

sonages." We thus learn from Mr. Earle that tattooing is veritably a branch of the fine arts, in the estimation of those who are most concerned in the matter; and even the Englishman himself was roused to enthusiasm in the matter. The Church Missionary Society have in their museum a bust of a chieftain, carved by himself, in very hard wood, with rude iron tools of his own making, and the tattoo-marks on his face are faithfully copied. Unusually complex devices are said to require weeks, or even months, in their execution; seeing that some portions of the skin must be healed before others are proceeded with. From various authorities we learn that among these savage tribes tattooing is the mark of gentility, and is as much prized as is the exhibition of coats of arms by many families in England. A traveler, Mr. Marsden, ventured to tell one of the New-Zealand chiefs that it would be a pity to tattoo his nephew Rocow, as he was a fine-looking youth, with a dignified, open, and placid countenance, which ought not to be disfigured. What was the reply? "The chief laughed in my face, and said his nephew *must* be tattooed, as it would give him a noble, masculine, and warlike appearance; that he would not be fitted to be his successor with a smooth face; and that the New-Zealanders would look on him merely as a woman if he was not tattooed."—*Chambers's Journal*.

TATTOOING IN NEW-ZEALAND. — The best and fullest account of this subject was given by Mr. Earle, who resided nine years in New-Zealand, shortly before the first settlers ventured there from England. In his work, published in 1829, an engraving is given, representing a New-Zealand chief lying in an easy position on a kind of blanket, and an artistic tattooer operating upon him. He says: "The art of tattooing has been brought to such perfection here that whenever we have seen a New-Zealander with skin thus ornamented, we have admired him. It is looked upon as answering the same purposes as clothes. When a chief throws off his mats, he seems as proud of displaying the beautiful ornaments figured on his skin as a first-rate exquisite is exhibiting himself in his last fashionable attire. It is an essential part of warlike preparation. The whole of the district of Ko-ro-ra-di-Ka was preparing for the approaching war. Their cannon, muskets, powder, and ball increased daily; and a very ingenious artist, named Aranghie, arrived to carry on this important branch of his art, which was soon placed in requisition; for all the mighty men in the neighborhood were one by one under his operating hands. As this professor was a near neighbor of mine, I frequently paid him a visit in his studio, and he returned the compliment whenever he had time to spare. He was considered by his countrymen a perfect master of the art of tattooing, and men of the highest rank and importance were in the habit of traveling long journeys in order to put their skins under his skillful hands. Indeed, so largely were his works esteemed that I have seen many of his drawings exhibited even after death. A neighbor of mine very lately killed a chief who had been tattooed by Aranghie, and, appreciating the artist's work so highly, he skinned the chieftain's thighs, and covered his cartouch-box with it! I was astonished to see with what boldness and precision Aranghie drew his designs upon the skin, and what beautiful ornaments he produced; no rule and compasses could be more correct than the lines and circles he formed. So unrivaled is he in his profession, that a highly finished face of a chief from the hands of this artist is as greatly prized in New-Zealand as a head from the hands of Sir Thomas Lawrence is among us. This Professor was merely a *cook*, or slave; but by skill and industry he raised himself to an equality with the greatest men of his country; and as every chief who employed him always made him some handsome present, he soon became a man of wealth, and was constantly surrounded by important per-