

OUR OCCUPATIONS.

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THE adage, "one-half of the world does not know how the other half lives," may be safely applied to our own country as regards the occupations of its people. I have been asked by the Editor of the WINDSOR MAGAZINE to look into this matter, and I now submit to no small part of the population of the United Kingdom the results of this inquiry into our occupations, which has been based upon the last census returns.

First, diagram No. 1 shows to us the population split into Occupied and Unoccupied persons. The result is startling. We look at the diagram and we see that the white disc, which stands for the unoccupied, is larger than the black disc, which represents the occupied section of the population of the United Kingdom.

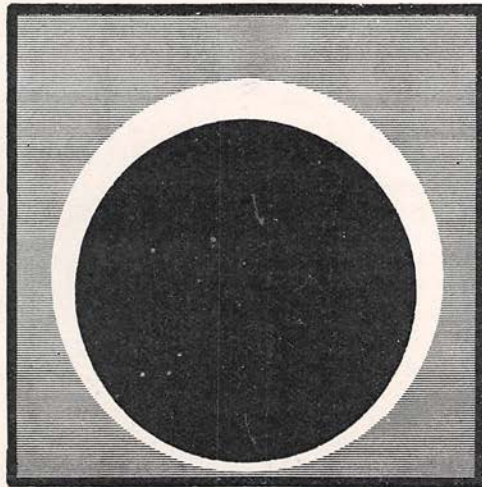
Here are the figures, shown separately for each of the three divisions of the country, and for the whole kingdom, per thousand of the population in each:—

	Occupied persons.	Unoccupied persons.	Total.
England and Wales ...	445	555	1000
Scotland	441	559	1000
Ireland	451	549	1000
United Kingdom ...	445	555	1000

So that of every 100 persons in the United Kingdom only 44½ follow a trade

or an occupation of some sort, the other 55½ being unoccupied. But this unoccupied section is very largely made up of women and children who, let us hope, do as a rule help to brighten and lighten the lives of that smaller section who are the workers in this great nation. We should be straining our logic to say that more than one-half of the population are lazy or idle folk; we

are right in saying that more than one-half of our number have no occupation which comes within the appallingly exhaustive limits of the Census Commissioners; for, wide apart as these limits are, they do not include such occupations as "housewife," or "bright-faced patterer and chatterer." (By the way, bachelors and others may note that the census *did* include 105,000 charwomen in 1891 for England and Wales alone, say 112,000 in 1897, for we may assume that charwomen have increased *pro rata* with the population.) The high degree of simi-



1.—A comparison, for the United Kingdom, of that part of the population which is *occupied* (black disc), with that part of the population which is *unoccupied* (white disc); the gray square inclosed by black lines represents the whole population, and combines the two discs placed upon it, whose areas (if you cut up the discs with a pair of scissors) "add up" to the area of the gray square.

larity as regards the number of unoccupied persons in each of the three divisions of the kingdom is worthy of notice, for it shows that the complex social conditions of each division are practically identical in their effect as regards this very important and interesting section of the present inquiry. Ireland, as usual, comes off worst, for we see that more of her people have to work than is the case with either of the two other parts of the kingdom. The actual numbers

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of the unoccupied and of the occupied parts of the population as returned at the last census were :—

	Number of children and adults with no specified occupation.	Number of occupied persons.
	<i>Millions.</i>	<i>Millions.</i>
England and Wales ...	16·1	12·9
Scotland	2·2	1·8
Ireland	2·6	2·1
United Kingdom ...	20·9	16·8

and this total of nearly 21 millions of unoccupied persons has increased since 1891.

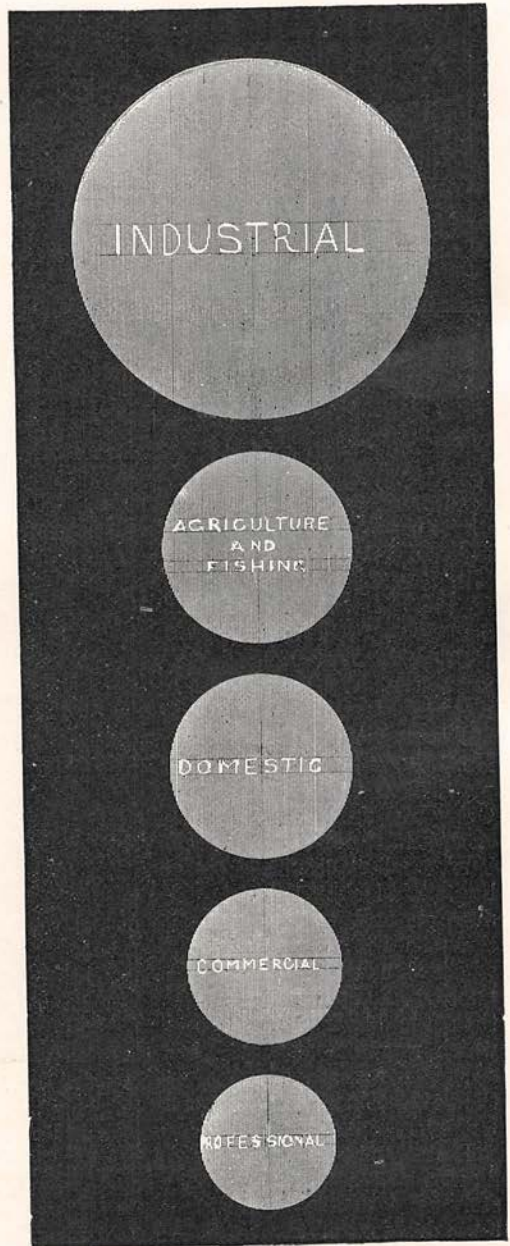
The general report on the census does not say how many of these unoccupied persons were living on their own means without doing any work, but I have been able to get at this interesting information by referring to the more elementary stages of the census, and I find that, in England and Wales, there were nearly 507,000 persons, aged 10 years and upwards, who were living on their own means, and of these no fewer than 409,000 were females.

Thus, taking the 16·1 millions of unoccupied persons in England and Wales, we now find that only 3 per cent. of these were persons, aged 10 years and upwards, who were living on their own means.

This important distinction as regards the unoccupied section has not, so far as I know, previously been looked at, and it means that as regards the 555 unoccupied persons per 1000 of the population in England and Wales, stated on the first page of this article, only 17 to 18 per thousand of the population were persons, aged 10 years and upwards, who were "living on their own means."

Only by gross carelessness, or by intentional misrepresentation of facts, can the statement be made (which, I believe, has been made for political or for other purposes) that more than one-half of the population are idle persons who do not work, for, as I have said, a great part of these 555 persons are the women and children of the nation.

Diagram No. 2 shows the respective sizes of the five great classes of occupations in the United Kingdom, and we get a bird's-eye view of the comparative condition of each of the divisions of the kingdom, as regards the occupations set out in No. 2, by glancing



2—THE DIVISION OF WORK IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.—These five discs represent the entire work of the United Kingdom, divided into its five great classes—Industrial, Agriculture and Fishing, Domestic, Commercial, Professional. (The area of each disc is in true proportion to the number of persons per 1000 of the whole population who are working in each class.)

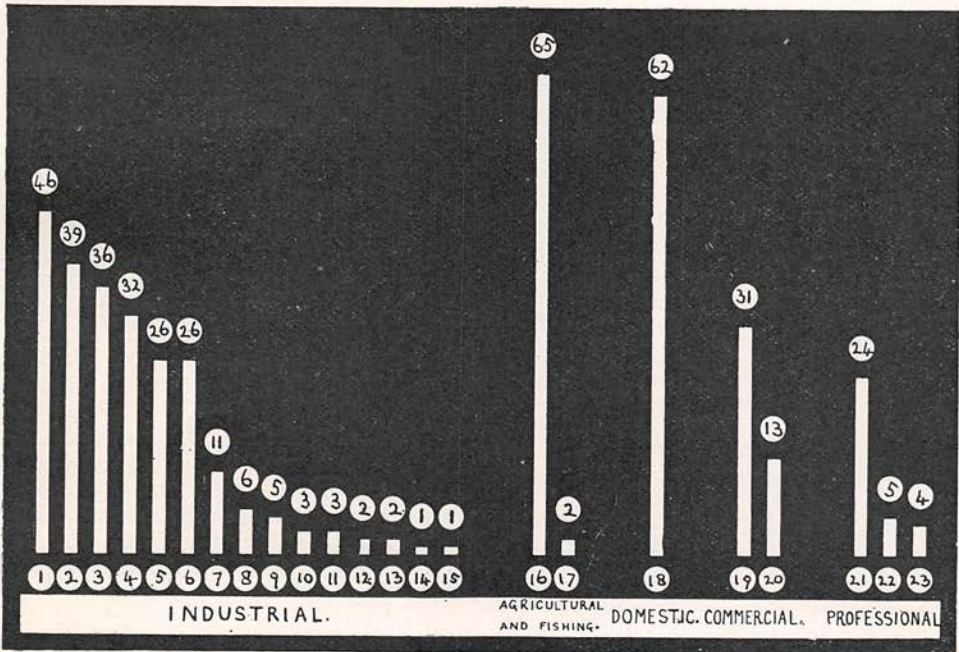
at the following figures per 1000 of the population (all ages) in each country :—

Class.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.
Industrial ...	253	256	140	239
Agricultural and Fishing }	46	62	200	67
Domestic ...	66	50	51	62
Commercial ...	48	45	20	44
Professional...	32	28	44	33
Unoccupied ...	555	559	545	555
Total	1000	1000	1000	1000

We see that the great Industrial class leads in each part of the kingdom, excepting Ireland ; the class, Agricultural and Fishing, comes first for Ireland, second for Scotland

and for the United Kingdom, but only fourth (numerically) in England. England's second class is Domestic, which is third in Scotland, in Ireland and in the United Kingdom. The fourth class is Commercial, for the United Kingdom, the fifth and last being the Professional class, and here the Irish lead is due in part to the large number of soldiers quartered in Ireland, but mainly to the astonishingly large number of persons over fifteen years of age returned as "students," who, with soldiers, rank in the census as professional. No one has yet discovered who all these Irish students are, or what becomes of them, for the members of what are usually termed the learned professions, with the exception of the clergy, are not in excess in Ireland.

In No. 3 we see the five great classes of



3.—The workers of the United Kingdom in each of the five great classes of occupations, split up into twenty-three groups. The height of the white columns represents the number of workers in each group per 1000 of the whole population of the United Kingdom, which number is written above the top of each column. The numbers 1 to 23 at the bottom of the columns refer to the following occupations :—

I.—INDUSTRIAL (239 per 1000).

1. Mineral substances.
2. Textile fabrics.
3. Dress.
4. General or unspecified commodities.
5. Food and lodging.
6. Houses, furniture, etc.
7. Machines, tools and implements.
8. Wood, paper, oil, gum, rush and other vegetable substances.
9. Books, newspapers, prints, maps.
10. Carriages and harness.
11. Ships and boats.
12. Skins, hair, grease, bone and other animal substances.
13. Chemicals and compounds.
14. Tobacco and pipes.
15. Refuse matters.

II.—AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING (67 per 1000).

16. Agriculture.
17. Fishing.

III.—DOMESTIC (62 per 1000).

18. Domestic offices or service.

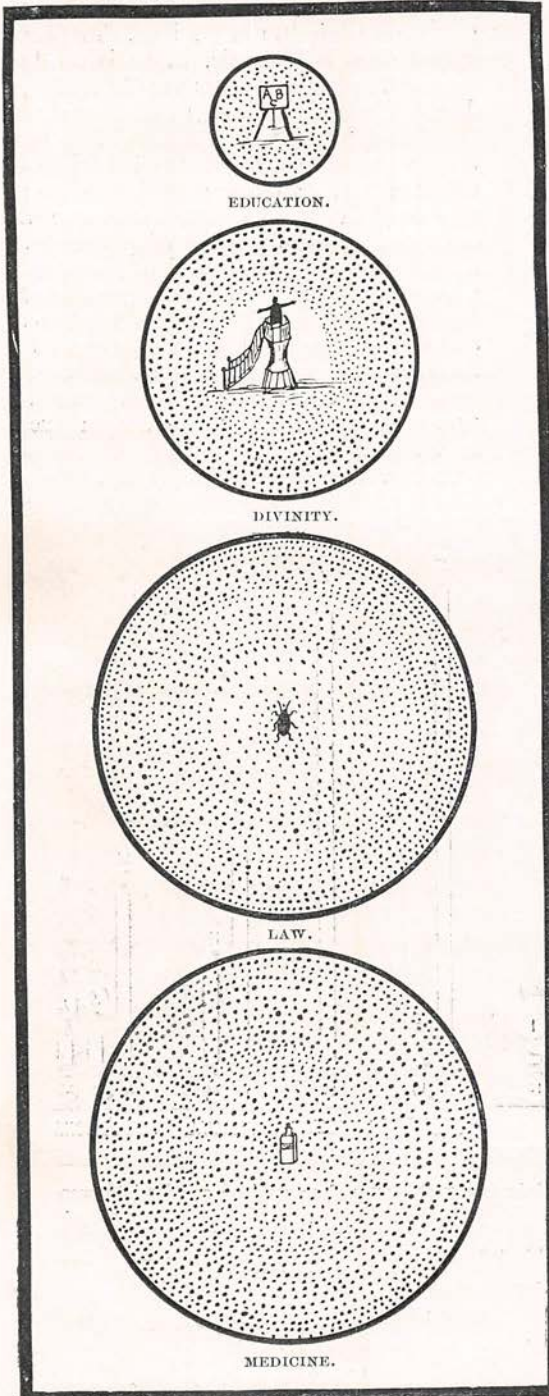
IV.—COMMERCIAL (44 per 1000).

19. Conveyance of men, goods and messages.
20. Commercial occupations.

V.—PROFESSIONAL (33 per 1000).

21. Clerical, legal, medical, educational and others.
22. Civil Service and Local Government.
23. Defence of the country.

Total workers, 445 per 1000 of the population.



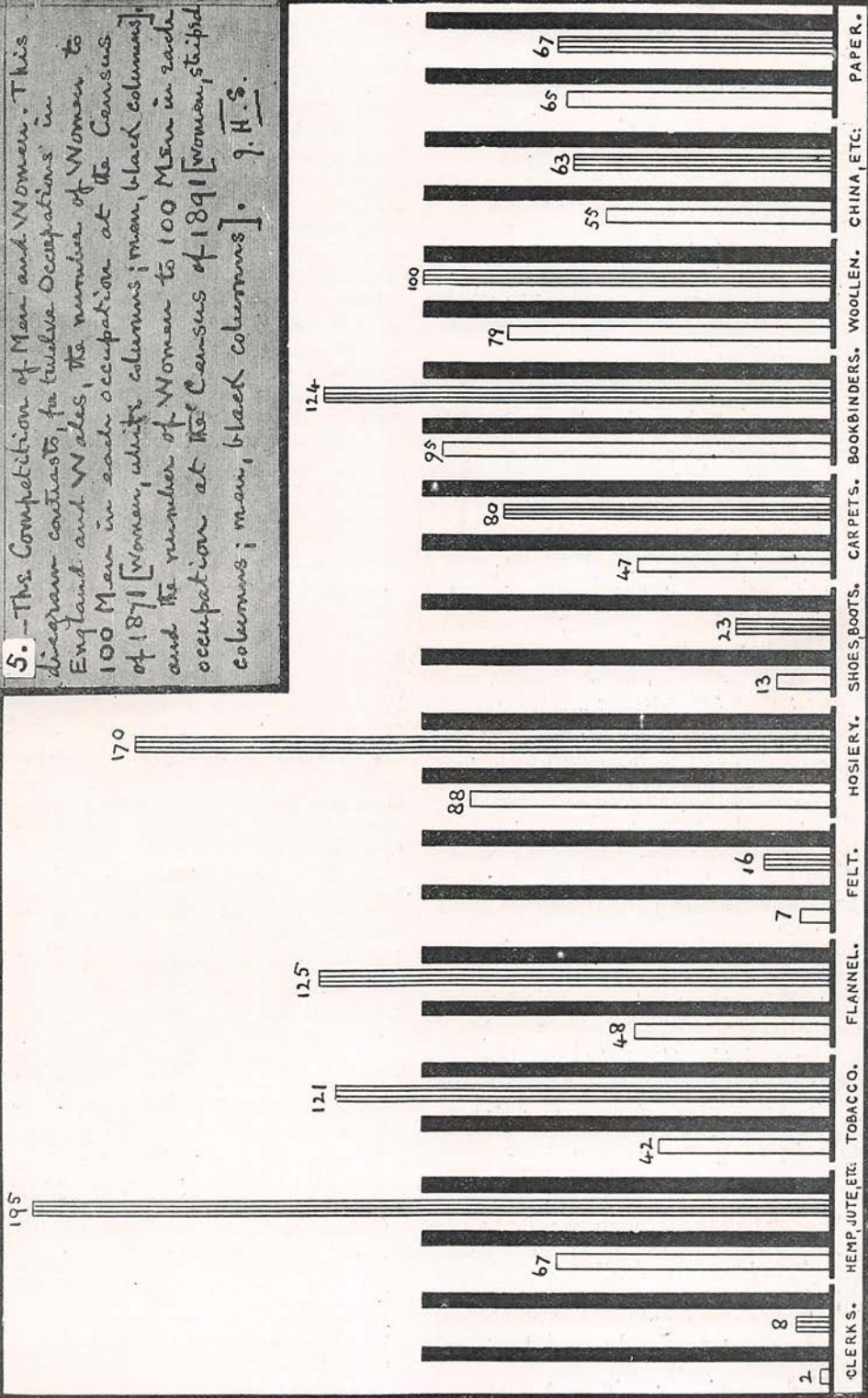
4.—THE FOOD OF THE FOUR LEARNED PROFESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM.—Teaching, 156 pupils to 1 teacher. Preaching, 786 sheep to 1 shepherd. Over-teaching, 1499 flies to 1 spider. Leeching, 1577 patients to 1 leech. (See text for further description.)

occupations set out in the main groups which compose them, and the relative heights of these white columns yield some rather interesting information. These twenty-three main groups are those stated in the census report, and although, as we saw just now, the aggregate of the fifteen industrial groups causes the great class Industrial to lead the five classes of occupations, yet, when we look at the twenty-three individual groups which make up the five classes, we see that the group 16, Agriculture, heads the list of occupations in the United Kingdom with 65 workers per 1000 of the whole population. Group 18, Domestic offices or service, comes second (62 per 1000); group 1, those working at mineral substances (miners, etc.), takes the third place with 46 per 1000; group 2, the workers in textile fabrics (cotton, wool, linen, silk, etc.), is fourth in numerical importance; group 3, those who work to dress the community, is fifth with 36 workers per 1000 of the population; groups 5 and 6, food and lodging, and houses and furniture, stand equally placed in the eighth and ninth places, each with 26 workers per 1000 of the population; some of the groups which are numerically small being groups 14 and 15, tobacco and pipes, and workers in refuse matters, both of which have only 1 worker per 1000 of the population; groups 10 and 11, carriage and harness, and ship and boats, each supply 3 workers per 1000 of the population; and group 23, defence of the country, takes from the population 4 per 1000 for its supply of workers.

Many other items are to be readily seen by looking at this diagram and by referring to the numbered list of occupations printed below it.

Interesting and curious things may be extracted from these awful-looking census blue-books. For example, one gets the results pictured in No. 4, as to the possible supply of human food to each of the four learned professions—Education, Divinity, Law, Medicine. Each of the dots inclosed by the four circles represents a unit of the population of the United Kingdom, and the symbolical or other device in the centre stands for one member of each of the four professions, who have a possible supply

5. - The Competition of Men and Women. This diagram contrasts, for twelve Occupations in England and Wales, the number of Women to 100 Men in each occupation at the Census of 1871 [Woman, white columns; man, black columns] and the number of Women to 100 Men in each occupation at the Census of 1891 [Woman, striped columns; man, black columns]. J.H.S.



of pupils, souls, clients and patients, as follows:—

Profession.	Average number of persons of all ages to one professional.
Teacher	156
Clergyman, priest, minister ...	786
Lawyer	1499
Medical man	1577

These numbers are the same as the number of dots inside the respective circles, and the areas inclosed by the circles in No. 4 are in true proportion to the numerical facts here stated, which show that there is really a splendid field for the activities of both the doctor and the lawyer, while neither the parson nor the schoolmaster has much to complain of in the matter of possible clients.

Some other curiosities of the occupation list, which relate to England and Wales in 1891, are:—

Actors, 7321; authors, editors, journalists, 5771; paper-bag and paper-box makers, 19,299; bakers, 84,158; members of the bathing and washing service of the country, 192,158 (not including soap-makers); cycle dealers and makers, 11,524; blacksmiths, whitesmiths (i.e., tinsmiths), 140,024; bookbinders, 25,736; boot, patten, clog and shoemakers, 248,789; brewers, 26,312; bricklayers, 130,446; butchers, meat salesmen, 98,921; button makers, 5056; carpenters, joiners, 221,009; cat's-meat dealers, vermin destroyers, knackers, 2234; charwomen, 104,808; chimney-sweeps, soot merchants, 7832; commercial travellers, 44,055; costermongers, hawkers, street-sellers, 58,939; dock and wharf labourers, 54,996; envelope makers, 2747; makers of and dealers in images and figures, 383; fishermen, 25,225; fruiterers, greengrocers, 40,963; railway guards, 12,892; hairdressers, wigmakers, 25,337; insurance service—life, fire, marine, etc., 31,437; jewellers, goldsmiths, silver-smiths, 23,988; lapidaries, 1227; linen-drapers, mercers, drapers, 107,018; lodging and boarding-house keepers, 51,178; musicians, music masters, 38,606; nail manufacturers, 9943; navy officers, effective and retired, 3453; needle-makers, 3823; army officers, effective and retired, 12,969; pastrycooks and confectioners, 46,566; pawnbrokers, 11,469; steel-pen makers, 3296; photographers, 10,571; pin-makers, 897; plumbers, 46,873; police, 39,921; rag-gatherers and general dealers, 4070; "retired from business" (not army, navy, church, medicine), 261,437; Roman Catholic priests, 2511; shepherds, 21,573; shirt-makers, seamstresses, 55,096; soap-boilers and makers, 3759; students (15 years or over), 147,489; tailors, 208,720; thatchers, 3210; town drainage service, 2200; turnpike gatekeepers, toll collectors, 404; undertakers, funeral furniture makers, 2726; veterinary surgeons, 3193; well-sinkers and borers, 1105; wood-carvers, 3555.

These and hosts of other occupations make up the immense list of the activities of this country, and even a small selection, such as that now made, suggests the reflection that, despite all grumblers and pessimists, we are as a nation a hive of busy and useful bees.

Nowadays we hear much about the growing competition of women with men, and

in No. 5 I show a group of twelve important occupations, in England and Wales, in each of which, at the census of 1871, the men outnumbered the women, but in which, at the census of 1891, the women had in every instance gained upon the men, even, in some of the occupations, surpassing the male workers in point of numbers. This twenty years' contrast shows, for example, that women clerks have increased four-fold in proportion to men clerks, i.e., from 2 women per 100 men in 1871, to 8 women per 100 male clerks in 1891; that women workers in hemp, jute, etc., have increased from 67 to 100 men in 1871, to 195 per 100 men in 1891; that female tobacco workers and dealers have sprung up to 121 per 100 males in 1891 from the 42 per 100 males in 1871, etc.

In other occupations, such as the industries of flax, linen, cotton, etc. (not shown in No. 5), the women were ahead of the men in 1871, and were still more ahead of the men in 1891. There is ample evidence to prove that in many industries women are, owing to the smaller wages they accept, ousting their male competitors, and no small substitution of female for male labour has occurred during the twenty years noticed. On the other hand, there are some trades, such, curiously enough, as lace-making and glove-making, where the alteration has been in favour of the males, who have ousted female labour to no slight degree.

In 1871 there were 476 female lace-makers to 100 males, in 1891 only 167 females to 100 males; in 1871 there were 745 female glove-makers to 100 males, in 1891 only 334 females to 100 males.

But, on the whole, women are pushing men out of their occupations, and this is clearly shown by diagram No. 5. The actual rates of increase of female workers in the twelve occupations shown in No. 5, which, by the way, are placed in the diagram in the order of the quickest rate of increase, are as below:—

Occupation.	The number of female workers to 100 male workers in 1871 being taken at unity, the increased proportion of female workers in 1891 was—
1. Clerks	4.0 to 1 in 1871
2. Hemp, jute, etc.	2.9 " "
3. Tobacco	2.9 " "
4. Flannel	2.6 " "
5. Felt	2.3 " "
6. Hosiery	1.9 " "
7. Shoes, boots	1.8 " "
8. Carpets	1.7 " "
9. Bookbinders	1.3 " "
10. Woollen	1.3 " "
11. China, etc.	1.1 " "
12. Paper	1.03 " "

With this strong piece of evidence as to the encroaching of women on male preserves of work, I must end the present inquiry into the occupation section of the census, and we may look with some amusement at George Cruikshank's drawing of the census-taking of 1851, in which the father of this rather large family was as

much perplexed as the Russian peasant is now when he sees the complicated list of questions on the schedule of the first Russian census, which, at the time of writing, is just being taken in that slow-moving country—where statisticians, one may venture to suggest, know nothing about "our occupations."



6.—George Cruikshank's "Taking the Census of 1851."