

Mr. Brymner, the Archivist, has been engaged in the arrangement and classification of the historical records in the possession of the Department, many of which, consisting of original reports on various subjects, civil and military, are of considerable value. Among the additions during the year is a complete set of the Journals of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, from the date of the separation of that Province from Nova Scotia, to 1857-58. A suite of fire-proof rooms has been prepared to ensure the preservation of the Records in the basement storey of the Western Block.

VI.—PATENTS.

The following tabular statement exhibits the business of the Patent Office, including Industrial Designs, Trade Marks, Copyrights and Timber Marks, registered, during the years from 1855 to 1875 inclusive:—

Year.	Applications for Patents.	Patents granted.	Caveats.	Transfers of Patents registered.	Designs registered.	Trade Marks registered.	Copyrights registered.	Timber Marks registered.	Assignments of Trade Marks registered.	Fees received.
1855	99	92	.....	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ cts.
1856	120	108	.....	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,911 30
1857	126	115	.....	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,370 50
1858	116	98	.....	35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,406 76
1859	142	112	.....	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,105 00
1860	170	150	.....	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,479 75
1861	160	142	.....	56	2	3	.....	.....	.....	2,644 07
1862	180	160	.....	72	.....	17	.....	.....	.....	3,012 70
1863	207	156	.....	78	4	1	.....	.....	.....	3,650 90
1864	170	145	.....	74	1	7	.....	.....	.....	3,759 90
1865	184	162	.....	70	1	16	.....	.....	.....	3,267 95
1866	274	263	.....	126	.....	65	.....	.....	.....	3,618 76
1867	369	218	.....	193	5	54	.....	.....	.....	6,132 78
1868	570	546	.....	337	6	32	134	.....	.....	8,110 00
1869	781	580	*60	470	12	50	62	.....	.....	11,052 00
1870	626	556	132	431	24	72	66	190	.....	14,214 14
1871	279	512	151	445	22	106	115	105	.....	14,540 07
1872	752	670	184	327	17	103	87	64	11	14,097 00
1873	1,124	1,026	171	547	30	95	122	69	.....	19,578 65
1874	1,376	1,249	200	711	30	163	134	41	.....	29,830 14
1875	1,418	1,322	194	791	31	149	131	21	.....	34,301 98
										34,555 82

It appears from this statement that there was a slight increase in the business of the Patent Office during the year 1875, as compared with the previous year. The fact of there being any increase is noticeable when the depression in trade and manufacturing industries which has prevailed throughout the Dominion is taken into consideration.

Twelve applications for patents were rejected in 1875 under the power given by law to the Commissioner to refuse patents for want of novelty, &c. Many cases were amended, and the claims modified to meet the objections of the office.

* There were no Caveats until 1869.

† Transferred from the Department of the Secretary of State.