

two connex industries entered as a whole under the titles of saw mills or cooperage, and a proof that the industry of stave making has not been overlooked, as regards the County of Lambton, lies in the fact that the said county is credited in the products of forests with 1,741,000 staves.

If a demonstration was wanted, *per contra*, of the errors in which the assaulters of the Census have fallen, we could find it in the commentaries of that paper on the stave industry. The critic says:—"The stave industry is one of the largest in the country, and employs safely 1,000 men."

The fact is that the making of staves, instead of being one of the largest, is, *per se*, one of the smallest among the important industries of the country, and that 1,000 men, exclusively employed, the whole year at stave making alone, could glut our home and foreign stave markets for several years. If the writer means, by stave industry, to combine the lumbering of the raw material and the cooper's work applied to the manufacture of staves into barrels, tubs, &c., &c., he is far short of the mark with 1,000 men; but if he means simply stave making he is much above the mark, being grossly in error anyhow; a state of affairs he would have mended for himself and his readers if, instead of unjustly attacking the Census, he had industriously studied it.

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*The variance between the number of hands and the wages paid for identical or similar industries in different districts.*

As a matter of fact there exists differences on these points for various districts compared with others, and, of course, and correctly, the Census returns contain the expression of these differences. But there is an explanation which applies to many cases in which the difference is very large, and this explanation is given in the introduction to the third volume in the following words:—

"It may be remarked that in many establishments the workmen are not regularly employed, nor during the whole year." Thence the difference between the aggregate of wages, and of work done, as compared with the number of hands employed.

But I admit that errors are to be found in the Census on that point in a few instances; they, however, do not materially influence the aggregate results. A few of these are errors of enumeration, the parties being careless in furnishing the correct information, and a few errors which have escaped the attention of the proof-readers.