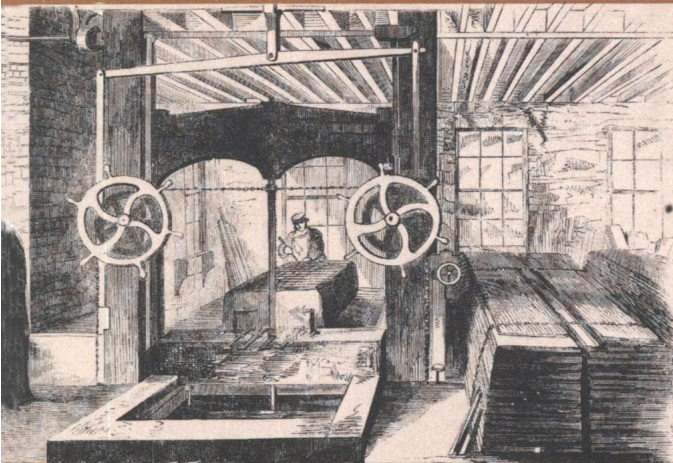
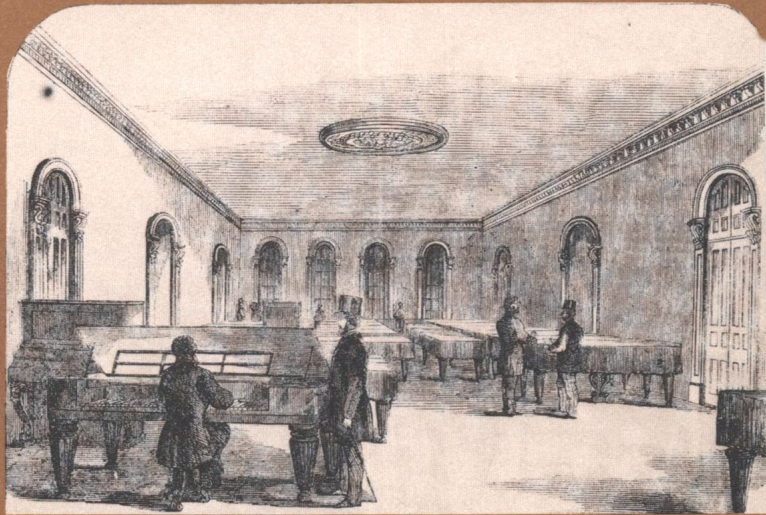
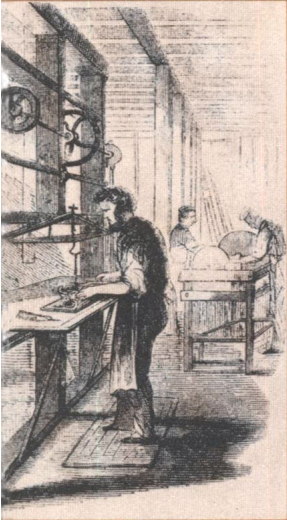


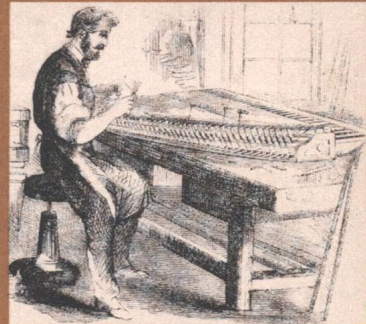
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The importance of this branch of manufacture in the United States can hardly be estimated. Those who live in our large cities can arrive at some approximate estimate, for he sees in every house he visits a pianoforte. But if he travels from State to State he becomes thoroughly impressed with the magnitude of the traffic in this branch of industry, for in the citizen's brick house, in the squatter's log-cabin, in the new-settled village, and in the heart of the wildest districts, the pleasant tone and the consolation of the piano will alike be found. In their manufacture millions of dollars are invested, and tens of thousands of hands employed; these receive good living



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COVER: PIANO MAKING IN MID-NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICA. This montage of scenes from *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, 16 April 1859, depicts the elaborate division of labor at the Chickering piano factory and wareroom in Boston, Massachusetts. (Photographs courtesy of Smithsonian Institution, Photo Nos. 83-4684 and 83-4687.) For an article on the career of piano manufacturer Jonas Chickering, see pp. 349-368.

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