

TABLE 5.

SHOWING THE PERCENTAGE OF MEN, WOMEN, GIRLS AND BOYS
COMPOSING THE SEVERAL GROUPS.

PERCENTAGE.

	Group 1.		Group 2.		Group 3.		Group 4.		Group 5.	
	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.	1881.	1891.
Men.....	84·3	71·7	76·6	71·6	73·8	75·7	76·2	75·9	70·9	75·6
Women.....	10·3	21·7	15·4	20·3	18·5	17·6	16·1	15·7	19·5	17·7
Boys.	3·8	4·5	6·1	5·9	5·7	5·4	6·0	6·3	6·7	5·0
Girls	1·6	2·1	1·9	2·0	2·0	1·3	1·7	2·1	2·9	1·7

These tables enable us to study with greater accuracy the extent and direction of the movement women are making towards becoming wage-earners in the mechanical and manufacturing industries of the country. Taking the totals, the figures show that in 1881 and 1891 men, women, boys and girls were employed as under:—

In every 100 employees in 1881, 76 were men, 16 women, 6 boys and 2 girls.

In every 100 employees in 1891, 74 were men, 19 women, 5 boys and 2 girls.

The men had lost 2, the boys 1, and the women had gained 3, girls remaining the same.

The grouping shows that the men lost ground in groups 1 and 2, and gained in groups 3, 4 and 5.

The women gained in groups 1 and 2, and lost in the other three.

The boys gained in groups 1 and 4, and lost ground in groups 2, 3 and 5.

The girls gained in groups 1, 2 and 4, and lost ground in groups 3 and 5.

The interesting fact is brought out that the women, girls and boys are finding their sphere as wage-earners in the smaller industries, the change being very marked. Thus in group 1, in 1881, there were 84 men in every 100 employees engaged in this group, and 16 women and boys. In 1891 there were 72 men and 28 women and boys. In group 2, in 1881, there were 77 men and 23 women and boys; in 1891, there were 72 men, 28 women and boys.

In the larger industries there has been a change in the other direction. There were 74 men and 26 women and boys in group 3 in 1881, and 76 men and 24 women and boys in 1891.

In the largest group there were 71 men and 29 women and boys in 1881 and 76 men and 24 women and boys in 1891.

The importance of the smaller groups is at once evident. They afford the women of the country an opportunity to develop their capacity as wage-earners.