# THE ART OF TATTOOING.

6

# A Few Years Ago It Was the Ruling Fad Everywhere.

Information Obtained from Sailors and Others Versed in Marking People for Life - The Picture Painted ou a Chicago Tar's Back.

# [Special Chicago Letter.]

Tattooing is an art practiced in many lands, but has nowhere reached such perfection as in some of the less pro-gressive principalities of the east and in the South Sea islands. The word "tattooing" has been introduced into our language from the Pacific islanders. The custom, however, which consists of making punctures in the body and introducing a pigment which will leave an indelible mark, was known among the oriental nations, and was also very common among the barbarous races of antiquity. According to such a ve-racious historian as Herodotus, the racious historian as Herodotus, the Thracians considered a well-pictured body a sign of noble birth. The ancient Britons, also, practiced the art, as well as many of the aborigines of North America. Among the latter and the South Sea islanders the operation often was very painful, as it required months and sometimes years to complete it fully and was extended to al-most all portions of the body above the Icnee

As civilization progressed tattooing became obsolete, and at the present time it is popular only among sailors and foolish young men and women.

In Chicago perhaps half a dozen sca-faring men add to their income by practicing tattooing, the operation being performed in much the same way as that in vogue among the cannibals of Polynesia. A sailor whose skin is not ornamented by a number of impossible designs in various colors is considered infra dig. by his messmates, and that is probably the reason why he is as scarce as the proverbial hen's tooth.

English sailors run to the union jack. The Yankee sailor is equally patriotic, the first device with which he orders his back to be ornamented being usually a spread eagle. The bird of free-dom, it is true, does not always inspire its beholder with awe, as it frequently resembles an angry barnyard fowl or a turkey buzzard, but it would be hazardous to say so in plain words to the owner of the chromo, who would resent the criticism by knocking the art student down. Columbus discovering America down. is another favorite design for back or



bosom ornamentation, and so is an American clipper ship under full sail. A Chicago sweet water tar carries on his back a representation of a schooner entering Chicago river and showing old Fort Dearborn. He is frequently arrested for carrying too much rum on board, but whenever the judge shows an inclination to treat him harshly he pulls off coat and shirt and displays the patriotic emblem. No Chicago police magistrate can withstand so eloquent an appeal, and Jack is invariably discharged.

The stars and stripes float over many n noble chest, the red, white and blue lending the design uncommon attraction. The flag usually waves proudly and the man who would attempt to haul it down would literally here. rally have to walk over the body of its bearer. The pro-verbial anchor is to be found all over the bodies of seafaring men; in fact whereverthere is not room for a more claborate design. But it is not of sailors that I desire to write, but rather about the not insignifiso the solution of young men and women who patronize the professors of the art of tattooing. Several years ago every person of the irresponsible age considered it absolutely necessary to bear at least one indelible picture on his skin. The craze gradually died out, but if my informant tells the truth scores of lovenick boys and girls still contribute reg-nick boys and girls still contribute reg-ularly to his income. If John falls in love with Mary the first thing he will do is to hunt up some tattooer who will "decorate" his arm with a wreath and a heart surrounded by the words: "Darling Mary;" or, per-chance, he will order an anchor resting on a rock labeled "Mary," or he will be satisfied with a fat heart bearing his sweetheart's name. Mary, too, will show her affection, provided she is innocent and sweet sixteen. She will duplicate her lover's heart and cause the tattooer to prick her tender skin so that she may carry John's name with her "until death shall them part." If John's Mary is a young woman, how-ever, who knows something about the fickleness of mankind, she will be satisfied to treasure her lover's name in her own heart, and there only; for it would be decidedly unpleasant should Henry. be decidedly unpleasant should Henry, or William, or George, or the vari-ous other successors of John ever see the euphonious name in-delibly inscribed on an arm which they, poor, misguided fellows, supposed had never encircled any manly form save their own. John, too, usually regrets their own. John, too, usually regrets the haste with which he had himself marked for life, but in his case it does not make so much difference. for he can persuade his second love that once upon a time be had run away from home, and in the course of his ramblings, being

reduced to abject poverty, had enlisted on board the good ship Flyaway. While taking a cruise around the globe another sailor, whose sweetheart's name was Mary, persuaded him to subject himself to a tattooing operation. In-stead of inscribing the wound with John's own name, the crazy fellow, who was eternally thinking of his girl, made it Mary, and as the mistake was not discovered until late in the day, it could, of course, not be rectified. The expla-nation sounds plausible and usually is accepted in good faith. Society buds, as every body knows, are

always doing things which have the appearance of being eccentric, and when a few years ago a leading Gotham belle had her shapely limbs ornamented with a tattooed garter in all the colors of the rainbow, hundreds of other foolish women followed her example. The fad at once became the rage. Garters were succeeded by elaborate designs covering the upper portion of the foot, the arms were decorated with allegorical designs, and not even the snowy



#### TATOOING A VENUS.

white bosoms of the fair victims escaped the needles of the heartless wretches who were growing rich at the expense of their irresponsible patrons.

Fortunately fads never last long, and six months after the craze had first been introduced its followers began to move heaven and earth to rid themselves of the blemishes whose produc tion had caused them so much pain. Tattooers who knew how to make pietures did not know how to remove them. The result was that many came out of the ordeal with ugly scars. To those who still carry their ornamentations, but wish to get rid of them, it will be of interest to know that according to Variot, a French authority, the proper way to remove tattoo marks is "to wash the part with a concentrated solution of tannic acid, then closely puncture it with a set of needles such as tattooers use. A crayon of nitrate of silver is next thoroughly rubbed over the area, and after a moment the skin is dried off, when it will be found that the punctures are deeply blackened by the formation of the tannate of silver in the superficial layers of the skin. The cauterization is said to result in an inflammatory reaction for a couple of days, and subsequently in the formation of a crust or thin eschar, which separates spontaneously in from fourteen to eighteen days, leaving beneath it a superficial red cicatrix which grad-ually loses its color and at the end of a few months is scarcely perceptible. Only a small area should be treated at one time, and a dressing of powdered tannin should simply be used."

At one time tattooed men and women were a great side-show and dimemuseum attraction, but their number increased with such astonishing rapidity that the public soon lost confidence in the genuineness of their markings. The most notable tattooed man ever exhibited in the United States was a fellow named Capt. Constantinus, who traveled for many years with Barnum's show as a principal attraction. His body was covered from head to foot with oriental designs of birds, beasts and images. The claim made was that the captain, while on a voyage in the Pacific, was shipwrecked and res-cued by a band of flerce Polynesians instead of eating the captive, who, made him an object of curiosity. Scienmen frequently examined the tattooing on the captain's body. Some

Do You Want to Bet?

There's a Hastings street man who always wants to settle a question by betting on it, and his wife doesn't like

"Why is it, Harry," she said the other day, "that you always want to bet that way?" "Oh, well," he said, apologetically,

"I really can't say."

"Betting is only a fool's argument, you know," she continued. "I'll bet you a V it isn't," he blus-tered out, and forthwith collapsed.— Detroit Free Press.

# Meddergrass Instructs a Collegian.

"Ilello, Hayseed!" called out a rude young freshman to Farmer Meddergrass "Young man," replied the farmer,

"you attend that college on the hill there, don't you?" "Yes."

"Then let me tell you something that is not taught there. It is unpardonably incorrect to speak of hayseed. That is something which does not exist. Ilay is dried grass, and the proper term is grass seed. Just remember that."— Jury.

SELF-CONGRATULATORY.



Little Hendrick has fixed grandma's mirror with a lithographic poster. Grandma (consciously)—Tain't often

I look in th' glass, but 'pears to me I'm holdin' my seventy-nine, goin' on eighty, mighty well.-Judge.

#### George All Right.

Auxious Mother-My dear, I'm afraid George is getting into bad company, He is out very late nearly every night. Observing Father—Oh! he's all right. He goes to see some girl or other. Shouldn't wonder if he'd announce an engagement soon.

"He hasn't said a word about any young lady.'

"No; but he's keeping company with one all the same. His right wrist is full of pin scratches."-Good News.

The Correct Answer.

"James, how much is four, plus eight, plus one?" asked the teacher. "Don't know," said James. "Well, suppose I gave four apples

to Harry, eight apples to Charlie and one to you. What would it be?" "A cold day for me," whimpered James.-Truth.

### The Couriship of a Clerk.

Briggs-Did you hear about Miss Grosgrain? She married a dry goods clerk. They met, he woo'd and won her, and so they were married. Griggs-Why, when did this all hap-

pen? Briggs-While she was waiting for the change .- Clothier and Furnisher.

#### Journalistic Cycles.

Mrs. Reider-I see the man who has been exchange editor of the Daily Night for twenty years is dead. Mr. Reider-Myl myl I'm sorry to hear that. Now they'll put some young fellow in his place, and they'll be printing all the old jokes over again.

Good News. Goodhoart's Sudden Change.

Returned Tourist-Is Mr. Goodheart

still paying attentions to your daughtera

"Indeed he isn't paying her any attention at all." "Indeed? Did he jilt her?"

"No, he married her."-N. Y. Weekly.

A Division of Labor. BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS. BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS. Author-Supposing this play should turn a success' The Iron Belt Building and Loan FIRST-CLASS INVESTMENT. Actor-1 will pay you and give it out A that I am the author We offer the best security in the city and pay semi-annual dividends. Association Author-Supposing that it should fall flat? OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA. AS A SAVINGS BANK Actor-You will be the author. this institution offers special induce-ments. Paid up shares \$50 each. In-stallment shares \$1 per month. Shares may be subscribed for at any time. For further information addres Author - Supposing it should be neither one nor the other? AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, \$25,000,000. Actor-The good things will be mine, and the bad ones yours .- Brooklyn Life. Pot and Kettle. THE PEOPLE'S PERPETUAL LOAN OFFICERS: Two old friends meet after a separa-AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION. tion of many years: "Time flies," says one, "but after all, PRESIDENT-GEN. FITZHUGH LEE. WM. F. WINCH, ex-Governor of Virginia. Secretary, and Treasuree Masonic Temple. you are not so bald as I expected to find 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT - PEYTON L. you. jan4-tf TERRY, President Roanoke Trust, "Bald! I should say not. Look in the glass yourself. I've more hair than you have." "More hair than I have! That's ab-Loan and Safe Deposit Co. THE GREATEST OFFER EVER 2D VICE PRESIDENT-S. W. JAMISON, MADEL Secretary and treasurer Roanoke surd, perfectly absurd! Let's count 'em."-Epoch. Trust, Loan and Safo Deposit Co. THE WEEKLY TIMES SECRETARY-JOHN OTT, late Cashier City Bank of Richmond. FOR ONE YEAR. His Grace. TREASURER-J. C. DAVENPORT, Cash Dodgeworth (after a violent waltz)--AND THE-How do you like my dancing? Bella Donough—It reminds me of the ter Commercial National Bank, Roa-WAVERLY NOVELS COMPLETE noke, Va. patron saint of the art. Dodgeworth - Who's that - Terpsi-GENERAL COUNSEL-Hon. C. A. MO-FOR \$3.00 HUGH, Counsellor-at-Law, late of chore WE WANT 2.000 NEW SUBSCRIBERS Charleston, S. C. Bella Donough-No: St. Vitus .-FOR THE WEEKLY TIMES BY JUNE 1ST. Judge. When Every Man's Word Is Good. Chappie (his first attendance at a ball, to elderly friend)-What shall I GENERAL TRUSTEE-HON. HENRY S. THIS IS WHY THE OFFER IS MADE. THE COMPLETE SET CONSISTS OF TWENTY-FIVE NOVELS: talk to my partner about? Elderly Friend-Her beauty. Chappie-But if she doesn't happen to be beautiful? TROUT, President First National Bank, Roanoke, Va. I. Waverly, DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY - Roanoke 2. Ivanhoe, Trust, Loan and Safe Deposit Company. Elderly Friend-No matter; she'll 3. Kenilworth. Kenilworth,
Guy Mannoring;
Antiquary,
Rob Roy,
Old Mortality,
Bride of Lammermoor
Black Dwarf,
Heart of Mid-Lothian,
The Monastery,
The Abbot,
The Pirate,
The Printe,
Fortunes of Nigel,
Peveril of the Peak. take your word for it .- Jury. Misanthropic. Jones-I take no more pleasure in fe. The world is full of thieves and 1. INSTALLMENT STOCK. - Memlife. bership fee, \$1 per share, which carries rascals. I don't really believe there's an honest man left in the world. the stock the first month, after that the monthly dues are 60 cents per share. Smith-Cheer up. When a man ac-knowledges his own frailties he has al-2. PAID UP INTEREST BEARING ready taken a step in the direction of reform.—Texas Siftings. STOCK .- \$50 pershare (par value, \$100), yielding a dividend, payable semi-an-15. Peveril of the Peak, 16. Quentin Durward, 17. St. Ronan's Well, nually, January 1, and July 1, of 6 per A Cool Customer. "Do you know Duzenbury?" cent. per annum on the \$50 paid in, which 18. Red Gauntlet. is duly remitted by check to the share-"Yes. 19. The Betrothed, 20. The Talisman, "Well, he is a cool customer." holder. "What has he done now?" "He lives in furnished apartments, 3. The stock is expected to mature in 21. Woodstock 22. Fair Maid of Perth, seven years from date of each series reand during the late cold spell he used the furniture of his landlord for fuel." 23. Anne of Geierstein, 24. Count Robert of Paris spectively, the same being issued monthly. -Texas Siftings. 25. Surgeon's Daughter. 4. There is no investment anywhere Mysteries of Manufacture. safer or more profitable than its stock. TWENTY-FIVE NOVELS FOR THE FORMER PRICE OF ONE. Cigar Manufacturer-Yes, sir, it's an actual fact that cigar boxes are not With the assets of the Association invested in first mortgages on improved made out of cedar at all; they are made WITHIN EASY REACH OF ALL. town real estate, duly insured for the out of paper and colored with cedar extract. Friend-Well, well! Now won't you benefit of the Association, on a basis THESE NOVELS ARE HANDSOME <sup>12</sup> MO. BOOKS. THE PRINT IS GOOD. THE PAPER IS GOOD AND THE BOOKS ARE NEATLY BOUND. not exceeding 50 per cent. of its value, please tell me what eigars are made of? as ascertained by appraisers who are -Good News. themselves stockholders of the Association, while the debt of the member Had Him Cold. borrowing is being curtailed every "I hear you fought a duel with Par-WE WILL DELIVER THE SETS ker.' month of its existence, it is difficult to FREE TO EACH SUBSCRIBER. "I did." conceive of a safer investment than its "Weren't you afraid to stand up be-fore a loaded pistol?" "Not with Parker holding it. I'm stock affords to the prudent investor. AGENTS WANTED AT EVERY POSTOFFICE IN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA, AND SOUTH-ERN WEST VIRGINIA TO SECURE Apply at Home Office, 110 Jefferson insured in his company."-Harper's street, or to SUBSCRIPTIONS. Bazar. JAMES R. TERRY, or to SIMMONS, TO EVERY PERSON SENDING US FIVE NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR THE WEEKLY TIMES AT \$1 EACH PER YEAR WITH-OUT THE BOOKS, OR \$2 EACH WITH THE BOOKS, WE WILL SENDA SET OF BOOKS FREE. Holding Their Ou/n. CARPENTER & TINSLEY, Roanoke, Tom De Witt-These tronsers hold their shape well, Schneider. Va. apr19-1y Schneider-It's all in the making, sir Tom De Witt-I thought so. You The Case Not Reached. see, they bagged at the knees the first day I wore them, and they've kept the Mr. George W. Ramsey returned

Thursday night from Tazewell Court House, accompanied by Mr. J. C. Rawn, manager of the Gas and Water Com-pany. These gentlemen were sum-moned as witnesses in the case of the Norfolk and Western Railroad Com-pany vs. Charles Scott, who claims that the railroad company violated a con-tract made with him some time ago to furnish cross ties for the Clinch Valley

furnish cross ties for the Clinch Valley division. Chief Engineer Coe also went to testify in regard to this matter, but owing to the fact that the case has not yet been reached, he did not return with the other gontleman. It is probable that the case will be called in a day or two and Megsrs. Ramsey and Rawn will then go on to testify. Skribbler-If there's a saint on earth, Skribbler-He dipped his paste brush into the ink yesterday, and all he said was: "Oh, pshaw!"-Life.

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#### A MASTERPIECE

pronounced it genuine, while others de-olared the makeup a "fake." The fact is that while tattooed freaks were paying attractions Chicago turned out a large number of them at short notice. They were, of course, not the genuine article, and their coats of ink had to be renewed almost every day.

The only simon pure tattooed man of our day is, as has already been stated, the careless sailor who carries wit him the emblems of his calling and his patriotism. Among seafaring men the craze for tattooing will live for many years to come, but as a fad it has had its day. That such is the case should be a subject for congratulation among sensible people who are satisfied to go through life without carrying ugly pictures on their skin.

G. W. WEIPPIERT.

## Probably.

"Do you know 'The Song That Breaks my Heart?" "Is it 'Comrades?"-Pack

lop.

Barber-If my plan was adopted there would be no more bald heads. Customer-I have tried a number of preparations and they are all humbugs. "My idea can't fail." "What is it?"

"Wear a wig."-Texas Siftings.

# A Dobusing Influence.

Mr. White-"Ain't" and "done it!" I am astonished that a literary man can use such frightful grammar! Mr. Scribbler-Oh! I know it; but I write so many of those dialect stories for the magazines that I ain't as particalar as I oughter be .- Puck.

Does Advertising Pay ? First Jeweler—I have had proven to me that advertising brings results. Second Jeweler—What was the case? First Jeweler—Yesterday evening I advertised for a watchman, and during the solution. the night my store was burglarized .-Jewelers' Circular.

## Near the Top.

"Yes, it looks like him. So he is on the Yale faculty this year. Isn't that a great honor for so young a man?" "Yes, indeed. It's the next thing to being on the football team."-Life.

#### A Torrible Possibility.

Mother (reading)— $\Lambda$  machine has been invented that will fling a man fifteen hundred feet into the air. Pretty Daughter-Horrors! Don't let pa hear of it!-Good News.

#### She Knew Charlle.

Tom De Witt-Whom do you think Charlie Mumford had his arm around last evening?

Bessie Floyd-Oh! the nearest young lady, I suppose.-Jury

#### Two Opinions.

Tailor-One of your shoulders is higher than the other. Customer-You are mistaken, sir: one of them is lower than the other .--- Yanker Hilad

Manager-Have you tried going out of the business?-Brooklyn Citizen.

same shape ever since .-- Puck

from the newspaper. "What is it?" asked his wife.

it is our religious editor.

Free Press

He Will Collect the Interest.

me," exclaimed Staggers, glancing up

"A company in which I am a stock-holder announces a dividend."-Detroit

Discovery of a Saint.

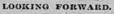
Bunsby-What makes you think so?

That Will Please Them.

the people. I have tried everything in the business, but they won't be pleased.

Actor-I have worked hard to please

"Now this is an event of interest to





Farmer Washington Mundy (to his next-door neighbor)-Say, Jonas, if you don't keep that rain on your own side of the fence I'll sue you for damages. Don't you see my clothes are hung out to dry?-Puck.

#### Ilis Wife's Relations.

Friend-If you have so much trouble with your wife's relations, why do you live with them? Hatework-'Cause my relations won't have us.-N. Y. Weekly.

True to His Principles. Manager-Colonel, your distillery is on fire

Col. Bourbon-Then let her burn. never watered my whisky yet, and ain't going to begin now.-Jury.

#### All a Mistake.

Smithson - Why has Dillard with-drawn his sult sgainst his wife for a divorce? Farrar-I think his lawyer told him a couldn't get alimony .-- Judge.

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