

**A MONOGRAPH**  
= **Iron and Steel Work.**

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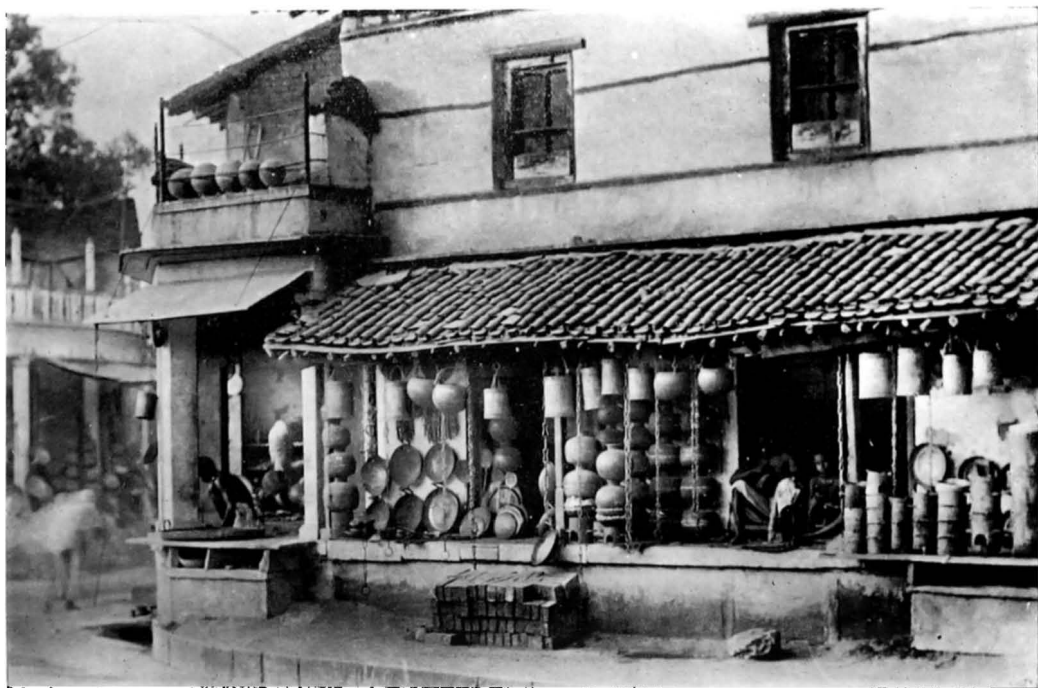
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*Ironware shops in Benares.*

A Monograph

ON

IRON AND STEEL WORK

IN THE

UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

BY

W. E. J. DOBBS, I.C.S.



ALLAHABAD:

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS Monograph has been written in accordance with G. O. No.  $\frac{3763}{I-136-08}$  of November 4th, 1906. In a subsequent order it was directed that the Monograph should deal only with indigenous manufactures.

No account, therefore, will here be found of those foundries or shops, worked by European methods, which already exist in most of the principal towns of these Provinces and in many of the lesser ones. Some of these are large industries and, obtaining pig iron from Bengal or elsewhere, make heavy castings of varied character: some confine themselves to miscellaneous lesser objects: a few may specialise, as for instance, Perfect's Sugar Mill factory at Bara Banki. Some are owned and managed by Europeans such as Crowley's and Luscombe's at Allahabad, or the Empire Engineering Works at Cawnpore: others as the Lucknow Iron Works, or the Shib Iron and Steel Works at Mughal Serai can boast they are "entirely an Indian Concern, owned by an Indian, managed by Indians, and worked with Indian labour."

The number of such concerns, big or little, has increased of late years and is bound to increase, perhaps very rapidly, in the near future. Sugar mills in the country, drain pipes, cast-iron railings, garden seats in town, to mention only a few objects, are becoming necessities of life and can be made cheaply and well in this country. The methods and tools are European or of European type; but the workmen are Indian, and accordingly much of what is said of the ironworker in this Monograph is applicable to him whether he works in the European type of "shop" or in a little stall in the bazar.

When these firms are excluded, there remains very little iron work in the Provinces, except of the simplest kind. Artistic work is almost entirely wanting: in especial, wrought-iron with any claims to beauty is not to be found.

For such facts as I have gathered I wish to thank those gentlemen, Indian and European, who sent reports or answered queries. The photograph of the Arms collection of His Highness the Maharaja of Benares was kindly sent by Captain Vindeshwari Pershad Singh (A.-D.-C. to His Highness), who also contributed much information on the subject of weapons.