

Dear Sir,

I enclose reports in the cases of

(1) Thomas Groves, and.

(2) Annie Horne or Oran.

No trace of the family in either case has been found in the Census Returns for the year 1851. In the case of Thomas Groves the Census Returns of ^{eleven} townlands ~~of the~~ ^{first for the family of Thomas Groves, and secondly for that of Alexander Clydesdale} Rathfriland Town were searched: in the case of Annie Horne or Oran the Census Returns of fifteen townlands were searched once for the family of Horne and again for the family of Oran.

An enormous amount of the time of the office has been practically wasted this year in making searches among the Census Returns. Not more than 25 per cent of the applicants have been found in these ~~Census~~ Returns. In ^{very many cases} the ~~greater~~ ^{cases} of "not found" the Census Returns for the families have been found ^{but they ~~names~~ do not contain the names of the applicants} ~~in many cases~~ and looking at the ages list of brothers and sisters supplied by the applicants it is clear that they ^{are} ~~are~~ ^{are} considerably under 70 years of age. Every search in such cases is hopeless, at times; it wastes the time of the officers here, and it has ~~been~~ ^{been} delayed the applications of the ^{eligible} ~~legitimate~~ applicants.

I would like to ~~to~~ ^{to} lessen this abuse in the general interest.

The only sources of evidence of age in this office ~~are~~ ^{are} for persons from 70 to 80 years of age and