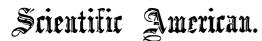
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NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1898.

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TRADEMARKS AND PATENTS AND THE WAR REVENUE BILL.

As we are going to press, the War Revenue Bill is reported to have been favorably acted upon by the the present issue is published. It is with a great deal of pleasure that we have to announce that the so-lengthened duration. called Chilton amendment, which has caused so much nated from the bill. This bill was originally passed by early mail train was forced to return: but on the 20th, the Senate, and, in justice to that body, it must be the post office authorities attempted to send out the said that we believe such a bill would not have been mails in three light-colored vehicles, drawn by three passed under ordinary circumstances; but those who considered the bill unwise and radical in its nature were unable to offer such opposition to its passage as all driven back by the bullets of the German sentries. they deemed necessary, owing to the urgent nature of Up to the 24th of September, a number of couriers the bill as a whole. The object of the bill was to place, were sent out, but only a few succeeded in passing the a graduated tax on all articles sold in boxes or other parcels, which had been prepared or manufactured under letters patent, or which were sold under trademarks.

In the first place, the joinder of patents and trademarks had nothing in reason to justify it. They have nothing whatever in common. The amendment was closed, and water communications being impossible, evidently based on the supposition that both inven- recourse to the air was taken. tors and owners of trademarks depend for their property rights on the national government. This is in letters early suggested itself to every one. On Septemno sense true of the owners of trademarks, and if in- ber 21, the director of the Paris post office gave notice ventors receive rights it is simply as an inducement to to the public to write their letters on extremely thin disclose a knowledge of their inventions to the public.

As to trademarks, it would seem that their very nature and purpose had been lost sight of. A merchant the well-known aeronaut and photographer, to estabor manufacturer adopts a mark solely that his goods may be identified by the purchaser, and it is a guarantee of good faith. If the goods turn out to be of in- Duruof a well-known aeronaut, ascended with three different quality, the purchaser can thus avoid buying mail bags containing 25,000 letters. The Prussians again. To tax them, therefore, would only invite omission of the use of the trademark, and this would mean their impetus before the balloon was reached, though simply the suppression of any guarantee or any means by which the purchaser could guard against a second deception, and would give the advantage to the dishonest and unskilled merchant or manufacturer, who puts out goods without a mark of identification, to the detriment of the public. Reputable manufacturers and merchants would, therefore, have been compelled to use their marks only to such a nominal extent as would preserve their property rights.

Trademarks do not depend on statutory enactment. They primarily are protected by common law. Indeed, only trademarks in use in foreign trade or trade with Indian tribes are registerable. So sacred have trademarks been held from medieval times, that even the marks of foreigners have been upheld in the leading countries of the world (often without registration), even when a state of war existed with the country of which the foreigner was a subject.

Clearly a tax should be impartially fixed on the goods; the balloons. The cost of each was to be \$800, includof a certain character or description, and not on the ing the cost of gas for its inflation. The aeronaut was mere trademark, which simply stands for the good to receive \$40 for each ascension. A number of small name of the reputable merchant, otherwise the man paper balloons 18 feet in diameter were also constructed having no reputation and no trademark can undersell him who honestly and fearlessly puts on his personal hundred weight. These "free balloons," as they were mark guaranteeing his goods.

A tax on patented goods also would be prohibitive in most cases, because the patentee could not compete with the unpatented and untaxed goods of his rivals. The proposition must be looked on as a strange one indeed that discriminates against honesty, enterprise mation likely to prove serviceable to the enemy. The

1884, showing the necessity of encouraging inventors, partments to watch for these free balloons. They may be read with profit by his fellow legislators. It would be indeed strange if the present period, in which ; we are reaping the reward of having encouraged inventors, should have been selected as the appropriate time to place a fine on the maker of patented goods.

vance made in the few preceding years in science. The stubborn resistance which Paris offered to the enemy was due to a considerable extent to the facility with which they communicated with the outside world, conferees, and it is probable that the bill will be passed for the mental anxiety consequent upon the complete and be put in the hands of the President by the time isolation of hundreds of thousands of human beings unfits them for resolutely engaging in a struggle of

On September 18, 1870, the last regular dispatch of consternation among manufacturers, has been elimi-letters from Paris was sent, and at 5 o'clock P. M. the horses and accompanied by horse and foot couriers; but, with the exception of one of the latter, they were German lines. The majority of these messengers carried with them dispatches in cipher, which were carefully secreted. At last the plan of sending out these men was abandoned. Paris, at this period, was far from depending exclusively upon the postal couriers. After the time when the land route became practically

> Naturally the idea of employing balloons to take out paper and to dispense with the envelope, and it soon transpired he had made arrangements with Nadar. lish a regular balloon service.

> . On September 23, the "Neptune," in charge of M. pointed cannon at the balloon, but the balls exhausted some of them arose sufficiently high to cause the balloon to vibrate perceptibly. The infantry peppered away with their rifles, but did no damage, and the aeronaut amused himself by showering down a quantity of Nadar's address cards upon the heads of the Prussians. In three-quarters of an hour he alighted near Evreux, and his mail and official dispatches were promptly delivered. The departure of the next balloon, the Città di Firenze, took place on September 25, carrying 104 kilogrammes of letters, and with great difficulty the balloon succeeded in making a successful voyage. From that day the transit of Paris mails through the air was an accomplished fact and by degrees the weight of all letters was limited to one-eighth of an ounce.

Energetic steps were at once taken to construct a number of balloons for postal purposes. All of the balloons in the city were utilized first. An aeronautic company was formed for the manufacture of which would be capable of raising rather more than a styled, were abandoned to the mercy of the winds without any aeronaut, and they only carried newly authorized postal cards, the contents of which were to be read by the postal authorities before being dispatched, so as to make sure they contained no inforcost of transmission was fixed at two cents each. A The great speech of Senator Platt, of Connecticut, in regular system of lookouts were organized in the dewere only sent up when the wind was favorable.

A balloon factory was organized at the Gare d'Orleans and under the vast iron and glass arched roof of this railroad station the balloons were built. Sailors balanced themselves on the metal girders and trusses It is gratifying to note that the conferees were led to and suspended long strips of colored calico reaching alperceive the mischievous consequences of the bill be- most to the ground, and from the girders already hung fore it was returned to either House for consideration., wickerwork cars, trailing ropes and grappling irons. We have to congratulate ourselves upon the very sen- A score of women were either occupied in straightensible stand which has been taken in regard to what ing out and ironing long pieces of material or else soaking the calico to get rid of its stiffness and dyestuff. Having been hung up to dry, the material was then cut to the various patterns, and after a preliminary varnishing, a hundred or more girls seated at long tables and superintended by Madame Godard proceeded to sew the seams with mathematical exactitude. Then came a second coat of varnish both inside and out. The balloons were then inflated by means of a metal fan which caused the varnish to dry quicker and mathematical impossibility of the investment of the facilitated the detection of any holes that might hitherto have passed unperceived. The netting, ropes error, and they were surrounded by an impenetrable and other tackle, together with the cars, were all made line of German soldiers. Paris was well fortified, by sailors. The balloons were 51 feet 8 inches in armed, garrisoned and provisioned, but they now had diameter, 162 feet 4 inches in circumference and had a to solve the problem of communications from outside. capacity of 72,234 cubic feet. Each balloon required There were within the fortifications about 2,000,000 'twelve days to manufacture. The total weight of the people, a quarter of whom were under arms, and it was | balloon, independent of passengers and cargo, was remarkable that the beleaguered capital should have 2,200 pounds. The balloon itself weighed 450 pounds, succeeded in obtaining almost constant communications and was tested after inflation and held captive until

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would have been a most harmful measure

COMMUNICATIONS DURING THE SIEGE OF PARIS. Among the most interesting subjects connected with the siege of Paris, in 1870-71, was the method by which the Parisians communicated with the outside world, and the story of their trials and triumphs never ceases to be interesting. Even after the war had begun, the Parisians delighted to demonstrate to each other the city; but in a few short weeks they were shown their with the departments during the siege—a circumstance the test was completed at an altitude of 655 feet. which was only rendered possible by the rapid ad. | For a time France was really governed by balloons,