

obtaining a patent of any kind and by any means, than they are of obtaining one which shall be of any value to their clients. Inventors are often poor, uneducated and lacking in legal knowledge. They desire a *cheap solicitor*, and do not know how to choose a good one. They are pleased with the parchment and seal, and are not themselves able to judge of the scope or value of the Grant. *Honest and skilful solicitors*, with a thorough knowledge of the practice of the *Office* and Patent Law, who are able and willing to advise their clients as to the exact value of the patents which they can obtain for them, may be of much service to inventors. There are many such ; but those who care for nothing but to give them something called a patent, that they may secure their own fee, have in too many instances, proved a curse. To get rid of their client and of trouble, they have sometimes been content to take less than he was entitled to, while in many cases they have with much self-laudation, presented him with the shadow when the substance was beyond reach. Between such men and the Patent Office the strife is constant. They have the ear of their client, and to some extent of the public, and much of the misrepresentation of the spirit and character of the work of the office is directly traceable to this source.

The drawing up to the specification is an operation which requires the utmost care, skill and attention, for the validity of the patent will depend on this document being clear, explicit and circumstantial. Few inventors will venture to assume a task which is calculated to try the capacity and experience of the most able and professional man.—*Fraser.*

The Supreme Court of the United States, in a recent decision, used the following language :

"The growth of the patent system in the last quarter of a century in this country has reached a stage in its progress where the variety and magnitude of the interests involved require accuracy, precision and care in the preparation of all papers on which the patent is founded."