# Practical Hints to Inventors.

MUNN & CO., Publishers of the Sci NTIFIC AMERICAN h.ve devoted the past twenty five years to the procuring of Letters Patent in this and foreign countries. More than 50,000 inventors have availed themselves of their services in procuring patents, and manymillions of dollars have accrued to the patentees whose specifications and claims they have prepared. No discri ination against foreigners; subjects of all countries obtain patents on the same terms as citizens.

#### How can I Obtain a Patent?

is the closing inquiry in nearly every letter, describing some invention which comes to t is office. A positive answer can only be had by presenting a complete application for a patent to the Commissioner of Patents. An application consists of a Model, Drawings, Petition, Oath, and full Specification. Various official rules and formalities must also be observed. The efforts of the inventor to do all this business himself are generally without success. After great perplexity and delay, he is usually glad to seek the aid of persons experienced in patent business, and have all the work done over again. The best plan is to solicit proper advice at the beginning. If the parties consulted are honorable men, the inventor may safely confide his ideas to them; they will advise whether the improvement is probably patentable, and will give him all the directions needful to protect his rights.

### How Can I Best Secure My Invention?

This is an inquiry which one inventor naturally asks another, who has had some experience in obtaining patents. His answer generally is as follows, and correct:

Construct a neat model, not over a foot in any dimens on—smaller if possible—and send by express, prepaid, addressed to MUNN & Co., 37 Park Row, New York, together with a description of its operation and merits. On re ceipt thereof, they will examine the invention carefully, and advise you as to its patentability, free of charge. Or, if you have not time, or the means at hand, to construct a model, make as good a pen and ink sketch of the improvement as possible and send by mall. An answer as to the prospect of a patent will be received, usually by return of mail. It is sometimes best to have a search made at the Patent Office; such a measure often saves the cost of an application for a patent.

#### Preliminary Examination.

In order to have such search, make out a written description of the invention, in your own words, and a pencil, or pen and ink, sketch. Send these, with the fee of \$5, by mail, addressed to Munn & Co., 37 Park Row, and in due time you will see eire an acknowledgment thereof, followed by a writ ten report in regard to the patentability of your improvement. This special search is made with great care, among the models and patents at Washington, to ascertain whether the improvement presented is patentable.

#### To Make an Application for a Patent,

The applicant for a patent should furnish a model of his invention if susceptible of one, although sometimes it may be dispensed with; or, if the invention be a chemical production, he must furnish samples of the ingredients of which his composition consists. These should be securely packed the inventor's name marked on them, and sent by express, prepaid. Small models, from a distance, can often be sent cheaper by mail. The safest way to remit money is by a draft, or postal order, on New York, payable to the order of MUNN & Co. Persons who live in remote Parts of the country

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#### Caveats.

Persons desiring to file a caveat canhave the papers prepared in the short-est time, by sen inga sketch and description of the invention. The Government fee for a caveat is \$10. A pamphlet of advice regarding applications for patents and caveats is furnished gratis, on application by mail. Address MUNN & Co., 37 Park Row, New York.

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A reissue is granted to the original patentee, his heirs, or the assignees o 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 iraudulent or deceptive inten-

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sign patents are equally as important to citizens as to foreigners. For full particulars send for pamphlet to MUNN & Co., 37 Park Row, New York.

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On the 1st of September, 1872, the new patent law of Canada went into force, and patents are now granted to citizens of the United States on the same favorable terms as to citizens of the Dominion.

Inorder to apply for a patent in Canada, the applicant must furnish a nodel, specification and duplicate drawings, substantially the same as in applying for an American patent.

The patent may be taken out either for five years (government fee \$20). or for ten years (government fee \$40) or for fifteen years (government fee \$60). The five and ten year patents may be extended to the term of fifteen years. The formalities for extension are simple and not expensive.

American inventions, even if already patented in this country, can be patented in Canada provided the American patent is not more than one year

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[Compiled from the Commissioners of Patents' Journal.] From September 17 to September 25, 1872, inclusive.

AIR ENGINE.—C. P. Leavitt, New York city. BUTTON HOLE SEWING MACHINES.—A. L. Wood, Boston, Mass. CHEMICAL PROCESS.—C. Morfit (of Baltimore, Md.), London, England. DRI ING SEWING MACHINES.—R. Whitehill, New York city.

HARDENING BRICK AND STONE. -G. H. Smith (of N.Y. city), London. Eng. HEMMER, ETC.-P. Grosfeld, W. A. Bennett, A. B. Carman, New York city. RATE FOR REAPING MACHINE.—L. B. Bruen, New York city.

ROLLING SCREWS, ETC.—R. Bocklen, Brooklyn, N. Y. SEWING MACHINE.—W. S. Lincols; W. A. Rayer, Boston, Mass. TRLEGRAPH WIRE.-C J. A. Dick, Pittsburgh, Pa., and G. A. Dick, London, England.

### Value of Extended Patents.

Didipatentees realize the fact that their inventions are likely to be more productive of profit during the seven years of extension than the first sull term for which their patents were granted, we think more would avail themselves of the extension privilege. Patents granted prior to 1991 may be extended for seven years, for the benefit of the inventor, or of his heirs in case of the decease of the former, by due application to the Patent Office, ninety days before the termination of the patent. The extended time indresto the benefit of the inventor, the assignees under the first term having to rights under the extension, except by special agreement. he Government tee for an extension is \$100, and it is necessary that good professional service be obtained to conduct the business before the Patent Office. Full informs tion as to extensions may be had by addressing

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