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[ESTABLISHED 1846.]

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A special notice is made in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN of all inventions patented through this agency, with the name and residence of the patentee. Patents are often sold, in part or whole, to persons attracted to the invention by such notice.

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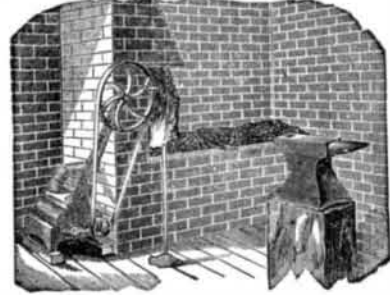
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As a rule, it pays best to advertise what one has to sell or wishes to purchase, in papers having the largest circulation among the class of persons likely to be interested in the article. Parties having Manufacturing Establishments to sell or lease, or who wish Estimates made for Constructing Bridges, Dams, Iron Buildings, Furnaces, Heating Apparatus, Steam Engines, Boilers, Wood and Iron Working Machinery, Agricultural Implements, or Contracts for Engineering Works of all kinds, will find that it pays to advertise in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

The value of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN as an advertising medium cannot be over-estimated. It goes into all the machine and workshops in the country, and is taken at the principal libraries and reading rooms in the United States and Europe.

The SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN and SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT have a larger circulation than all other papers of their kind in the world combined; and at no period since the commencement of the publication of these papers has the weekly circulation been as large as at the present time.

The actual issue of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN is 47,500 per week, and of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, 15,000, making the combined circulation, 62,500 every week.

If anything is wanted in the mechanical line, advertise for it in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

If one has a patent or machinery to sell, advertise in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

If any one is exhibiting at the Centennial, it will pay them to advertise where they may be found.

For rates, see the first column of the last page of this paper.

The Supplement.

Next to the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT has the largest circulation of any paper of its class published. The SUPPLEMENT is a distinct publication from the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, and has a large circulation other than among the subscribers of the regular edition. Terms for advertising are very low, as follows:

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THE VALIDITY OF PATENTS.

The inexperienced purchaser of a patent does not generally appreciate the importance of having its claims examined, and their validity and scope defined by some person experienced in such matters, before parting with his money. It is not unusual for the assignee, just as he is commencing the manufacture of articles under his recently purchased patent, to find that it is an infringement upon some previously issued patent, and that he has not only made a worthless investment, but that he is likely to get mulcted in damages if he proceeds with his manufacture. Cases are continually coming to our knowledge wherein parties have made purchases in good faith, and paid considerable sums of money on the assurances of the patentee and a mere glance at the patent, presuming that all that the drawing of the invention showed was protected by the claims, when, in fact, the point covered was almost infinitesimal. Another manner in which purchasers are sometimes deceived is that the claims, although broad enough and worded properly to cover the invention, contain a single element protected by some prior patent, which covers the very part in the new machine which is necessary to insure its efficiency. The Howe sewing machine patent illustrates this. It protected but little that any of the manufacturers cared to use, except the one small part essential to all sewing machines; and all manufacturers had to pay Howe a royalty, and he derived from that apparently trivial item an immense income.

We therefore recommend any person who is about to purchase a patent, or about to commence the manufacture of any article under a license, to have the patent carefully examined by a competent party, and to have a research made in the Patent Office to see what the condition of the art was when the patent was issued. He should also see that the claims are so worded as to cover all the inventor was entitled to when his patent was issued; and it is still more essential that he be informed whether it is an infringement, as above suggested, or not. Parties desiring to have such searches made can have them done through the Scientific American Patent Agency, by giving the date of the patent and stating the nature of the information desired. For further information, address MUNN & CO., 37 PARK ROW, New York.

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