



PATENTS

The First Inquiry... one who has made any improvement or discovery is: "Can I obtain a Patent?" A positive answer can only be given by presenting a complete application for a Patent to the Commissioner of Patents.

Messrs. MUNN & CO., in connection with the publication of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, have been actively engaged in the business of obtaining patents for over twenty years—nearly a quarter of a century.

Those who have made inventions and desire to consult with us, are cordially invited to do so. We shall be happy to see them in person, at our office, or to advise them by letter.

Preliminary Examination.—In order to obtain a Preliminary Examination, make out a written description of the invention in your own words, and a rough pencil or pen-and-ink sketch.

Order to Apply for a Patent.—The law requires that a model shall be furnished, not over a foot in any dimensions, smaller, if possible, send the model by express, pre-paid, addressed to Munn & Co., 37 Park Row, N. Y.

Reissues.—A reissue is granted to the original patentee, his heirs, or assigns, of the entire interest, when by reason of an insufficient or defective specification the original patent is invalid, provided the error has arisen from inadvertence, accident, or mistake without any fraudulent or deceptive intention.

Interferences.—When each of two or more persons claims to be the first inventor of the same thing, an "interference" is declared between them, and a trial is had before the Commissioner. Nor does the fact that one of the parties has already obtained a patent prevent such an interference; for, although the Commissioner has no power to cancel a patent already issued, he is authorized to declare that another person was the prior inventor, give him also a patent, and thus place them on an equal footing before the courts and the public.

Caveats.—A Caveat gives a limited but immediate protection, and is particularly useful where the invention is not fully completed, or the model is not ready, or further time is wanted for experiment or study.

Quick Applications.—When from any reason, parties are desirous of applying for Patents or Caveats, in great haste, without a moment's loss of time, they have only to write or telegraph us specially to that effect, and we will make special exertions for them.

Foreign Patents.—American inventors should bear in mind that the general principle of patent law is valuable to the patentee in this country is worth equally as much in England and some other foreign countries.

Patents are Granted for Seventeen Years, the following being a schedule of fees: On filing each Caveat, \$10; On filing each application for a Patent, except for a design, \$15; On issuing each original Patent, \$30; On appeal to the Commissioner of Patents, \$30; On application for Reissue, \$30; On application for Extension of Patent, \$50; On granting the Extension, \$50; On filing a Disclaimer, \$10; On filing application for Design (three and a half years), \$10; On filing application for Design (fourteen years), \$15; On filing application for Design (fourteen years), \$30.

Patent Claims.—Persons desiring the claim of any invention, patented within thirty years, can obtain a copy by addressing a note to this office, giving name of patentee and date of patent, when known, and inclosing \$1 as a fee for copying.

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