

tures is not yet freed from the paralyzing embarrassment in which it was plunged by the building of the Montreal Crystal Palace at the time of the Prince of Wales's visit; notwithstanding that the \$20,000 voted for an exhibition at that time was employed on the building, a heavy mortgage amounting to, I believe, some \$11,000 still remains.

Immigration.

The number of immigrant arrivals given in the Report for 1864 is 19,149, against 19,419 in 1863, showing a decrease of 270; while the arrivals at New York, in 1864, exceeded any previous year since 1854.

Patents and Copyrights.

As the report under this head treats of matters of great importance to inventors, and those interested in the progress of Arts and Manufactures, we give the following lengthy extracts:—

“Although a considerable degree of attention has been devoted to Patents, Copyrights and Trade Marks, it is not intended to discuss in the present report the changes required in our laws on these important subjects. It is very easy to discover that the laws are not what they ought to be, but it is a little more difficult to arrive at a definite and practical conclusion on the *modus curandi* of the evils complained of.

“There is besides nothing so detrimental to the interests of the people at large, and so disorganizing to the public service, as fluctuations in such laws. Moreover, the whole question of Reciprocity, now open between us and our next neighbours, with whom we have hitherto had such large commercial transactions, must naturally embrace these subjects. I must, therefore, however strong my convictions may be upon these points, respectfully refrain from recommending legislative changes, on any of them, at this moment.

“Another very obvious reason would restrain me from suggesting amendments to the Patent and Copyrights laws during the present session, it is the physical impossibility of the Department being so placed as to carry out any large change such as may arise from admitting foreigners to the privilege of acquiring in Canada patent rights for their inventions. This principle (I take it for granted) cannot be omitted from any new Canadian law on patents, without subjecting the country to disagreeable reflections and damaging retaliations. The impossibility arises from the transitory stage through which the Department is just now passing, and from the total want of space and accommodation for the reception of models of inventions, owing mainly to the prospect of an early removal to Ottawa, as the permanent seat of Government. At present our models are kept partly at Toronto, under the guardianship of the Board of Arts and Manufactures of Upper Canada, and partly at Quebec, in two small and unsuitable rooms, and nothing short of the zeal and continued attention of our able curator, could save them from destruction. It has even been found necessary to pack a number of them in boxes for want of place and the necessity of saving them, whence they are kept

out of being consulted for administrative purposes, and out of view of the numerous persons, especially mechanics, who resort to those rooms for information.

“The following tabular statement shows the variations in increase and decrease of the operations of this branch of the Department for the last ten years.

| | 1854. | 1863. | 1862. | 1861. | 1860. | 1859. | 1858. | 1857. | 1856. | 1855. |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Applications for Patents ... | 170 | 207 | 180 | 160 | 170 | 142 | 116 | 126 | 120 | 99 |
| Patents granted..... | 146 | 156 | 160 | 142 | 162 | 112 | 98 | 115 | 108 | 92 |
| Transfers registered..... | 74 | 78 | 72 | 56 | 47 | 26 | 35 | 45 | 62 | 32 |
| Drawings registered..... | 1 | 4 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Trade Marks registered..... | 7 | 1 | 17 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Fees Received | \$3257 95 | \$3750 75 | \$3650 90 | \$3012 70 | \$2644 17 | \$2479 75 | \$2105 00 | \$2406 76 | \$2370 50 | \$1911 80 |

“An examination of the above table shows that, although there may be an occasional difference against one special year as compared with the years immediately anterior, still the importance of the operations of the Patent Office is steadily advancing when considered by periods.

“If it was possible to arrange matters so as to cause no unnecessary delays in the proceedings connected with the granting of Patents, there is no doubt that it would have a good effect on the numerous class who take a decided interest in the progress of Arts and Manufactures. No one can conceive the anxiety of inventors and the eagerness of their friends to *see the Patent through*, to make use of the common expression; their minds find no rest till it is through; and in the interval between the day of their application and the one on which the parchment is in their hands, their