

For the purpose of comparing wages with labor cost, and the latter to the total cost of production, I have combined in Table X the figures from four important establishments, making the same product and operating under conditions as similar as possible.

TABLE X.

BAR IRON MANUFACTURE.

RELATION BETWEEN THE EARNINGS OF WORKMEN, THE LABOR COST AND THE TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION.

(Unit, One Ton of 2240 Lbs.)

COUNTRY.	DAILY EARNINGS OF			LABOR COST.		TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION.
	Heater.	Roller.	Average Daily Wage for the Establishment.	Amount.	Per Cent. of Total Cost.	
United States	\$5 05	\$4 29	\$2 44	\$3 43	10.57	\$32 44
Great Britain.....	2 05	2 36	1 25	3 03	12.44	24 35
France.....	1 67	1 78	88	3 88	14.67	23 04
Belgium	1 68	1 80	64	2 10	8.70	24 13

The wages of such skilled workmen as heaters and rollers are twice as great as in Great Britain, and nearly threefold higher than in France and Belgium. The average wage to all classes of laborers in the establishments is also twice as great as in Great Britain, three times as high as in France, and four times larger than in Belgium. Compare these figures with the labor cost of a similar unit of manufacture and we find quite different proportions. It is only a trifle more than in France, where daily wages are about one-third as high, one-eighth dearer than in Great Britain, with wages only half as large, and fifty-four per cent. greater than in Belgium, where wages are down to one-fourth.

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