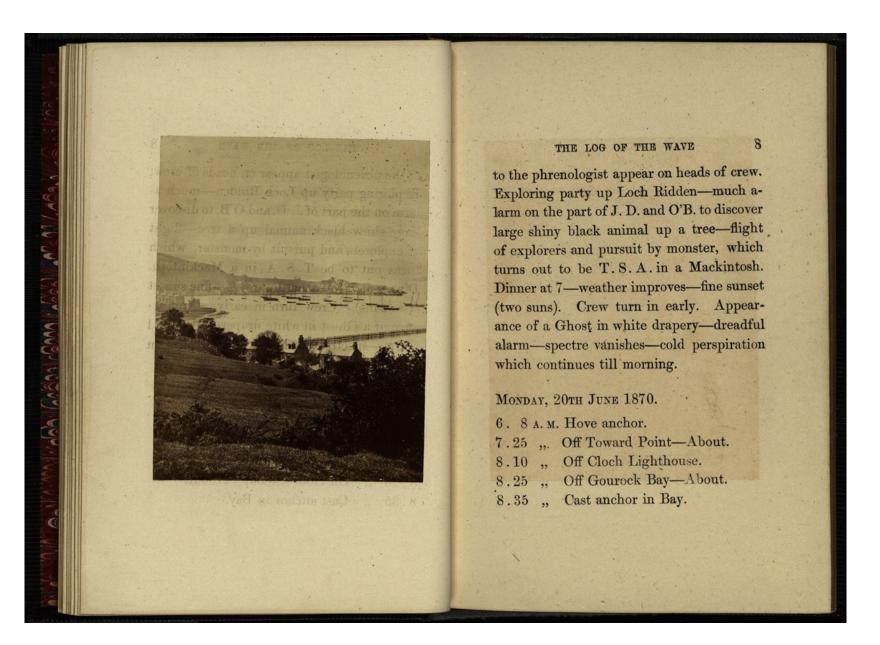




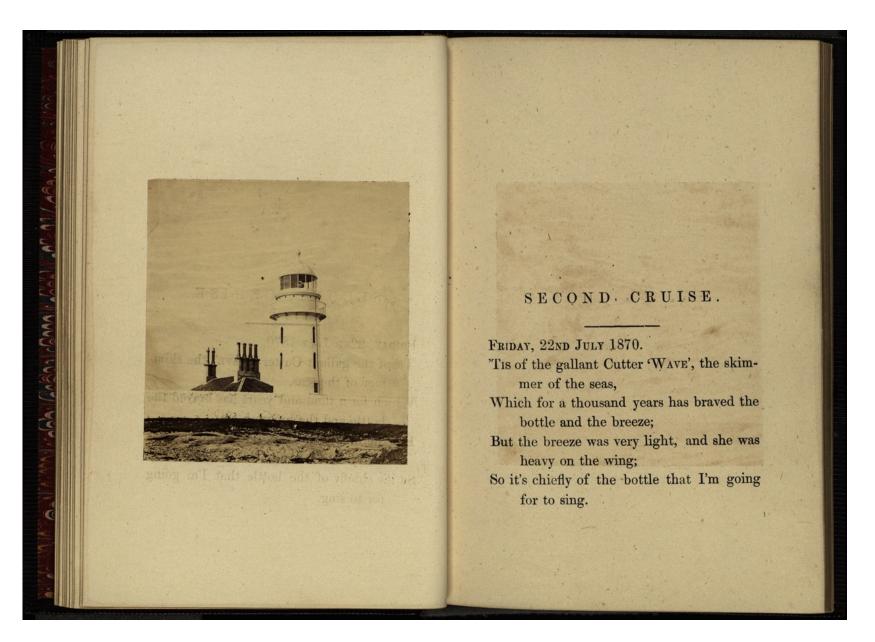




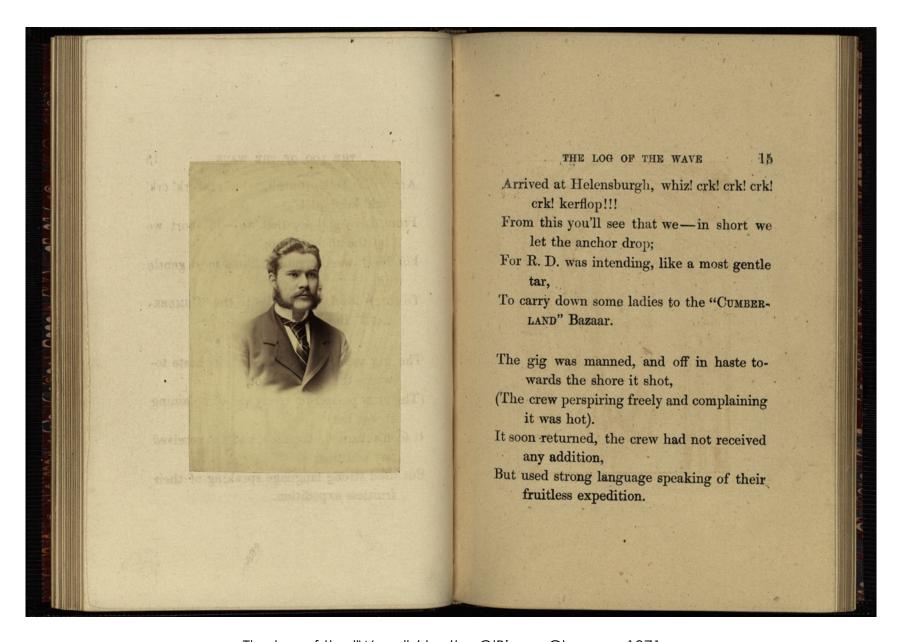
The log of the "Wave" / by the O'Bingo, Glasgow, 1871. (Courtesy of The University of St. Andrews Library. Classmark: Photo DA880.M55L6)



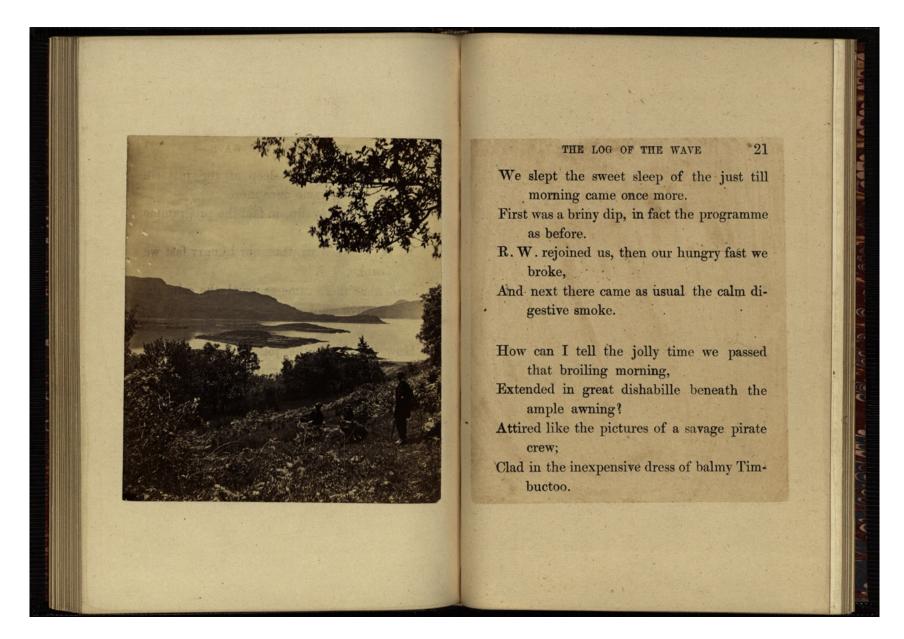
The log of the "Wave" / by the O'Bingo, Glasgow, 1871. (Courtesy of The University of St. Andrews Library. Classmark: Photo DA880.M55L6)



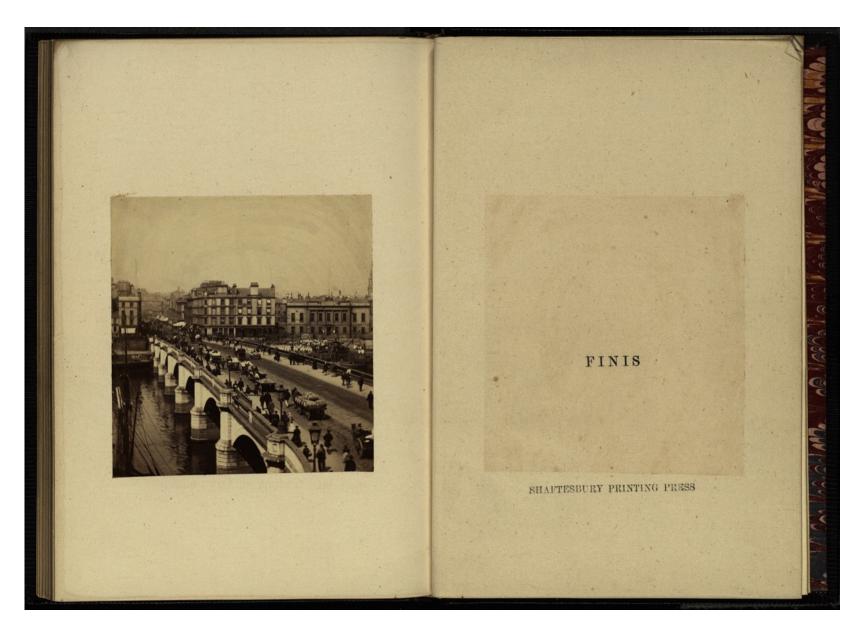
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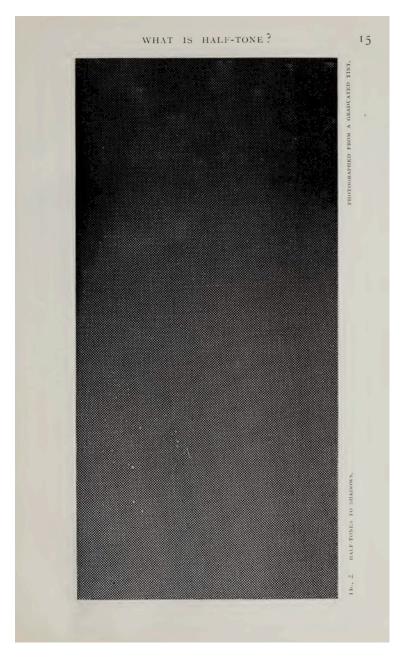


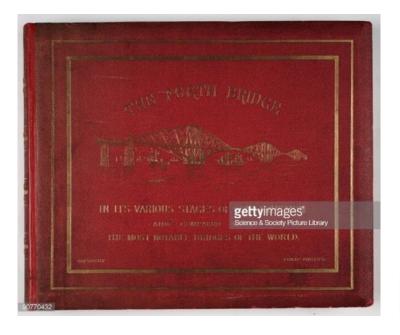
Image extracted from Julius Verfasser's The Half-Tone Process. A Practical Manual of Photo-Engraving in Half-Tone on Zinc, Copper, and Brass. London, Iliffe & sons, limited, 1904.



La Vie au grand air: revue illustrée de tous les sports, 1 September, 1898 (Issue 11). Éditeur: P. Lafitte (Paris) (Source: gallica.bnf.fr / Musée Air France).

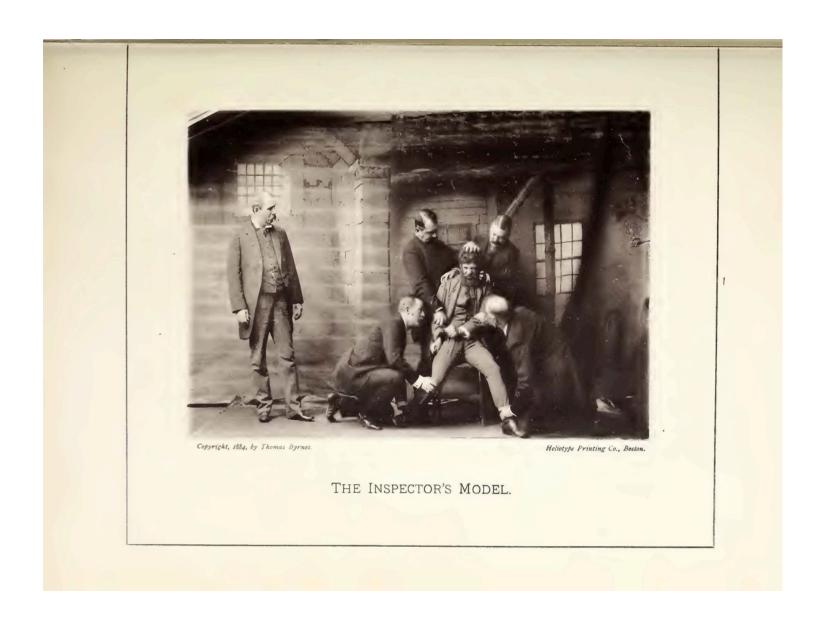


La Vie au grand air: revue illustrée de tous les sports, 22 November 1902 (Issue 219). Éditeur: P. Lafitte (Paris) (Source: gallica.bnf.fr / Musée Air France.)





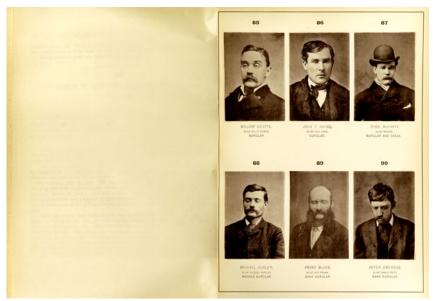
Philip Phillips, The Forth Bridge In its Various Stages of Construction And Compared with the Most Notable Bridges of the World. Edinburgh: R. Grant & Son, 1890.

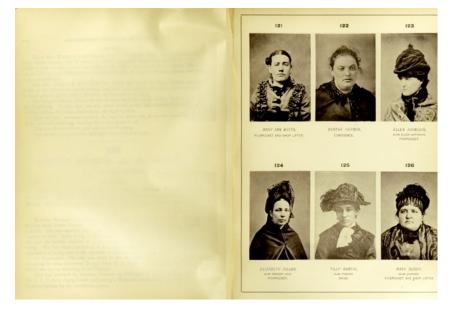


Inspector Thomas Byrne, Professional Criminals of America. New York: Cassell and Company, 1886.

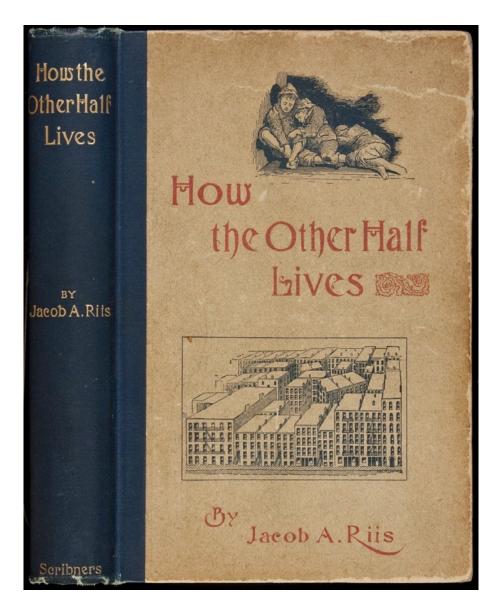








Inspector Thomas Byrne, Professional Criminals of America. New York: Cassell and Company, 1886.



Jacob A. Riis, How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York. New York: Scribners, 1890.



Prayer-time in the Nursery-Five Points House of Industry.

Jacob Riis, 'Prayer Time in the Nursery – Five Points House of Industry' (<u>Wood engraving reproduction from photograph</u>) in 'How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York by Jacob A. Riis' (Scribner's Magazine, Vol. VI, December 1889, No. 6, p. 649).



Jacob Riis, 'Prayer Time in the Nursery – Five Points House of Industry' (<u>Halftone reproduction from photograph</u>) in How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York by Jacob A. Riis With Illustrations Chiefly from Photographs Taken by the Author (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1890, p.195).



Jacob A. Riis, 'Prayer Time in the Nursery – Five Points House of Industry' (<u>Printing out Paper, ca. 1890</u>). (Courtesy of: Museum of the City of New York. Ref: 90.13.4.127.)



Jacob Riis, 'Prayer Time in the Nursery – Five Points House of Industry' (<u>Halftone reproduction from photograph</u>) in How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York by Jacob A. Riis With Illustrations Chiefly from Photographs Taken by the Author (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1890, p.195).



László Moholy-Nagy, Malerei, Fotografie, Film, München: Albert Langen Verlag, 1927 / Second Revised German Edition

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