

Inventions of the Industrial Revolution



The Granger Collection, NYC

An 1876 print made by American printmakers Currier & Ives showcases an array of inventions developed during the Industrial Revolution. Entitled "The Progress of the Century," the illustration features the use of, from left to right, a steam-driven printing press, the electric telegraph, and a steam-powered locomotive and steamboat.

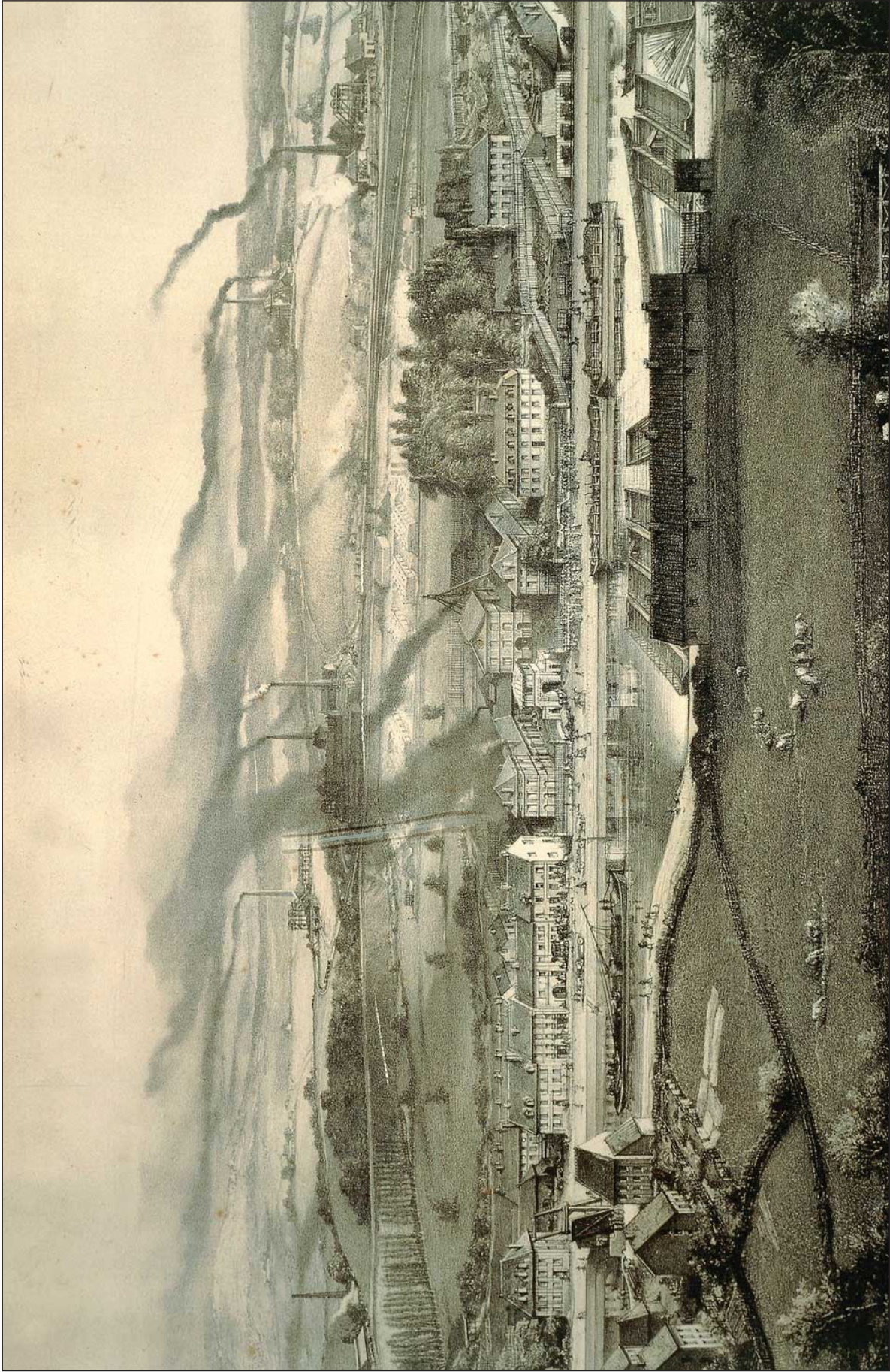
Contrast Between Rich and Poor



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This cartoon appeared in the British magazine *Punch* in 1843 as a commentary on a British government report on working conditions for workers in coal mines. In the top part of the image, the cartoonist portrays the wealthy upper class living amid luxury and waited on by servants. Underneath them, lower-class workers are shown living and working in filth and darkness.

French Coal-Mining Town



An 1857 illustration shows the French city of Montceau-les-Mines. The city's chief economic activity of coal mining dated back to ancient times. Details in the illustration include a canal to transport coal, mining facilities with smokestacks, and buildings to house workers.

British Industrial-Era Painting



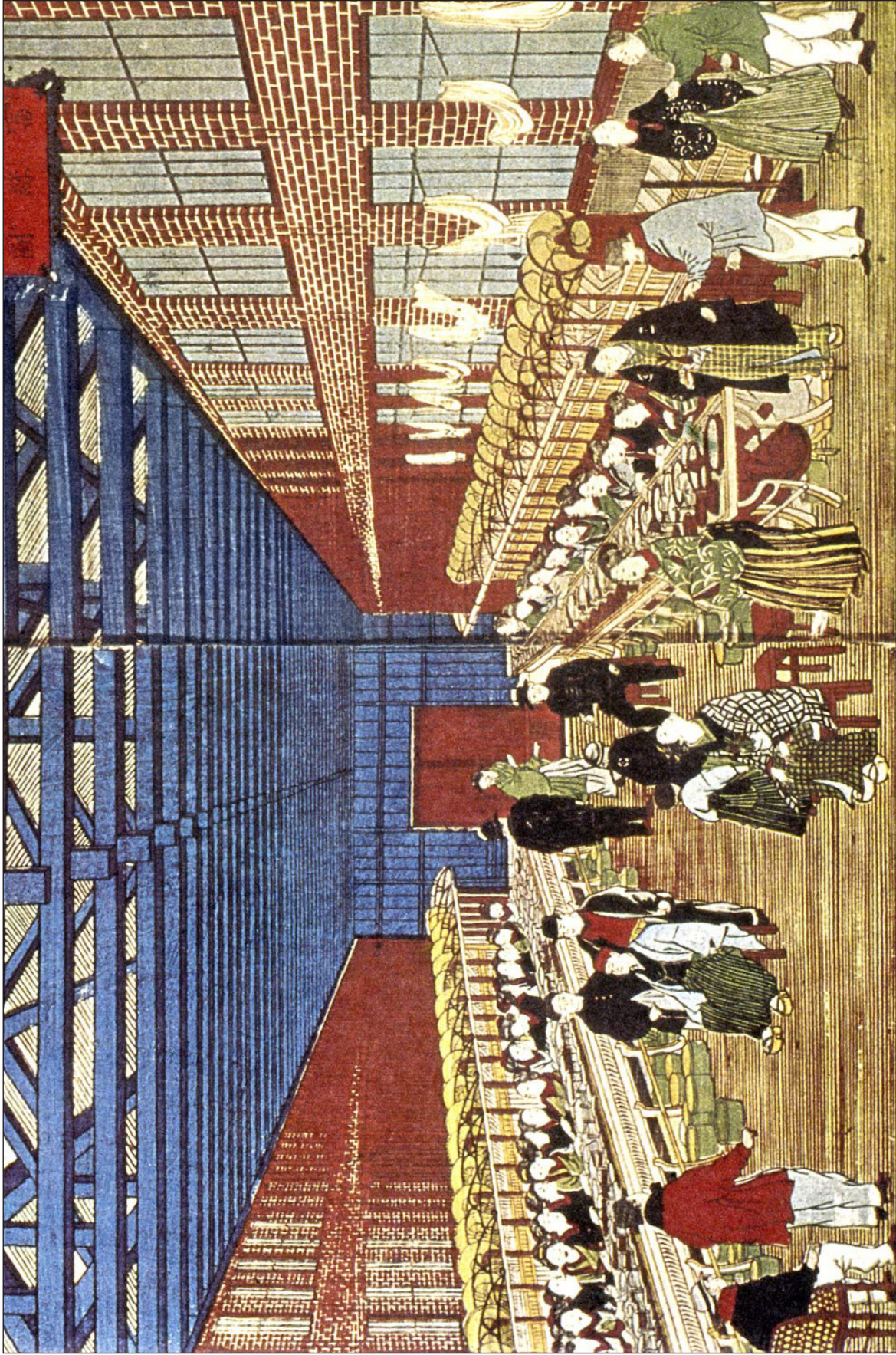
This 1861 painting, *Iron and Coal*, by English artist William Bell-Scott shows different ways of using iron and coal in a composite of scenes, including an iron factory, iron implements such as a locomotive wheel, barges carrying coal, and—visible at the top of the image—a train crossing an iron bridge.

Innovations in Farming



The Industrial Revolution transformed agriculture in Europe and United States by the beginning of the 1900s. Mechanization, including machines powered by coal, took its place beside labor provided by people and animals. In this 1902 illustration, farm workers in the western United States use machines and horse power to harvest hay.

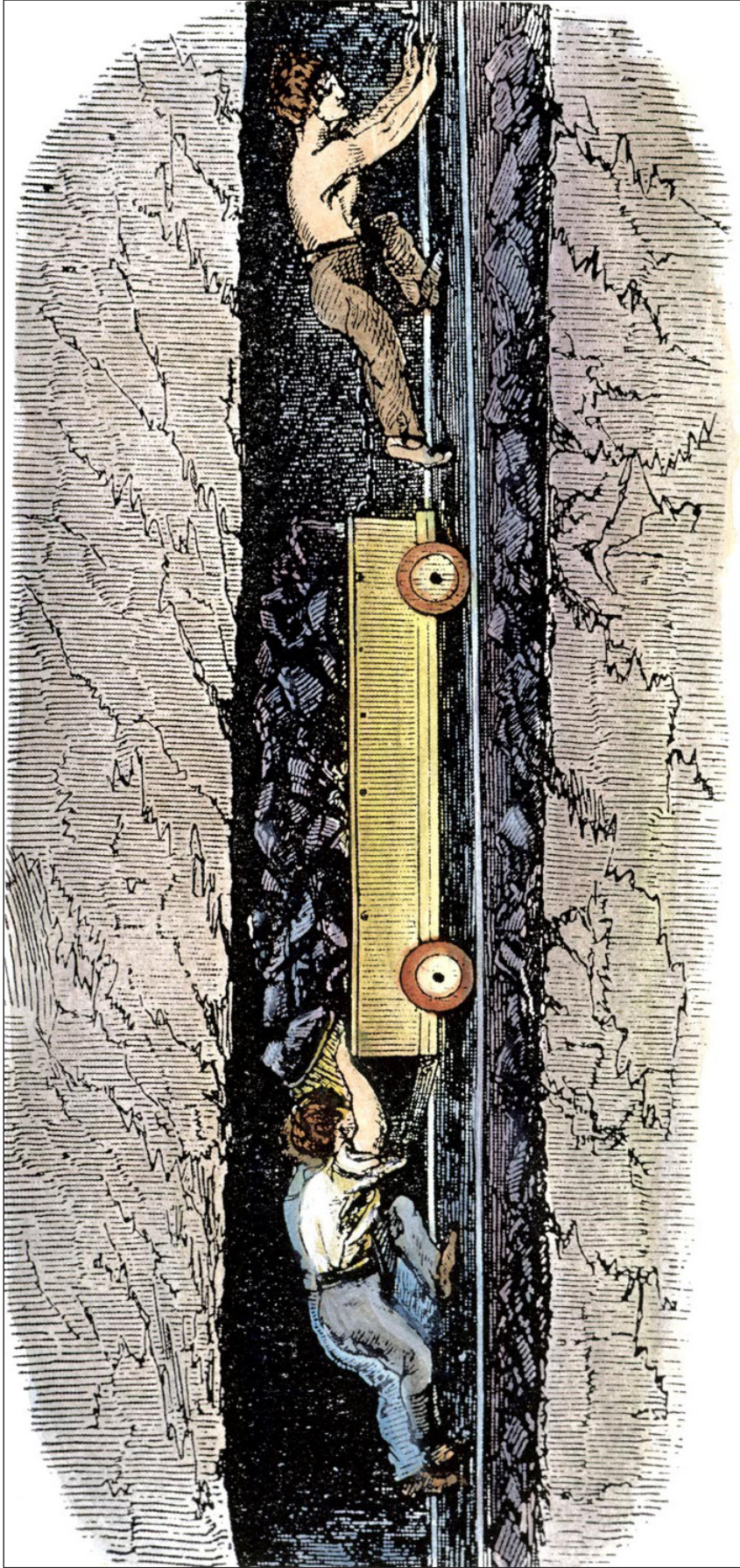
Japanese Silk Factory



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A Japanese woodblock print made around 1875 shows a silk factory where women workers process silk cocoons to wind the thread on mechanical reels. When Japan industrialized later in the century, they needed cheap labor to compete with Western textiles. That meant that women filled many of the jobs in textile factories. The men in this image are probably supervisors or customers inspecting the work.

Child Labor



Industrial Revolution-era factories, workshops, and mines in Western societies sometimes hired child workers. This 1842 engraving shows boys pushing a cart of coal along tracks inside a coal mine in the Lancashire region of England. From 1833 to 1901, Great Britain passed a series of laws to improve working conditions for child laborers. By 1901, the minimum age for workers was 12 years.

The Lambeth Gas-Works



The Granger Collection, NYC

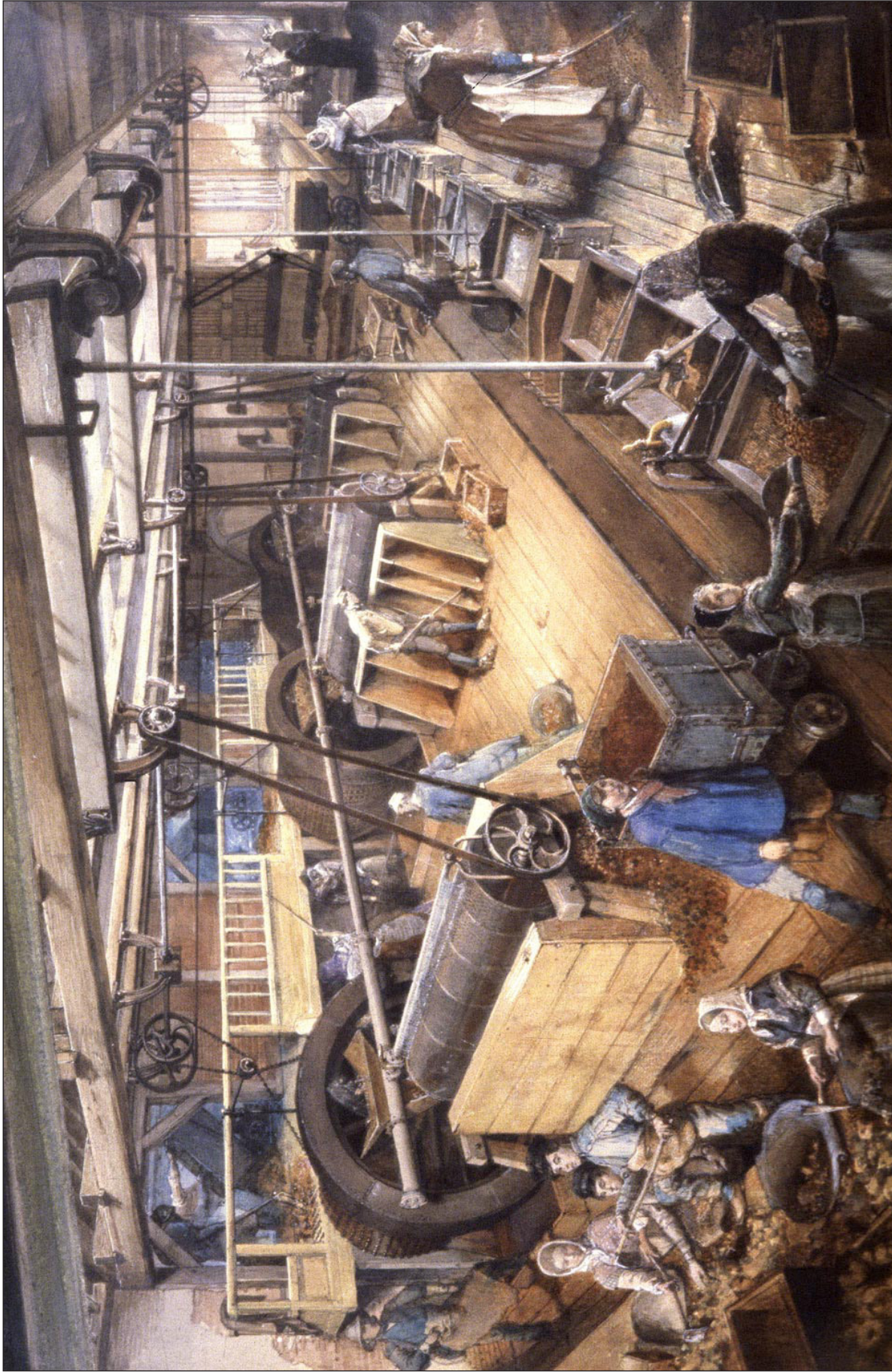
French artist Gustave Doré made a series of engravings in 1872 showing a variety of industries in London. This engraving, entitled *Lambeth Gas Works*, shows workers at a factory that made gas from coal. Lambeth is a district in London.

Iron Bridge in England



This painting shows the world's first cast-iron bridge, completed in 1799 in the village of Coalbrookdale in England. Coalbrookdale became an important location in the Ironbridge Gorge area in England when iron mining first started there in the early 1700s.

Workers in a Coal Mine



A French artist painted this scene of men, women, and children working in a coal mine around 1860 in France. The artist depicts labor provided by both people and machines. A machine-powered system of carts moves coal to workers who sift and process the coal. Other workers are shown shoveling coal.