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Care is taken, while looking to the rights of inventors, to see that there is apparent novelty in alleged inventions before the grant of patents.

Several arbitrations have taken place during the year to decide cases of interfering applications for a patent, and the office has acted in such cases on recommendations contained in the award of the arbitrators, with reference to the issue of the patents.

Seven patentees, finding their patents to be inoperative, by reason of incorrect specifications, were allowed the privilege of surrendering them; and re-issue patents for the unexpired period of the original patents, in accordance with amended specifications, were granted.

The issue of the *Patent Record*, published monthly for so many years by the Burland Lithographic Co., in connection with the *Scientific Canadian Magazine*, continues to be most satisfactorily carried out, and the enlargement of diagrams, mentioned in last year's Report, has added very much to its appearance and usefulness.

The publication of these diagrams together with the lengthy claims of the patents is of the utmost importance to inventors and the manufacturing interests of the Dominion.

It enables the public, and especially the manufacturing public, to acquaint themselves with the results of the inventive genius of the day, and affords facilities to have practicable effect given to it.

The model rooms are quite inadequate to the present wants of the office, and for the proper classification and arrangement of the large and rapidly increasing number of models; so much is this the case that, until new rooms are ready, it will be most difficult for examiners to properly discharge their duties, and for visitors to inspect the various inventions.

The number of strangers who visited the model rooms during the past year and registered their names in the visitor's book, amounted to 4,150.