

freely benefit by the invention without considering the original inventor or patentee.

“Working” the Patents in England.

The grant of a Patent being declaredly for the benefit of the industry rather than solely in the nature of a reward for the inventor, the Patents and Designs Act of 1907 obliges the patentee to meet the British demands for his invention by manufacturing it in the British Isles instead of simply importing therein the articles made abroad, while British manufacturers are prevented from making or getting such, owing to the existence of the Patent that has been granted the foreigner.

The interests of the public have always been carefully safeguarded in the grant of British Patents, and the principle that the patentee when granted that which is a virtual monopoly for a limited period must so use his invention as to be for the public good and not solely for his own benefit against that of the public, has already been shown to be clearly defined in terms printed on the sealed documents granting the Letters Patent.

With the object of definitely securing and protecting the public interests, the Act of 1883 provided means for enabling a compulsory manufacturing or working licence to be obtained by any person who was aggrieved or prejudiced in his business by reason of the Patent, who could prove to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade that the Patent was “*not being worked in the United Kingdom* and that the benefits of the invention were withheld in a manner not for the public good.”

To make this working requirement of even more sure effect and advantage to the public, in the Patents Act of 1902, in Sub-section 5 of Section 3, the Patent was made not only subject to the grant of a compulsory licence, but liable to absolute revocation “if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Judicial Committee that the Patent is worked or that the patented article is manufactured exclusively or mainly outside the United Kingdom.”

When these conditions relative to the working of the Patents