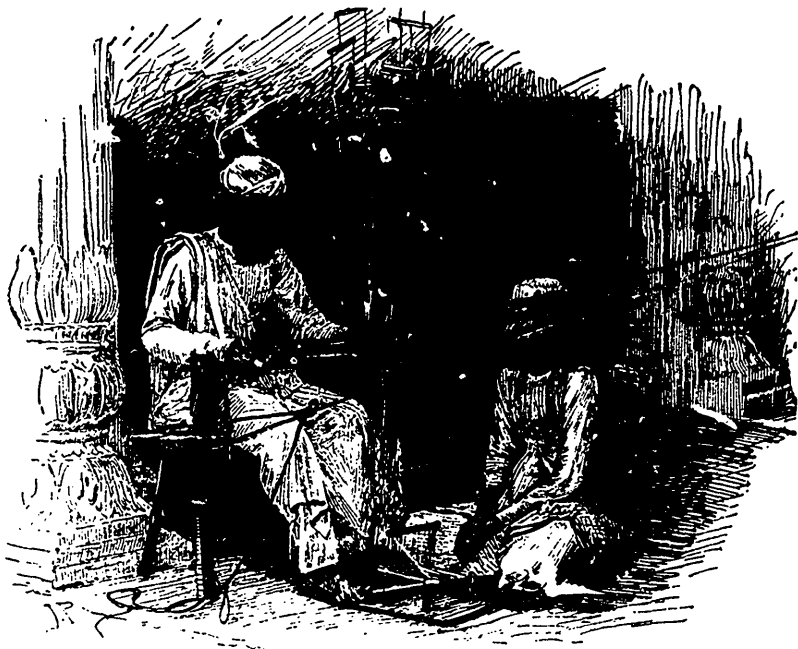


roadway is filled with a busy clamorous throng of Indians in gay dresses and bright turbans; so dense, indeed, is the crowd, that for many hours in the afternoon all vehicular traffic is forbidden by the authorities, as well as elephants, camels or horses.

The craft for which Lucknow has the greatest reputation throughout India is that of gold and silver wire-drawing, with its complementary trades of gold and silver lace, brocades, and embroidery. There are about 1,000 artisans employed in this industry. The basis of these fabrics is gold, silver, or silver-gilt



GOLD LACE MAKERS, LUCKNOW.

wire drawn out by hand, or rather by that extra hand possessed by every Indian, the foot, to an extreme thinness. Some of the most beautiful cotton fabrics and stuffs of India are produced at Lucknow, owing more to the strength and brilliance of their natural dyes, than to the fineness or softness with which they are woven. Now the loud clattering of pots and pans announces the coppersmiths' quarter, where brass-workers and tinsmiths congregate. Nothing is more curious in an Indian bazaar than the rapid transition from a workshop turning out the most perfect and artistic results, to another whose jerryiness and inefficiency have no rival anywhere in the world.

A group of shops piled with rough pink lumps of mineral, like