

**PATENT LAW AND PRACTICE, SHOWING
THE MODE OF OBTAINING AND
OPPOSING GRANTS,
DISCLAIMERS, CONFIRMATIONS, AND
EXTENSIONS OF PATENTS. WITH A
CHAPTER ON PATENT AGENTS**

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A. V. NEWTON

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BY

A. V. NEWTON.

ENLARGED EDITION.



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PREFACE TO THE ENLARGED EDITION.

IN preparing for the Press a New Edition of *PATENT LAW AND PRACTICE*, I have modified the text to meet some minor changes arising out of new legislation and new rules of the Commissioners of Patents. Extended experiences have also enabled me to throw some new light upon doubtful points of practice. Thus the powers of the Law Officers in respect of the granting and annulling of disclaimers, and the awarding of costs, as a condition of the grant of a disclaimer, having come under review in the Courts, and been to some extent settled by the decision of the Judges, are now more clearly indicated.

The importance to inventors of an accurate appreciation of the requirements of the law in respect of the subject matter of inventions, I seem, in common with all other writers on Patent Law, to have dismissed with but a brief notice. Private

practice has, however, convinced me of the desirability of setting out more clearly, than mere definitions could do, the scope or requirements of the law in this respect. In a new chapter, entitled Patentable and Non-Patentable Invention, will be found as thorough an exposition of the subject as the limits of the work will allow. Opinions must necessarily differ on this, as on all other controversial subjects, and exceptions may be taken by the thoughtful critic to some of the conclusions arrived at. It is, however, only fair to say that nothing has been set down rashly, although no uncertain judgment has been pronounced on any one of the many phases of the question presented to view. Some of these conclusions have recently been put to a severe test, and have been accepted by the administrators of the law. In saying this, I do not forget that the Law Officers, as administrators from whose decisions there is no appeal, are not called upon to interpret the law with the strictness required from Judges of Appeal; but it may well be assumed that Patents allowed to pass after contention will come within the scope of the Patent Laws.

I must here acknowledge with grateful thanks the assistance afforded me by friends who were able to

give me precise information respecting cases, which are unnoticed, or but indifferently reported, in the Law Books.

A summary of the Commissioners' Rules will be found in the Appendix; and a list of the Costs relating to Patents and Disclaimers, conforming to the present practice, is also added.

A. V. NEWTON.

OFFICE FOR PATENTS,
66, CHANCERY LANE.

November, 1879.

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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

IN preparing this little work, I have had chiefly in mind the requirements of inventors and patentees who, without possessing either the wish to make, or the opportunity for making, a study of patent law, nevertheless desire to know somewhat of its nature,—not so much for their own guidance, as to prevent them from having to trust ignorantly to the guidance of those to whom they may be led to confide their patent business, and to enable them to appreciate at its just value the advice that may be offered for their acceptance. The work is also designed for the use of such solicitors as may, although unfamiliar with the principles and practice of patent law, be suddenly called on, in the course of a very miscellaneous business, to advise on some point connected with this speciality of the law.