

INDUSTRIAL BARBARIANS.

Dr. Harmand, a French traveler who has recently explored a large portion of Cambodia, in Further India, describes in his narrative a curious tribe of people known as the Kouys. The name *Kouy* itself is an interrogatory, meaning, in the native language, "What is it?" A curious, though of course accidental, coincidence will be noted between the sound of the name and the Latin interrogation *Quis?* Of this tribe there are several sub-tribes, known, strangely enough, by the names of the peculiar industries which form their respective specialties. Thus there are the palm-sugar Kouys, the elephant-hunting Kouys, the paddy-gathering Kouys, and many others, besides the iron-making Kouys, whose primitive foundry is illustrated herewith. There is an odd analogy of this industrial division of the barbarous people to the separation of the Dutch and English into guilds, each pursuing its peculiar craft.

In the native smelting furnace there is a rectangular hearth upon which the ore is piled in layers, alternating with charcoal. To serve as tweers, twenty-six clay tubes, spread in a fan-shape, are inserted in the walls and led under the charge. Outside the masonry these tubes are prolonged by bamboo pipes in like number, which connect with the bellows. These last consist of deer skins fastened tightly down at their edges. To the middle, a rope is attached and led to a bent

lever. By raising this lever, the workman pulls up the middle of the hide, thus drawing in the air through the furnaces. The draft produced in one direction is now forced back through the charge in the opposite way by the smith pressing the deer skin down with his foot. As shown, there are two bellows which, working alternately, keep up a constant blast. There are no valves, and the air of course enters and leaves by the same orifices. So hot a fire is produced by these primitive means that the workmen are compelled to use bamboo screens to shield them from the heat. On each side of the furnace are apertures, whence the scoriæ constantly escape. The furnace is kept in operation but for one day; for by the end of that time it is completely burned out, so that next morning the barbarian ironmaster begins his day's work by building a new plant. The iron produced is said to be of fair quality.

Prices of Wool.

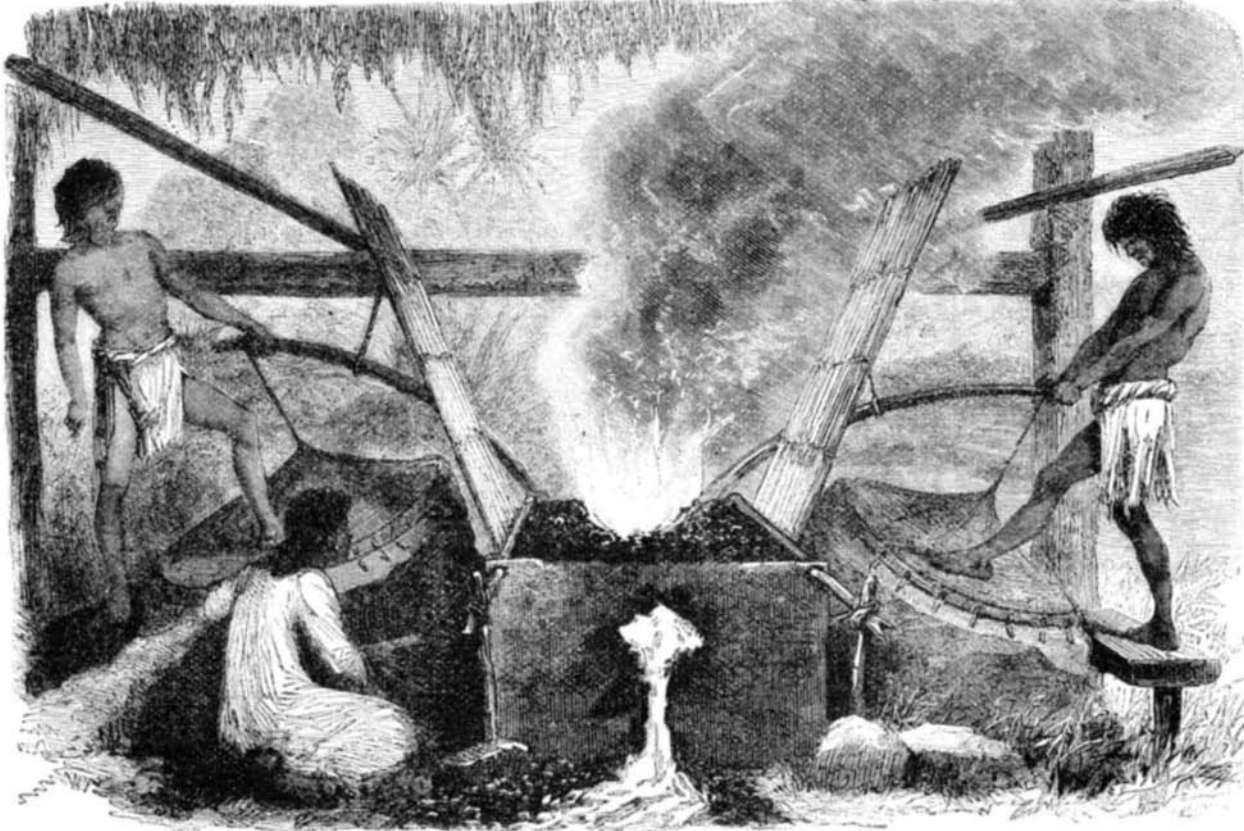
The average prices for domestic fleece wool in the United States from 1824 to 1861 were for fine 53 3-10 cents, for medium 42 4-10 cents, and for coarse 34 5-10 cents per pound. The average for the four years, from 1861 to 1866, during the war, were: for fine 75 6-10 cents, for medium 74 cents, and for coarse 70 7-10 cents. In 1864 and 1865 fine and medium wool sold for \$1.15 a pound, and even coarse wool sometimes sold for \$1 a pound. The average prices for eleven years, from 1866 to 1876 inclusive, were: for fine 55 cents, for medium 53 cents, and for coarse 48 cents. The

cident, as it affords a very easy reclining position, and keeps the sufferer with his head and limbs in their natural relative positions.

Japanese Fans.

The *Hiogo News* gives the following interesting information regarding the manufacture of Japanese fans. Every one has doubtless remarked the exceeding neatness displayed in their workmanship, and also has probably wondered how such carefully made articles even as the commoner kinds of paper fan can be imported to this country and sold at retail for five cents each.

Like many other manufactures, the principle of division of labor is carried out a long way by this branch of industry. The bamboo ribs of the fans are made by private people in their own houses, and combination of the various notches cut in the lower part is left to one of the finishing workmen, who forms the various patterns of the handles according to plans prepared by the designer. In like manner the designer gives out to the engravers the patterns that his experience thinks will be salable for the season next ensuing; and when the different blocks have been cut, it still rests with him to say what colors are to be used for each part of the design, and what different sheets are to be used for the opposite sides of each fan. In fact, according to our informant, this official



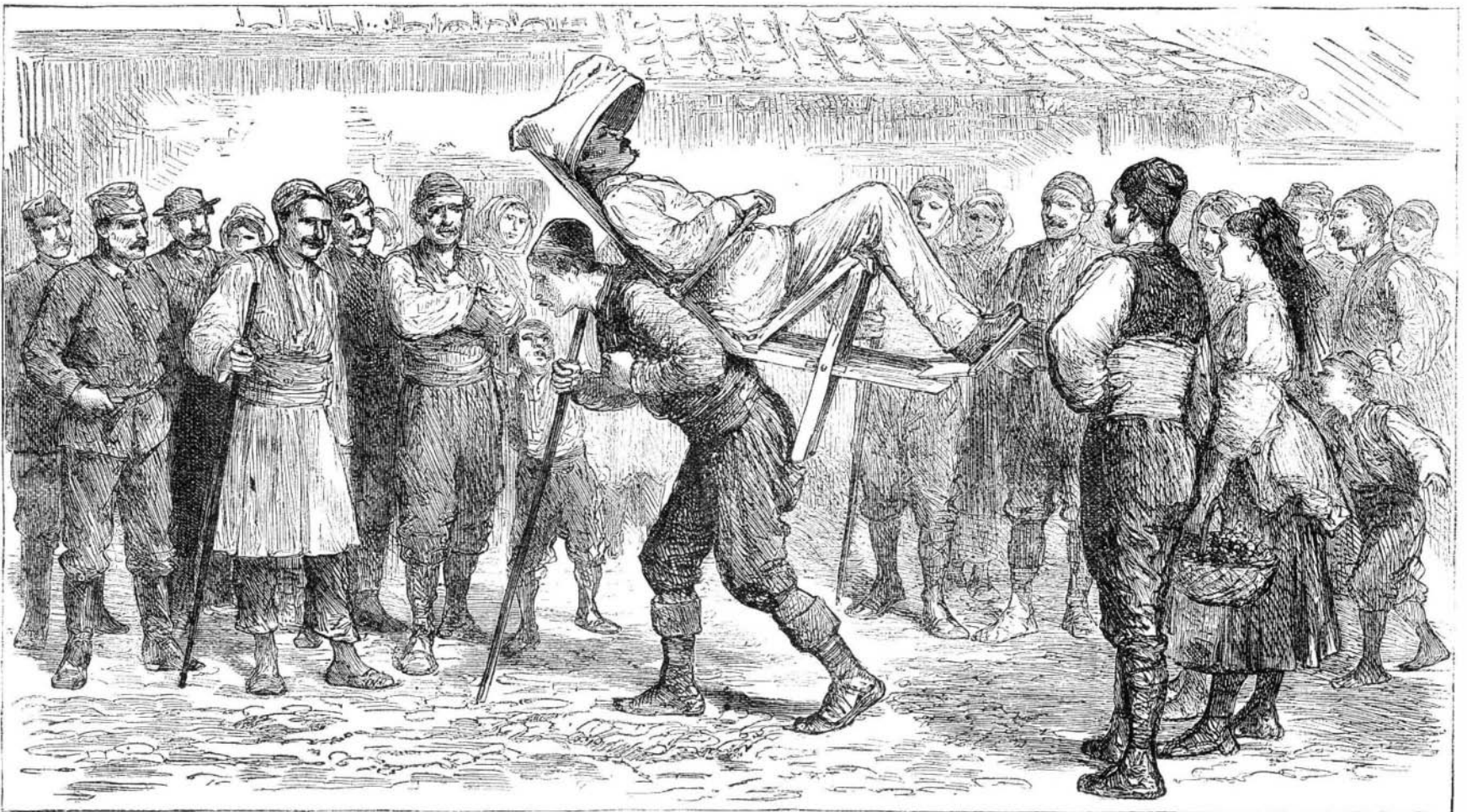
A KOUY SMELTING FURNACE.

prices in October, 1876, were: for fine 45 cents, medium 40 cents, coarse 33 cents a pound; and the average for the year was for fine 44½ cents, for medium 44 cents, and for coarse 36½ cents.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

A NEW AMBULANCE.

Our illustration clearly shows the construction of what seems to be a very convenient device by which a wounded or otherwise invalid person may be carried on the back of a comrade or porter. It will be seen that the weight of the burden is equally distributed over the back of the carrier, so that the whole is borne without undue fatigue. The invention has been used in Turkey during the recent civil war, and was found to be handy and easily constructed. It is, moreover, light and portable when not in use; and it might be employed in place of the common stretcher in cases of ac-

holds, if not the best paid, at any rate the most important position on the staff-in-ordinary. When the printed sheets which are to form the two sides of the fans have been handed over to the workman, in company with the sets of bamboo slips which are to form the ribs, his first job is to fold the two sheets which are to form the fan, so that they will retain the crease. This is done by putting them between two pieces of heavily oiled paper, which are properly creased. The four are then folded up together and placed under pressure. When sufficient time has elapsed, the sheets are taken out and the moulds used again, the released sheets being packed up for at least twenty-four hours in their folds. The next process is to take the ribs (which are temporarily arranged in order on a wire) and set them into their places on one of the sheets after it has been spread out on a block and pasted. A dash of paste then gives the woodwork adhesive powers, and



CONVEYING THE WOUNDED FROM A TURKISH BATTLE FIELD.