

BERTS PETROLEUM TORPEDO CO
TORPEDOES.
THE ROBERTS
PETROLEUM TORPEDO CO.
Office at the
RED PLANING MILL
Cor. 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 P. C. Girer regarding 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 Grier on the twenty-second (22) day of September, 1869, in the United States Circuit Court at Philadelphia. The case was argued three days by Charles M.eller of New York, B. F. Lucas and A. A. Purvance of Pittsburgh, for defendants, and George Handing of Philadelphia, and George H. Christie, of Pittsburgh, for plaintiff.

OPINION OF JUDGE GRIER

As I write with difficulty 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, 1865.

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 need not repeat my remarks in the case of Good-year vs. Day & Wall, U. S. Rep., 225, but now adopt them as affording a rule of decision which applies equally 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, 1865.

I was after speculation had been reduced to practice, and after repeated experiments, that the complainant succeeded in over coming the prejudices 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 sneers and scoffs, were completely successful, that Reed, who had before made experiments on the same subject, was unsuccesful, and after purchasing one or more complainant's torpedoes, he applied on the 1st of November, 1867, for a patent for substantially the same combination of device and machine contained in complainant's patent. On the 15th of the same month the respondents formed themselves into a company or corporation called "The Reed Torpedo Company, for the purpose of putting the complainant's invention, and supporting the expense of litigation, and thus defend him of the fruits. They have served, even after the preliminary injunction very properly granted by its Master Judge:

Let a decree be entered for complainant for a permanent injunction, and a Master appointed to take account accordingly to the payer of the bill.

R. C. GRIER, Judge.

NOTE.—The passage referred to by Judge Grier in his former decision, 3 Wallace, p. 239, 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 researches and experiments. Philosophers and mechanicians may have in some measure anticipated in their speculations the possibility or probability of such discovery or invention; many experiments have been successfully tried, coming very near, yet failing short of 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 claim a share of the honor or the profit of the successful inventor. It is when speculation has been reduced to practice, when experiment has resulted in discovery, and when that discovery has been perfected by patient and continued experiments, when some new compound, art, manufacture, or machine has been thus produced which is useful to the public that the party making it becomes a public benefactor and entitled to a patent."

"And yet when genius and patient perseverance have at length succeeded, in spite of sneers and scoffs, some valuable invention or discovery, how seldom is it followed by reward?" Every robust limb of the human, while speculators, swindlers, and politicians share of the profits. Every unsuccessful experimenter who did or did not come very near making a discovery now claims it. Every one who can invent an improvement or vary its form, claims a right to剽窃 the original discovery. We need not summons Morse, or Blanchard, or Wood worth 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. Rep.

parts p. 239.

CAUTION.

The public is cautioned against employing any at the regular authorized Agents of the Company, since the Roberts' Patent covers the use of the Torpedo and all explosive materials for oil wells, and the use of such materials 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 wilfully and knowingly in defiance of law and the decisions of the Courts.

The Company have re-organized their business with a view to accommodate Oil 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 labelled with date of patent, together with the price of the Torpedo, and signed by an officer of the Company, so every Operator wishing a Torp. to know his 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 Assistant Agents for the Oil Region of Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

LIST OF AGENTS.

TITUSVILLE, CHURCH RUN AND VICINITY.—STEPHEN MOOR, Office, Hamilton's Garage, address Titusville, Pa. Assistant Job J. Van Buren.

TITUSVILLE, CHURCH RUN AND VICINITY.—H. H. THOMAS, Office, and address, 16 Main Street, Titusville, Pa.

SHAMBURG AND VICINITY.—GEORGE L. WINN, Office, Shamburg, residence, Titusville, Pa.

ENTERPRISE, ELEANORVILLE, BEAM MOUNTAIN, PITTSBURGH, W. G. VAN VLIET, Office and address, Cass House, Pleasantville, Assistant, H. C. Huntington.

TUDOR, AND WEST HICKORY.—CHARLES CLARK, Office and address, Express Office, Tidewater, Pa. Assistant, F. C. Beatty.

PETROLEUM CENTRE AND VICINITY.—LEVI MASON, Garage and residence, Petroleum Centre, Pa. Assistant, Charles Blackford.

TAHR AND BLOOD FAIRBURN & DISTRICT, lying on Oil Creek and Connoisseur Run, Penna., Davis to Fairburyville.—JAMES SAUNDERS, Address, 127 Main St., Pa. Assistant, Luther B. Saunders.

CHARLES K. CONNELL and William How.

CHARLES H. MCKEE, OIL CITY AND UNION.

A. S. WYATT, Address, Oil City or Reno, Pa.

FRANKLIN, ALONG THE ALLEGHENY RIVER.—Z. Z. ALLEN, Office and address, Franklin, Pa.

SCOTT, A. S., FOSTER, FARM & PARKER'S, LANDON.—RICHARD W. HEDFIELD, Office,

and address, Scrubgrass, Pa. Assistant, B. W. Parker.

WEST VIRGINIA.—C. D. ANGEL, and C. F. ROBERTS' PETROLEUM, West Virginia.

ROBERTS' PETROLEUM, West Virginia.

JOHN LAWRENCE, Gen'l Agent.

ROBERTS' PETROLEUM, West Virginia.