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Reassembled three-lens collodion plate (Ostendorf collection), from which the center image was enlarged for the preceding page.

Apparently concerned about the time the photographer was taking to prepare the lighting and plates, the harried President-elect has just looked at the watch which he holds, case still open, in his right hand.

The three-lens camera used by Gardner was devised to produce three almost identical negatives on a single large glass (or collodion) plate, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ by 8 inches. The three negatives on one plate made possible a much faster reproduction of photographs.

At this first Washington sitting, Gardner also used a two-lens, or stereo-scopic, camera.