

lars, of little value. While the number of persons employed in the various occupations and professions appears to be correctly given, there is no reliable return of the number of factories and other establishments of a like nature, nor of the amount either of their capital or yearly product—Many minor particulars, such as the number of *old maids* over seventy years of age are set forth with a degree of accuracy worthy of all praise, but when we come to such vulgar things as Agricultural Implement factories, Lime Kilns, Chair factories, Brick yards, Shoe factories &c., * we can but express our surprise that the able Secretary of the Bureau of Agriculture should have permitted any summary to be made of returns so manifestly imperfect. Another point to which we would call attention is the want of any distinction between employers and employed. We can form no idea, how many of the 7,611 Carpenters in Upper Canada are doing business on their own account nor of their average wealth, or the general extent of their business. These and many other particulars might be obtained if the Schedules were so prepared, and none but the most intelligent persons employed as enumerators.

We are not insensible to the difficulties which surround a work of this kind, particularly in a young country like Canada. It cannot be expected that a thousand enumerators will be transformed even for a day, into political economists alive to the importance of the work in which they are engaged, or that nine tenths of these will have any higher object than that of obtaining the pecuniary reward of their services.—Much, however might be done by the appointment in each county of Superintendent Registrars as in England, to revise the Enumerators Schedules and prepare abstracts of the totals. These should be empowered to appoint the enumerators, and should be held responsible for the correctness of the Returns as well as of the abstracts forwarded to the Government. Another important means of securing correct returns is to get the fact thoroughly impressed upon the public mind, that the information sought to be obtained has no connection with taxation. Many otherwise intelligent persons cannot easily be brought to regard the Government enumerator in any other light than as a public assessor, intent on some errand of a questionable character, and they consequently incline to report both their means and their families at the lowest figure.—On the other hand the desire manifested in both sections of the Province to appear the most populous, will have a contrary tendency and must be guarded against by judicious “checks.”

* NOTE.—The census Returns of 1851 give for Upper Canada, 1 Agricultural Implement Factory; 4 Lime Kilns; 6 Chair Factories; 7 Brick yards; 20 Shoe Factories.