

6 NUMBER OF CIVIL ACTIONS AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

Return of the Number of Civil Actions, &c.

ABSTRACT:

	Number of Days in which the Court sat.	NUMBER of Writs sued out.	AMOUNT Sued for.	NUMBER of Actions Tried.	AMOUNT of Actions Tried.
			£. s. d.		£. s. d.
TOTAL of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, for the Year 1826.	37	60	6,202 14 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	39	5,739 4 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
	39	423	8,630 16 8	316	5,211 3 -
	79	359	6,285 2 1	307	4,430 - 11
	55	134	2,087 7 8	97	1,514 16 2
	210	976	23,206 - 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	759	16,896 5 1
TOTAL of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, for the Year 1827.	29	154	7,566 10 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	89	5,046 13 5
	36	258	5,159 7 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	174	3,784 11 5
	51	176	5,981 8 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	154	3,992 18 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	8	48	735 16 2	32	663 2 5
	124	636	19,443 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	449	13,487 5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
TOTAL of the Supreme and Circuit Courts, for the Year 1828.	13	23	1,080 5 6	9	244 19 1
	40	339	6,243 7 1	235	5,126 16 -
	69	281	4,876 18 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	210	3,482 18 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
	22	79	1,282 14 3	49	837 3 -
	144	722	13,483 5 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	503	9,691 16 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
GRAND TOTAL Of the Number of CIVIL AC- TIONS and CRIMINAL INFOR- MATIONS and PROSECUTIONS in the Supreme and Circuit Courts of Newfoundland, from the 1st day of January 1826 to the 7th day of December 1828.	79	237	14,849 10 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	137	11,030 16 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
	115	1,018	20,033 11 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	725	14,122 10 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
	199	614	13,549 5 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	510	9,260 2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
	85	261	4,105 18 1	178	3,015 1 7
	478	2,130	52,538 5 8	1,550	38,428 10 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

IN THE COURTS OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR.

in the Supreme and Circuit Courts of Newfoundland—continued.

ABSTRACT:

NUMBER of Criminal Trials.	NUMBER of Persons Tried.	NUMBER of APPEALS.		GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.
12	16	- -	Total Supreme Court, for the year 1826	This Return exhibits, we believe, a very correct statement of the Business done by these courts, considered merely as courts of law; but in virtue of the jurisdiction which they possess as courts of equity, a great number of cases also come before them, which are not included in this return, and which it would be scarcely practicable to give an account of. In addition to this, the whole business of the Probate Court is conducted under the immediate superintendence and direction of the Judges of the Supreme Court. But the most difficult and irksome part of their whole duty is in hearing a long string of cases, principally between indigent parties, which are brought under their consideration by petition, setting forth some grievance, and a rule of court calling on the party against whom the complaint is preferred, to appear in court to answer the same. When both parties are thus brought before the court, the Judges examine the nature of the case, and if the facts be admitted on both sides, make such a decree thereon as they deem to be proper; but if the facts be disputed, they either direct an action to be brought in order to have them ascertained by a jury, or they point out to the suitors their respective legal rights and liabilities under each statement of facts, and recommend them to refer the matters in controversy between them to arbitration. It is almost impossible for a person unacquainted with the circumstances of this country, and the condition of its population, to form an idea of the vast number of cases which are in this manner brought under the view of the Judges; and it is perhaps still more impossible for a stranger to the mode of transacting business in this Island, to conceive the difficulties which frequently arise in settling them. This, it should also be observed, is frequently done in chambers by the Judges, who are in consequence compelled to give nearly a daily attendance there, even at those periods when there is no court actually sitting.
9	14	- -	- Central Circuit Court - - d°	
28	38	2	- Northern Circuit Court - d°	
12	15	- -	- Southern Circuit Court - - d°	
71	83	2	- All the Four Courts - - - d°	
8	10	- -	Total Supreme Court, for the year 1827	
14	18	- -	- Central Circuit Court - - d°	
10	14	- -	- Northern Circuit Court - d°	
1	1	- -	- Southern Circuit Court - - d°	
33	43	- -	- All the Four Courts - - - d°	
10	10	- -	Total Supreme Court, for the year 1828	
24	22	- -	- Central Circuit Court - - d°	
12	12	- -	- Northern Circuit Court - - d°	
1	1	- -	- Southern Circuit Court - - d°	
47	48	- -	- All the Four Courts - - - d°	
30	39	- -	- - SUPREME COURT.	
47	54	- -	- - CENTRAL CIRCUIT COURT.	
49	53	2	- - NORTHERN CIRCUIT COURT.	
14	17	- -	- - SOUTHERN CIRCUIT COURT.	
140	163	2	- - GRAND TOTAL.	