

U. S. Marshal's Office,  
Boston, Sept. 14, 1850.

Sir:

Your attention is called to the following suggestions:

1. Your two copies of returns must agree in every particular with each other, and of course, to ensure complete accuracy each must be compared by you with the original. In more than half of the returns yet made, discrepancies have been found to exist between the copies, and they have been transmitted back to the Assistants.

2. It is important that all figures should be plain; and in stating amounts of money, state **dollars only**, except under the head of "Wages," on Schedule 6.

3. As soon as you can determine how many sheets of each Schedule will be wanted, for the completion of your work, inform me, that they may be transmitted.

4. On many of the Schedules of Industry that have been returned, the amount of the Products in some of the establishments returned has been found to be less than the amount paid for materials and labor, and this has arisen from giving in the return the average number of hands employed during the busy portion of the year, instead of the average number employed, taking into account the whole year. This mistake you will avoid.

5. Under headings 10 and 11, on Schedule No. 5, be careful not to give the average monthly wages of a single person, but the average monthly amount paid out for all the labor of all the hands.

I am very truly,

Your ob't servant,

CHARLES DEVENS, JR. } Marshal of  
Massachusetts.

[1850-09-14 Census; printed form letter giving further instructions on the census, and pointing out that both copies must agree in every particular.]



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