

## ROGER FENTON

British, 1819-1869

*Valley of the Shadow of Death*

1855

Roger Fenton was a pioneer in the art of wartime photography and is best known for his photography from the Crimean War. He was commissioned by publisher Thomas Agnew & Sons to document the war and reassure the public, but the overall reaction to such photos as *Valley of the Shadow of Death* showed the destruction left over from war. This photograph was long thought to be the only photograph of this area, but in 1981, a second photograph of this site with fewer cannonballs was discovered, causing a debate over which photograph came first. Many speculate that Fenton had staged the photo, making him possibly one of the first people to stage a news photograph.