

Those in groups 4 and 5 received an average wage in 1881, of \$276.19 and in 1891, \$326.60, an increase of \$50.41 each.

The grouping brings out this gratifying fact more vividly than the general figures. The practical lesson to the employees is that it pays to be thorough.

The wage-earner has certainly during the ten years advanced to a higher plane of existence, and the greater his skill the better his pay.

If we compare the cost of raw material with the value of the output to see whether those establishments, big or little, have had an increased burden placed upon them or not, we find that in group 1, in 1881, the cost of the raw material was 40.6 per cent of the value of the finished article and in 1891, 34.3 per cent; that in group 2, it was 52.4 per cent in 1881, and 46.7 per cent in 1891; that in group 3, it was 57.7 per cent in 1881, and 50.1 per cent in 1891; that in group 4, it was 59.4 per cent in 1881 and 52.3 per cent in 1891, and that in group 5 it was 62.7 per cent in 1881 and 59.6 in 1891.

Thus the higher up we go in the groups the cost of raw material becomes an increasingly larger proportion, while in the group of smaller industries the cost was not only less in 1881 and in 1891 than in the larger groups, but in 1891 it was less in a more marked degree than in 1881. The general reduction in the cost is probably due in the first instance to the decreased cost of transport. Other causes have been at work, but whatever their relative importance the fact that there has been a very considerable reduction in the cost of the raw materials is most satisfactory and is very clearly exhibited in the system of grouping.

Taking the wages paid and the cost of the raw material and comparing the two with the value of the output in each group, we have:

	1881.	1891.
Group No. 1.....	76.2.....	68.5.....
2.....	75.8.....	71.3.....
3.....	76.4.....	72.9.....
4.....	77.1.....	73.5.....
5.....	78.3.....	77.6.....

Thus in group 1 in 1881, 23.8 per cent and in 1891, 31.5 per cent remained to represent the amount of the fund from which to pay cost of capital repairs to buildings and machinery, insurance, depreciation, &c.

In group 2 in 1881, 24.2 per cent and in 1891, 28.7 per cent.

" 3	" 23.6	" "	27.1	" "
" 4	" 22.9	" "	26.5	" "
" 5	" 21.7	" "	22.4	" "

297. Examination into the item of "capital invested" shows, in each group, that the capital produced less proportionately in 1891 than in 1881.

Thus each \$100 of Capital produced of finished articles in:

1881 in.....	Group 1	\$159.93
1891 in.....	" 1	126.30
1881 in.....	" 2	192.92
1891 in.....	" 2	155.00
1881 in.....	" 3	213.70
1891 in.....	" 3	151.00
1881 in.....	" 4	207.41
1891 in.....	" 4	140.08
1881 in.....	" 5	180.98
1891 in.....	" 5	125.89