Practical Hints to Inventors.

MUNN & CO., Publishers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN have 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 many millions of dollars have accrued to the patentees whose specifications and claims they have prepared. No discrimination 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 this 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 consuited are honorable men, the inventor may safely confide his deas 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 hashad some experience in obtaining patents. His answer generally is as follows,

Construct a neat model, not over a foot in any dimension-smaller if pos Sible—and send by express, prepaid, addressed to MUNN & Co., 37 Park Row, New York, together with a description of its operation and merits. On receipt 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 haid, to construct a model, make as good a pen and lok sketch of the improvement as possible and send by mail. 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 their vention, 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., S7 Park Row, and in due time you will receive an acknowledgment thereof, followed by a written 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 sus ceptible 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. 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

can usually purchase drafts from their merchants or their New York cor-

Caveats.

Persons desiring to file a caveat can have the papers prepared in the short est time, by sending a sketch and description of theinvention. The Govern ment 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 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 inten-

A patentee may, at his option, have in his reissue a separate patent for each distinct part of the invention comprehended in his original application by paying the required fee in each case, and complying with the other requirements of the law, as in original applications. Address MUNN & Co. 37 Park Row, for full particulars.

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Foreign designers and manufacturers, who send goods to this country, may secure patents here upon their new patterns, and thus prevent others from fabricating or selling the same goods in this market.

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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.

In order to apply for a patent in Canada, the applicant must furnish a model, specification and duplicate drawings, substantially the same as in applying tor an American patent.

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American inventions, even if already patented in this country, can be pat-

ented in Canada provided the American patent is not more than one year

Ail persons who desire to take out patents in Canada are requested to comnunicate with Minn & Co., 37 Park Row, N. Y., who will give prompt attention to the business and furnish full instruction.

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MUNN & Co. have solicited a larger number of European Patents than any other agency. They have agents located at London, Paris, Brussels, Berlin, and other chief cities. A pamphlet, pertaining to foreign patents and the cost of procuring patents in all countries, sent free.

MUNN & Co. will be happy to see inventors in person, at their office, or to advise them by letter. In all cases, they may expect an honest opinion. For such consultations, opinions and advice, no charge is made. Write plain do not use pencil, nor pale ink: be brief.

All business committed to our care, and all consultations, are kept secret and strictly confidential.

In all matters pertaining to patents, such as conclucting interferences, procuring extensions, drawing assignments, examinations into the validity of patents, etc., special care and attention is given. For information, and for pamphlets of instruction and advice.

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GEOMETRY, MENSURATION, AND THE STEREOMETRICAL TABLEAU. By Charles Baillargé, Esq., C. E. Quebec, Canada.

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THE MENTAL CURE, illustrating the Influence of the Mind on the Body, both in Health and Disease, and the Psychological Mode of Treatment. By Rev. W. F. Evans, author of "The Celestial Dawn," and other works. Boston: William White & Co. New York: The American News Company. News Company.

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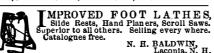
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