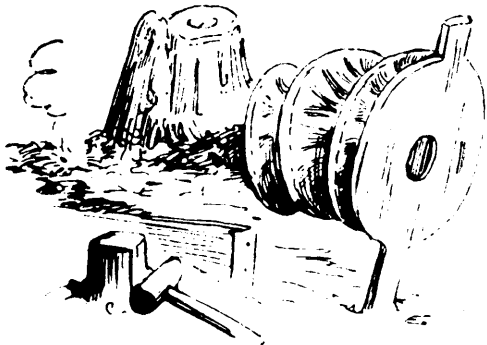


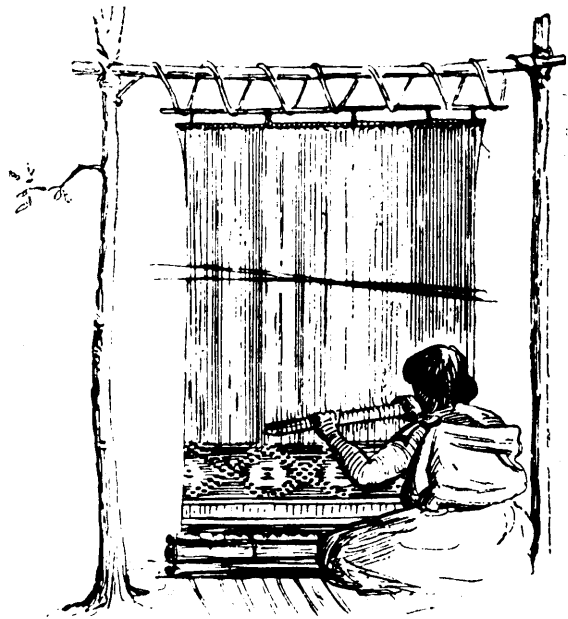
These silver ornaments they make themselves Many of the men are silversmiths, and have their forge, anvil.



SILVERSMITH'S TOOLS.

bellows, crucibles and tools—all of their own construction. The bellows is a tube or bag of goatskin, as shewn in the illustration, about twelve inches long and ten inches in diameter, tied at one end to its nozzle, and nailed at the other end to a circular disk of wood, in which is the valve. Their crucibles are made of clay, and have three-cornered edges and rounded bottoms, being about two inches in every dimension; they cannot be used more than three or four times before falling to pieces. Their moulds they cut in soft sandstone, with a home-made chisel. Each mould is cut approximately in the shape of the article which is to be wrought out of the ingot cast in it, and it is greased with suet before the metal is poured in. For fuel they use charcoal made from dry juniper. Among the silver articles made are earrings, bracelets, necklaces, finger rings, brooches, discs 3 or 4 inches in diameter, with which to adorn their leathern waist bands, ornaments for the bridles of their horses, &c. If a visitor wants a silver article as a keepsake, he gives the Navajo silversmith two silver dollars—one of the dollars to be made into whatever article may be desired, the other to pay for the workmanship. The Navajoes place no value on gold, all their ornaments are made of silver. Some of the belts they wear are worth \$35, and a horse's bridle is often ornamented to the extent of \$25—some even up to \$50. The rage for jewelery is strong in both sexes. It is not an unusual sight to see their arms literally covered with bracelets of brass and silver, their breasts vainly endeavoring to palpitate under a load of shell ornaments, turquoises and silver buttons, while from the waistband dangle an innumerable number of diminutive silver bells. The dress of the men consists of a calico shirt, full baggy calico trousers, leggings and

moccasins; and a distinctive feature of this tribe is the red or otherwise colored bandana handkerchief tied round the head just above the eyebrows. Then there is also the inevitable blanket—winter and summer—about the shoulders. The women also wear calico dresses and blankets. The blankets are made by themselves, on looms of their own construction. This tribe stands first of all Indian tribes in the art of weaving; indeed there are few civilized people that could produce an article superior to a well-made Navajo blanket. Some of these blankets are of immense size and will sell for as much as \$100. The ordinary price is from \$7 to \$12. They are of such close texture that they will hold water. The method of weaving is as follows: Two posts are set firmly in the ground (or a post and a young tree will do)—about 6 feet apart. To these are lashed two cross-pieces—one at the top and one at the bottom, to form the frame. A few inches below the upper cross-piece is the "yarn beam," connected with it by a spiral rope which can be tightened as required; and attached to the lower cross-piece is the "cloth beam," as we should call it, but the cloth is never wound around it. In the illustration may be seen the



NATIVE LOOM.

"heald rod" across the upper part of the frame; the healds on the rod are attached to alternate threads of the warp and serve when drawn forward to open the lower shed; the other rod which has no healds on it keeps the upper shed open. Below these rods held