

ROBERTS' PETROLEUM TORPEDO.
TORPEDOES.
THE ROBERTS
PETROLEUM TORPEDO CO.
 Office at the
RFD PLANING MILL,
 corner of Pine and Second streets,
 (Near the Railroad.)
TITUSVILLE, PA. :

Owing to the large and increasing demand for the Roberts' Torpedoes, and the late decision of the Commissioner of Patents in refusing to Wm. Reed a patent, and the decision of Judge F. C. Greer sustaining the Roberts' patent, they have **LOWERED** the price of their Torpedoes.

TWENTY PER CENT.

so that every Operator can afford to try a Torpedo before abandoning a Well.

The following is the decision rendered by Judge Greer on the twenty-second (22) day of September, 1894, in the United States Circuit Court at Philadelphia. The case was argued three days, by Charles E. Keller of New York, R. P. Lyons and S. A. Purvis of Pittsburgh, for defendants, and George Harding of Philadelphia, and George H. Christy of Pittsburgh, for plaintiff.

OPINION OF JUDGE GREER.

As I write with diffidence I can only state the conclusions to which my mind has come after a careful examination of this case.

The complainant has exhibited a patent dated 25th of April, 1888. This is prima facie evidence of a good title, and puts on the respondents the burden of proof that the patent is void or worthless.

I have not repeat my remarks in the case of Good-year vs. Day (12 Wall, U. S. Rep., 229) but now adopt them as affording a rule of decision which applies clearly to the present case.

As the infringement of the patent is admitted, the only question will be as to the validity of complainant's patent of April 25, 1888.

The issue after specification had been reduced to practice, and after repeated experiments, that the complainant succeeded in overcoming the prejudice and ignorance of the people on the subject, and persuading the public that his invention was useful; after he had established its great utility and value, and when his genius and patient perseverance, in spite of adverse and costly, were completely successful, that Reed, who had before made experiments on the same subject, and was unsuccessful, imagined that he had the best right to the invention, and after purchasing one or more complainant's Torpedoes, he applied on the 1st of November, 1887, for a patent for substantially the same combination of devices and machines contained in complainant's patent. On the 10th of the same month the respondents formed themselves into a company or corporation called "The Reed Torpedo Company," for the purpose of infringing the complainant's invention, and supporting the expense of litigation, and this defendant's suit of law results. They have secured, even after the preliminary injunction, every property granted by the District Judge.

Let a decree be entered for complainant for a perpetual injunction, and a Master appointed to take an account according to the prayer of the bill.

R. C. GREER, Judge.

Note.—The passage referred to by Judge Greer in his former decision, 3 Wallace, p. 229, adopted as applicable to this case was as follows:

"It is usually the case, when any valuable discovery is made, or any new machine of great utility is invented, that the attention of the public has been turned to that subject, previously, and that many persons have been making, researching, and experimenting. Philosophers and mechanics may have in some measure anticipated in their speculations the possibility or probability of such discovery or invention; many experiments have been successfully tried, and many have been conducted with the desired result. They have produced nothing beneficial. The invention when perfected may truly be said to be the culminating point of many experiments, not only by the inventor, but by many others. He may have profited indirectly by the unsuccessful experiments and failures of others, but it gives them no right to a share of the honor of the proof of the successful invention. It is when speculation has been reduced to practice, when experiment has been perfected by patient and continued experiments when some new compound, art, manufacture, or machine has been thus produced which is usually the public's attention called to it, and becomes a public benefactor and entitled to a patent. And yet when genius and patient perseverance have at length succeeded, in some cases, and efforts, some valuable invention or discovery, how seldom is it followed by reward. Every man of the honor, whose speculations, failures, and patient experiments who did or did not come very near making a discovery now claims. Every one who can invent an improvement or vary its form, claims a right to trace the original discovery. We need not mention Moore, Blanchard, or Woodworth to prove that this is the usual history of every great discovery or invention."

"The present case adds another chapter to this long and uniform history."—2 Wallace, U. S. Reports, p. 232.

CAUTION.

The public is cautioned against employing any of the regular, authorized Agents of the Company, since the Roberts' Patent cover the use of the Torpedo and all explosive materials for oil wells, and the use of such explosives by other parties is a direct infringement of their rights. Any parties infringing any of the ROBERTS' PATENTS will be dealt with according to law, and as acting willfully and knowingly in defiance of law and the decisions of the Courts.

The Company have reorganized their business with a view to accommodate all Men in every part of the Oil Region. They have employed the most efficient Agents and Assistants that can be procured for the business. Each Torpedo is labeled with date of patent, together with the price of the Torpedo, and signed by an officer of the Company, so every Operator wishing a Torpedo may know the price and whether it came from our office.

Operators will confer a favor by reporting to this Office any negligence of Agents.

The following named persons have been appointed Agents and Assistants for the Oil Regions of Pennsylvania and West Virginia:

- LIST OF AGENTS.**
- TITUSVILLE, CHURCH RUN AND VICINITY.**—SEPPIN, Office, Hamilton's Operators, address Titusville, Pa.; Assistant John Van Seve.
 - TITUSVILLE, CHURCH RUN AND VICINITY.**—H. H. THOMAS, Office and address, Mansion House, Titusville, Pa.
 - SHAMBERG AND VICINITY.**—GEORGE H. YIN, Office, Shamberg; residence, Titusville, Pa.; Assistant, A. A. West.
 - ENFORDS PIZANANTVILLE, BEAN FARM AND PIDDLES.**—W. GEORGE VAN VLIET, Office and address, Course House, Pizantville, Pa.; Assistant, H. C. Hamilton.
 - TRIDENT AND WEST HICKORY.**—CHAS. CLARK, Office and address, Box 52, Office, Trident, Pa.; Assistant, R. C. Beardsley.
 - PETROLEUM CENTRE AND VICINITY.**—LEVI MANON, Office and address, Petroleum Centre, Pa.; Assistant, Charles Reed, Ford.
 - FARM AND BLOWN FARMS and District lying on Oil Creek and Cherry Run from Story Farm to McClintockville.**—A. R. SAUNDERS, Office, Address, Tarr Farm, Pa.; Assistant, Luther B. Saunders, Charles C. Cochran and William Hoyt.
 - McCLINTOCKVILLE, OIL CITY AND RENO.**—A. B. WEST, Address, Oil City or Reno, Pa.; Assistant, A. Mend.
 - FRANKLIN, ALONG THE ALL-QUERRY RIVER.**—Z. J. B. R. Office and address, Franklin, Pa.; Assistant, P. C. FARM AND PA. GEORGE LANSIN, Office and address, Bedford, Pa.; Assistant, S. S. Sutherland, address, Franklin, Pa.
 - WEST VIRGINIA.**—C. D. ANGEL, and T. F. COOK, Address, Parkersburg, West Virginia.

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 (Successor to A. T. Leggett.)
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VALVE CUP
 made than the one made in my shop, and they will be sold at \$12 per hundred or 50 cents a set.
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 The firm have also a store at TITUSVILLE Spring street.
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 A desirable House for sale, situated on the Peach Farm. Paved with a sewer, convenient to family use. A rare bargain in the oil region. For further particulars enquire at the Jamestown Clothing Store.

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"The Willcox & Gibbs is the only Sewing Machine whose working is so sure and simple that I could venture to introduce it into Syria."
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