

**HOW DO I KNOW WHO YOU ARE?**

**PROVING IDENTITY IN ENGLISH  
AND EUROPEAN HISTORY**

**LECTURE 4  
'SPEAKING SCARS':  
TATTOOS AND IDENTIFICATION**

**Jane Caplan  
University of Oxford**

# **4. 'SPEAKING SCARS'. TATTOOS AND IDENTIFICATION**

**30 June 2014**

**1. Signature & Sign**

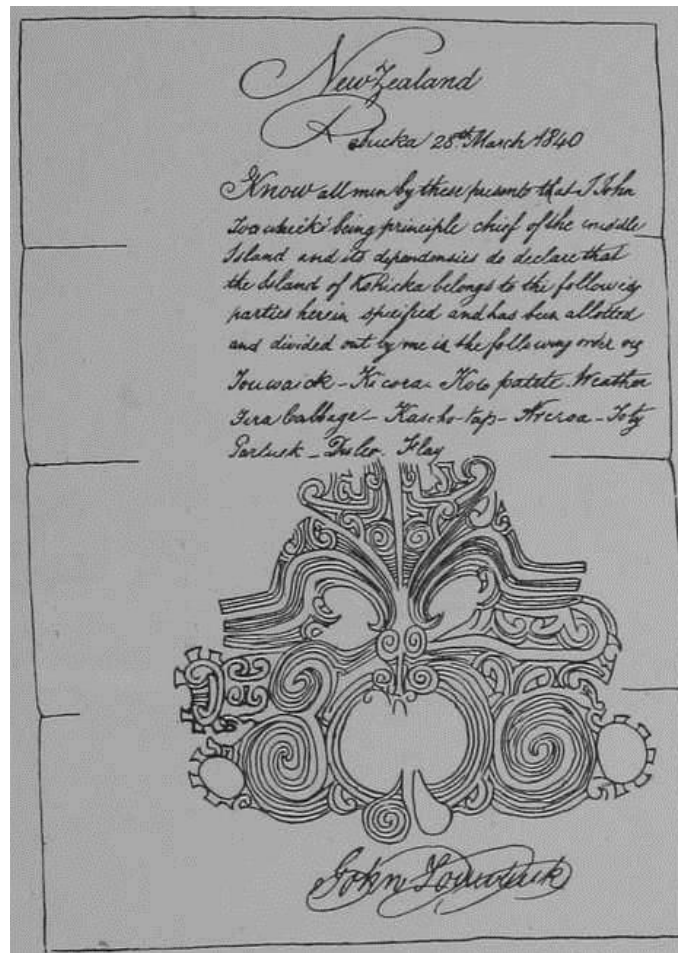
**2. The Foundling**

**3. 'Speaking Scars'**

**4. Britain: Another story**

**5. Conclusion**

# Signature of Tuwaihiki (1840)



# Heinrich Wuttke, *History of Script and Writing (1872)*

Geschichte  
der  
Schrift und des Schrifttums

von den  
rohen Anfängen des Schreibens in der Tatuierung  
bis zur  
Legung elektromagnetischer Drähte.

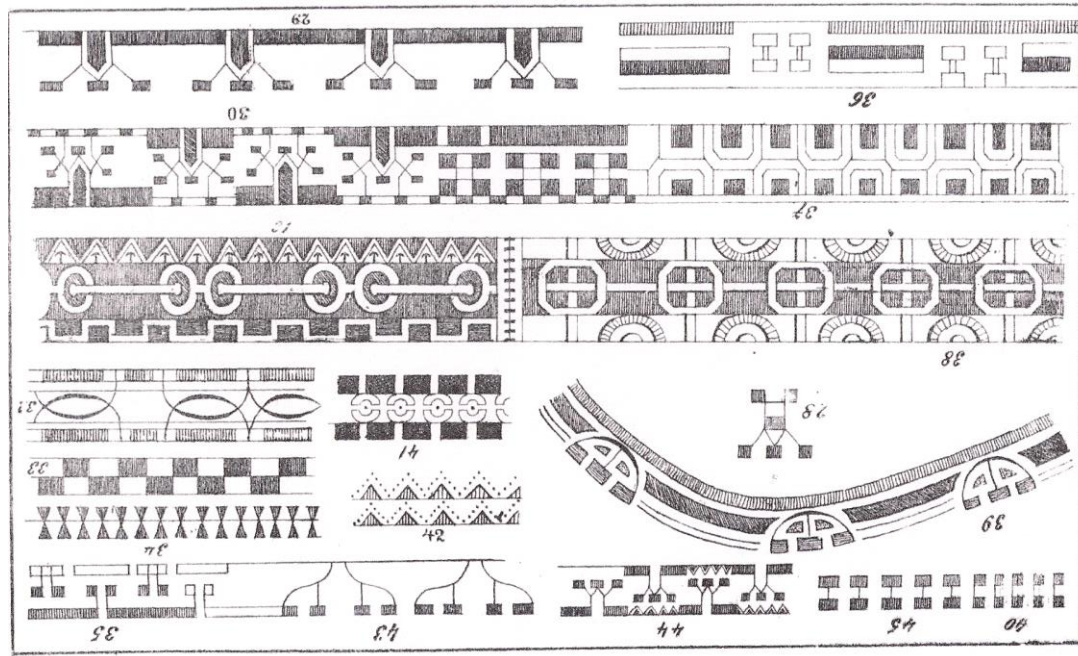
Von  
Heinrich Wuttke.



Erster Band.  
Die verschiedenen Schriftsysteme.

Leipzig,  
Ernst Fleischer,  
1872.

# Nukahiva 'marriage contract'



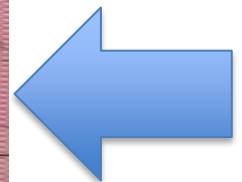
Matteo Smet.



# British passport (1920)

DESCRIPTION OF BEARER.		DESCRIPTION OF WIFE OF BEARER.	
Age 42	Profession Minister of Religion	Age 34	Profession -
Place & date of birth Russia April 15/1848		Place & date of birth Ludgar An	
Maiden name of widow or married woman travelling singly		Maiden name Harris	
Height 5 feet 5 inches		Height 5 feet 11 1/2 inches	
Forehead normal	Eyes Brown	Forehead normal	Eyes Blue
Nose Regular	Mouth Regular	Nose Regular	Mouth Regular
Chin Round	Colour of Hair Black	Chin Round	Colour of Hair Black
Complexion Fresh	Face Oval	Complexion Fresh	Face Oval
Any special peculiarities -		Any special peculiarities	
National Status Naturalized British subject (1914) of Russian origin (Еврей)		PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 16 YEARS	
		Name	Age
		Joseph	15 years
		Hilda Lena	13 years
		Constance	10 years
		Isador	8 years
		Daniel	4 years

This Passport is granted "with the qualification that the bearer shall not, when within the limits of the Foreign States of which he was a Subject previously to obtaining his Certificate of Naturalisation be deemed to be a British Subject, unless he has ceased to be a Subject of that State in pursuance of the laws thereof, or in pursuance of a treaty to that effect." 33 Vict., c. 14.





# Police fiche, Hamburg (1911)

1418 v. 10/9.1911

Marguardt  
Max Friedrich Paul  
Klemente Emil  
geb. am 5. 9. 84 in Hamburg.  
Stand: Polenbergsapelle  
Pers.-Akte 14432/10.  
Anthrop. Registr. Kasten № 34.

**Beschreibung.**

Körperhöhe m 1, 70  
Augenfarbe: blau  
Haar: fallblond, dünn  
Bart: schwarz, fallblond  
Auffallende Merkmale.  
Linkes Bein kurz

**Besondere Kennzeichen:**

Linke Hand: füßlosiert: Anker  
mit Makropenbissa zerissen  
Brümmen und Zeigefinger  
fehlen.

Rechte Hand: füßlosiert: M. Cyffan.  
Kopf mit 2 Gelen M, verunstet  
Verzierung, auf Gelenkrücken.

Gesicht und Hals: Nasenrücken  
eingetrückt.

Form. II. L. 26.



# Branding slaves, USA (1853)



BRANDING SLAVES.



***Ruota* or wheel  
(Naples, 18<sup>th</sup> century)**



# Foundling tokens (London, 18<sup>th</sup> century)



# Venice decree on marking of foundlings, 1791




**I**L Sovrano Decreto dell'Eccellentissimo Senato 26. Maggio 1791. impartì alli Figli dello Spedale della Pietà di Venezia lo spazioso Privilegio del libero esercizio di qualunque Arte senza verun'aggravio, nè impedimento, così nella Dominante, come in qualsivoglia Luogo dello Stato, e di sceglierne altra, se alla prima non si credessero adattati, per la sempre legale notizia alli rispettivi Magistrati, ed Offizj Presidi alle Arti medesime.

Reca universalmente nota questa pubblica beneficenza a favore de' Figli dell'Ospitale della Pietà della Dominante con li Proclami a stampa dell'Eccellentissima Preside Magistratura 30. Luglio 1791. approvati dal Sovrano Decreto 6. Agosto seguente.

Perciò Noi infraferiti Governatori del Pio Luogo Deputati alli Figli.

*Universis, et singulis fidem facimus, atque attestamus,*

Che  
d'età di anni                      come nel Libro Scafetta a carte                      , e nel general Rolo  
a carte                      contrassegnato in carne nella parte superiore del braccio sinistro con la presente Marca —  è figliuolo  
del Pio Ospitale della Pietà di Venezia, e perciò si rende capace del Privilegio accordato dalli surriferiti Decreti.

Data dalla Cancellaria del Pio Ospitale della Pietà di Venezia li

§  
§  
§

*Cancellier.*



# Anthropometric card, Hamburg (c. 1912)

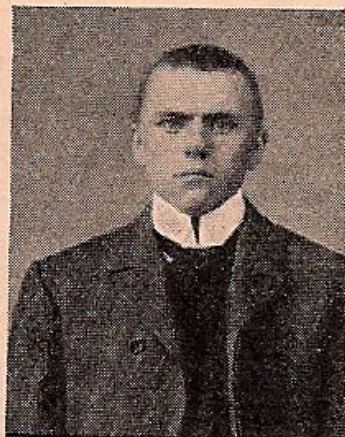
## Anthropometrische Registratur der Kriminalpolizei in Hamburg.

Kasten  
Nr. 38.

### I. Photographie.



Photogr. Anat. d. Polizeibeh. Hamburg, Nr. 1785/1911



Photogr. Anat. d. Polizeibeh. Hamburg, Nr. 1785/1911

### II. Personalien.

Akten-Nr. R. 14968 Name: Werner  
 Vorname: Ernst Victor Heinrich Stand: Gefängniswärter  
 geb. 3/2. 1887 in Hannover, Kreis Hannover, wohnhaft: Hamburg  
 verheiratet mit —, Mil.-Verh.: Leutnant  
 Vater: Wulf Werner Mutter: Caroline Kahl  
 bestraft 9 mal, davon mit Gefängnis 4 mal, mit Zuchthaus 2 mal,  
 jetzt verhaftet in Hamburg wegen Diebstahl  
 Spitzname: Akzeptor Verbrecherklasse: Gefängnis  
 Bemerkungen: Personalien nach eigenen Angaben

## Anthropometrische Registratur der Kriminalpolizei in Hamburg.

Kasten  
Nr. 38.

### III. Masse und Aussehen.

Körpergröße 1,615	Kopflänge 18,9	lk. Mittelfinger 11,2	Augenklasse 1-2 des.
Krümmung 0,	Kopfbreite 16,1	lk. Kleinfinger 8,4	Ges. Farbe, Pigm. m. Blutm. m.
Armspann 1,65	Schulter 13,6	lk. Fusslänge 20,9	„ Fülle m. des.
Sitzhöhe 0,875	r. Ohrhöhe 6,2	lk. Unterarmlänge 43,2	Haar alb Bart

### IV. Besondere Kennzeichen:

1. Lk. Arm: <u>lat. m. m. u. a. s.</u> <u>n. gl. 3. i. 2. Hgd. s.</u> <u>(lat.) 11. 9-24. s.</u> <u>n. gl. 2.5. a. 1.5. 1.2. s. a.</u> <u>4. 24. 5. 6. s. a.</u>	2. R. Arm: <u>lat. 2. Genteln. X. u. a.</u> <u>lat. 11. 9-24. s.</u>
3. Gesicht und Hals: <u>4.5. a. r. Or.</u> <u>W. 6. 5. 4. 4.</u>	4. Brust: <u>4. 8. 2. 7.</u>
5. Rücken: <u>W. 6. 2. 7. 4.</u>	6. Beine und Füße: <u>r. 1. gr. 1. 1. 1.</u>

Bemerkungen: —

### V. Abdrücke der rechten Hand.

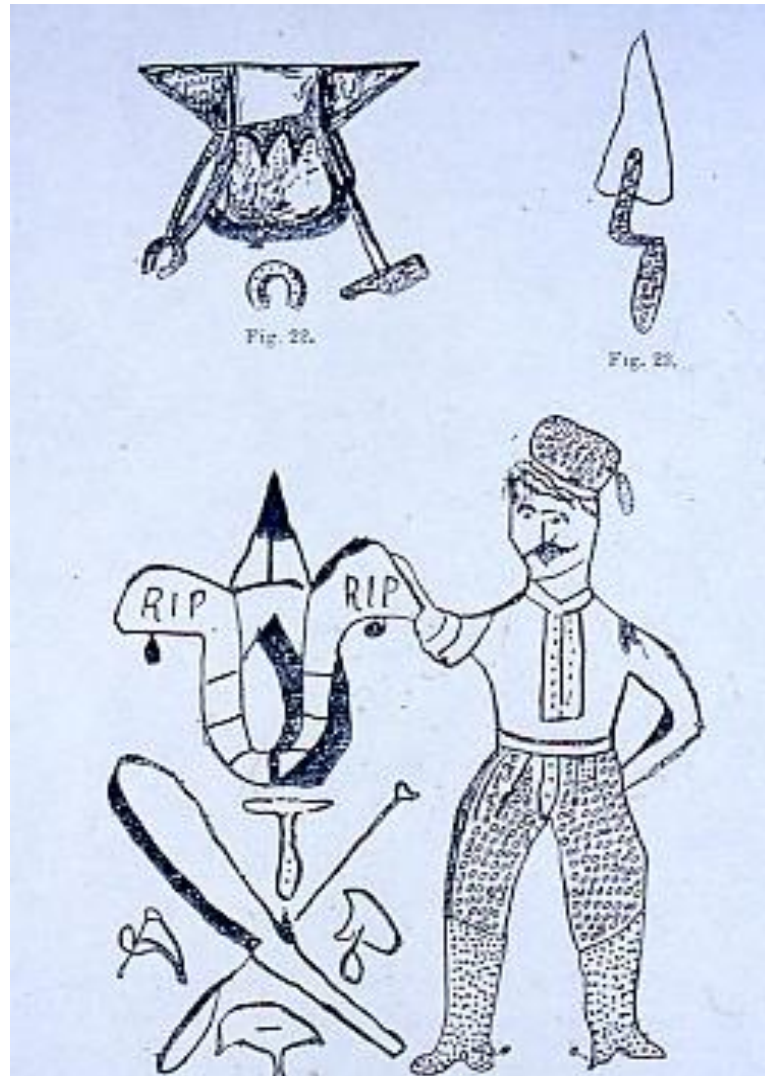
Gemessen dch. Wagner  
 Angef. dch. Wagner  
 am 21. 3. 11. in Hamburg.  
 Nachgepr. dch. —  
 am — in —

Daumen Zeigefinger Mittelfinger Ringfinger



Form. II. L. 27.

# Craftsmen's tattoos, France (1880s)

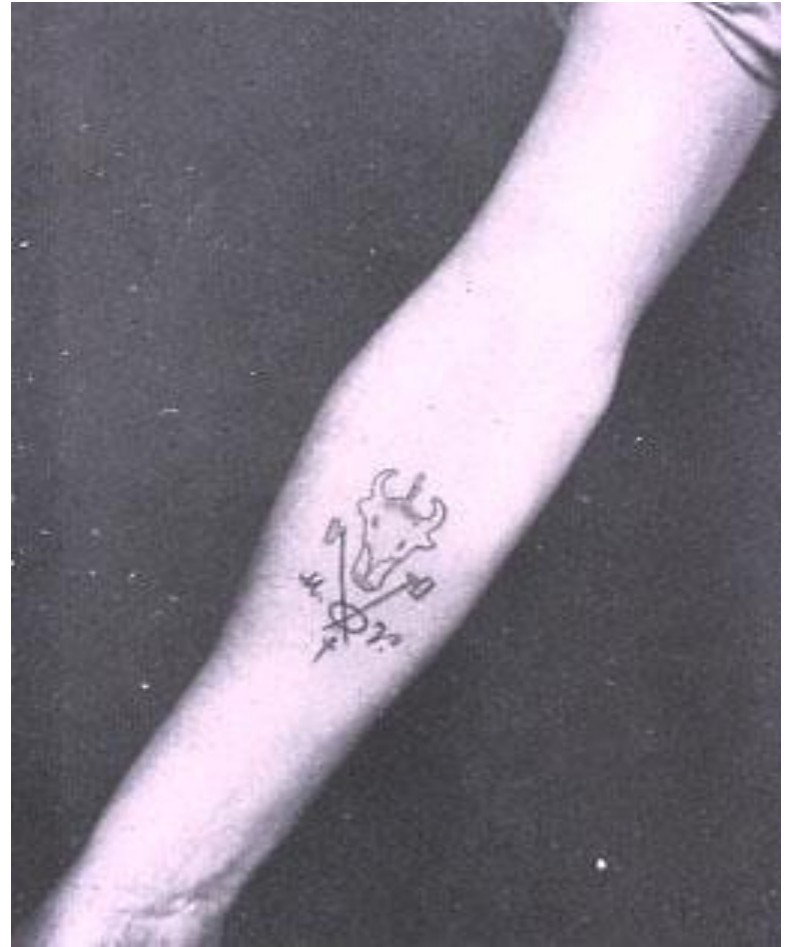




# Craftsmen's tattoos, Germany (c. 1900)



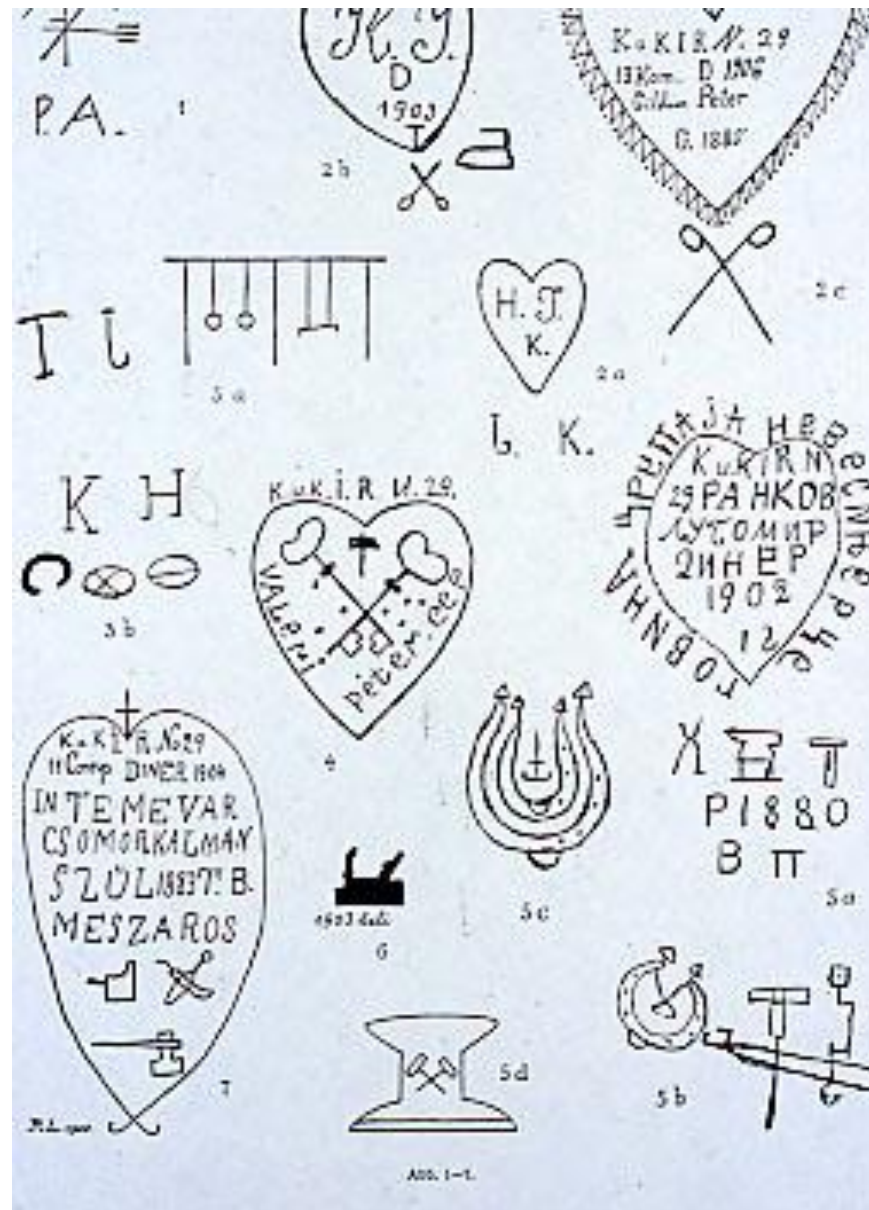
**Baker**



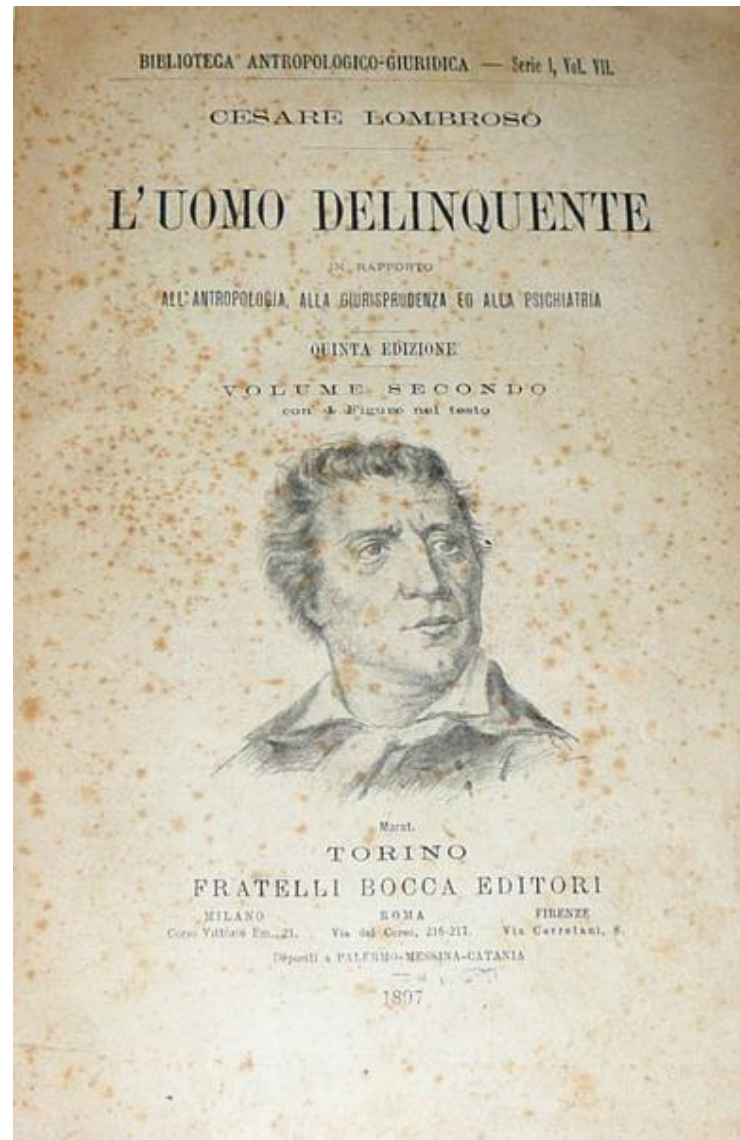
**Butcher**



## Regimental & Craft Tattoos, Temesvar (1908)

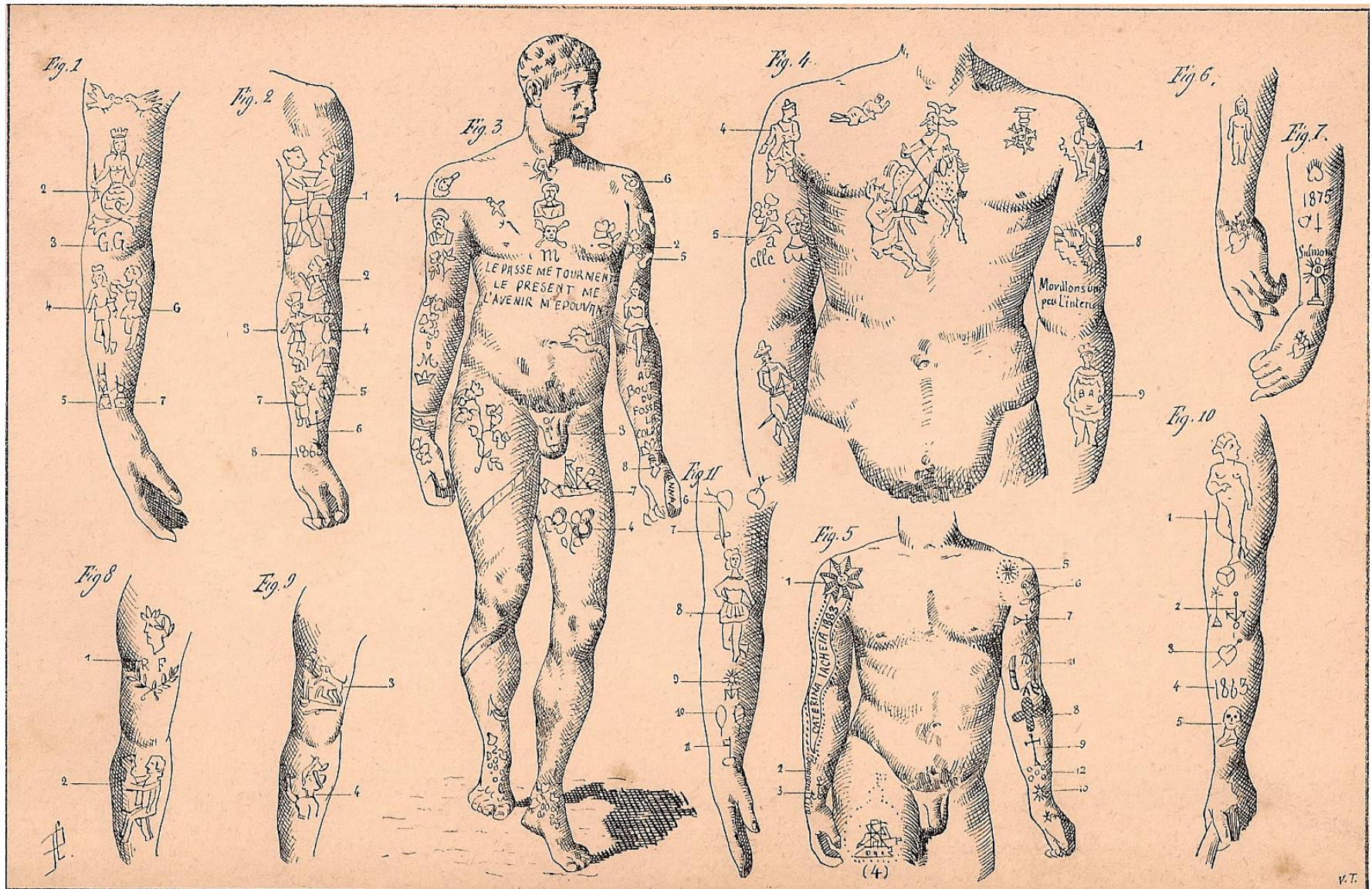


# Cesare Lombroso, *L'uomo delinquente* (1<sup>st</sup> edn 1876)





# Lombroso, Tattoo images

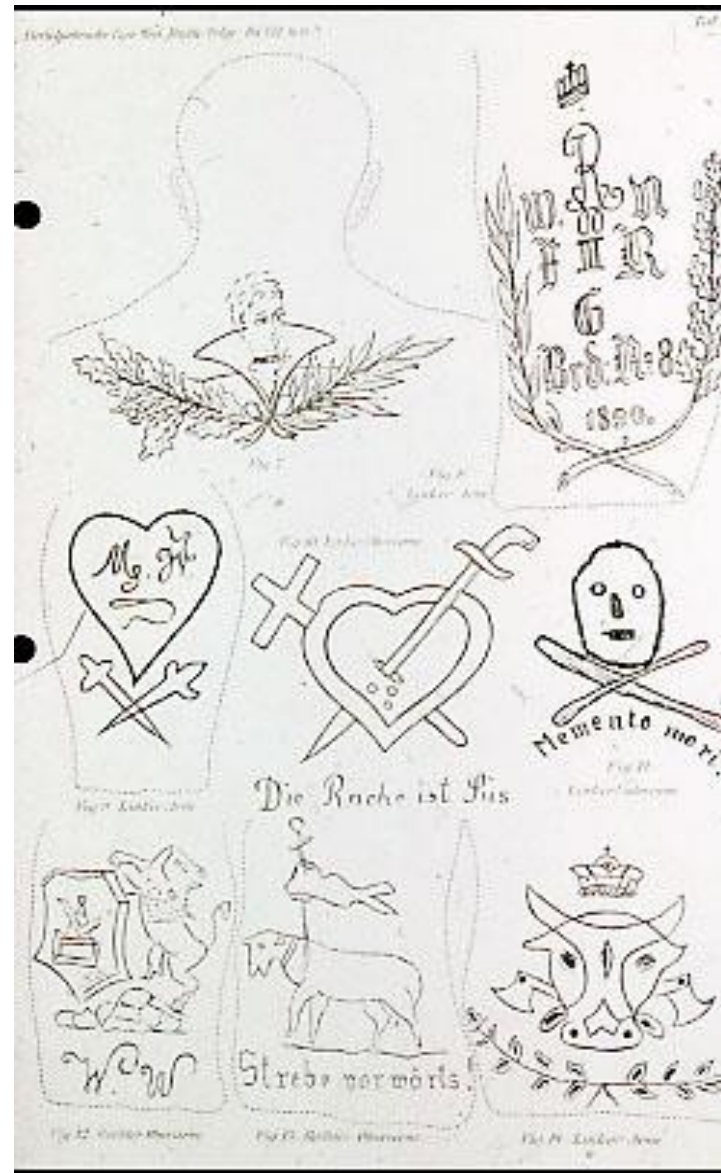
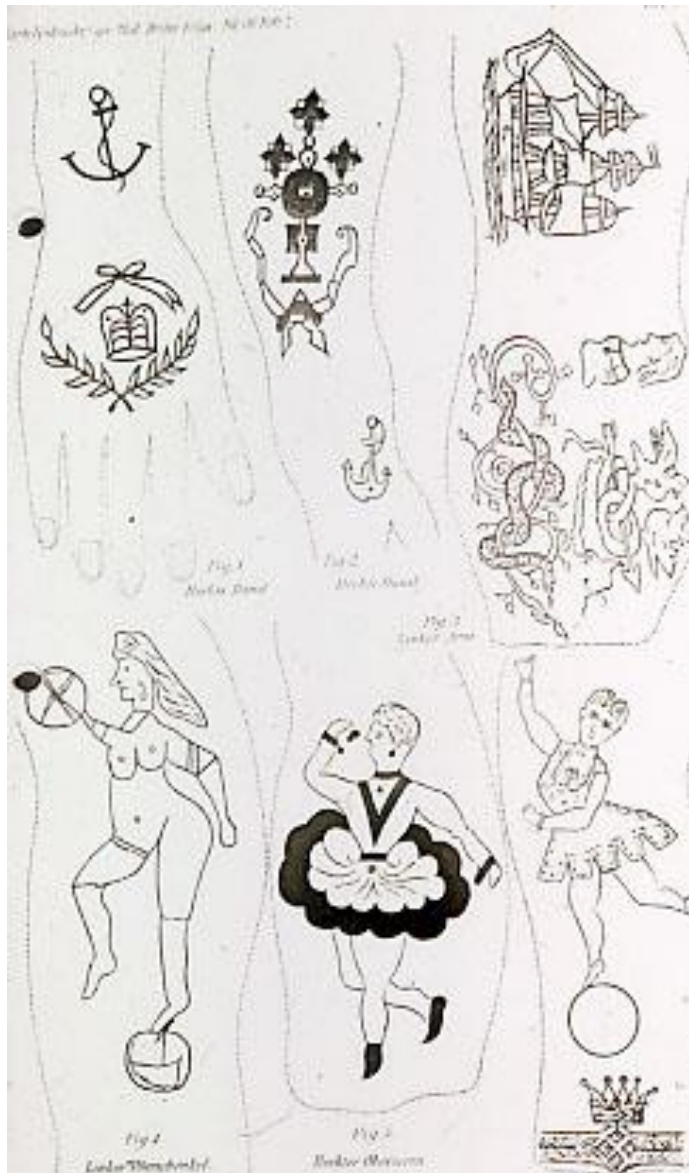




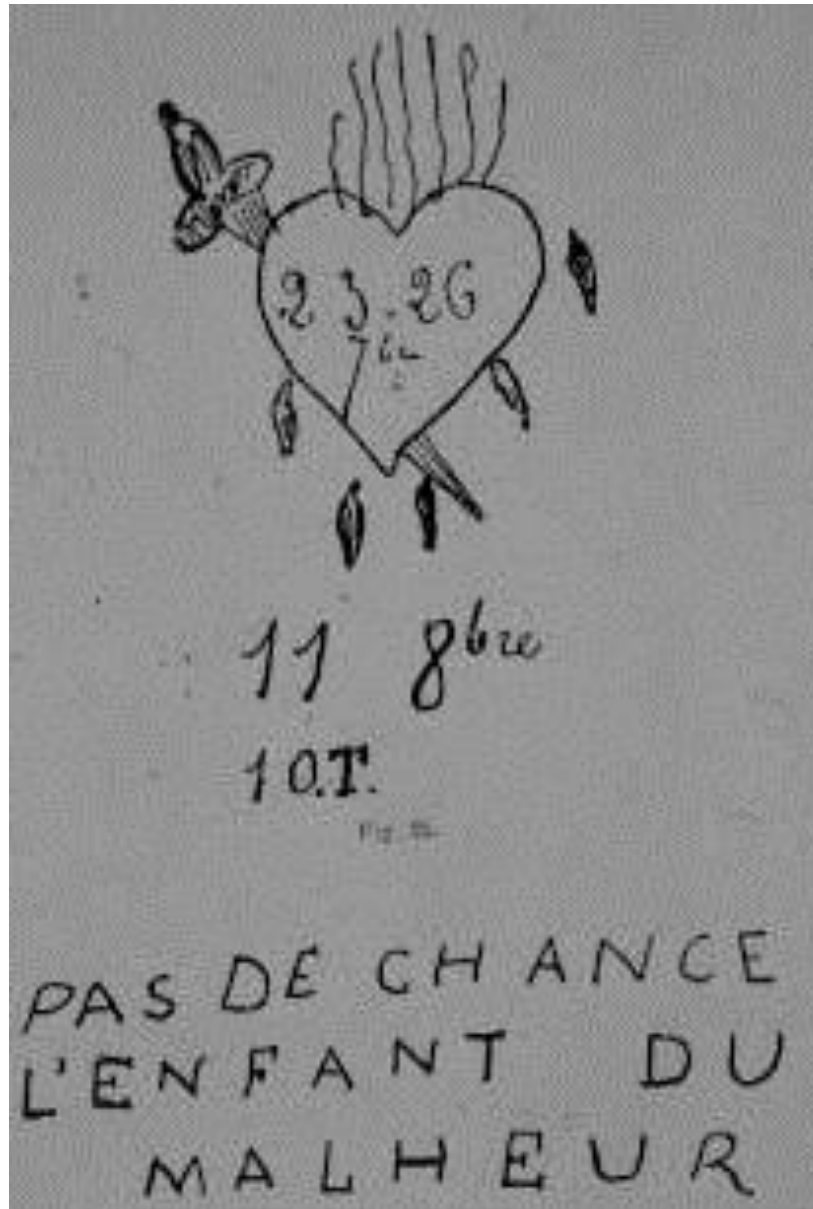
# Adolf Loos, Ornament and Crime (1908)



# Convicts' tattoos, Germany (1894)

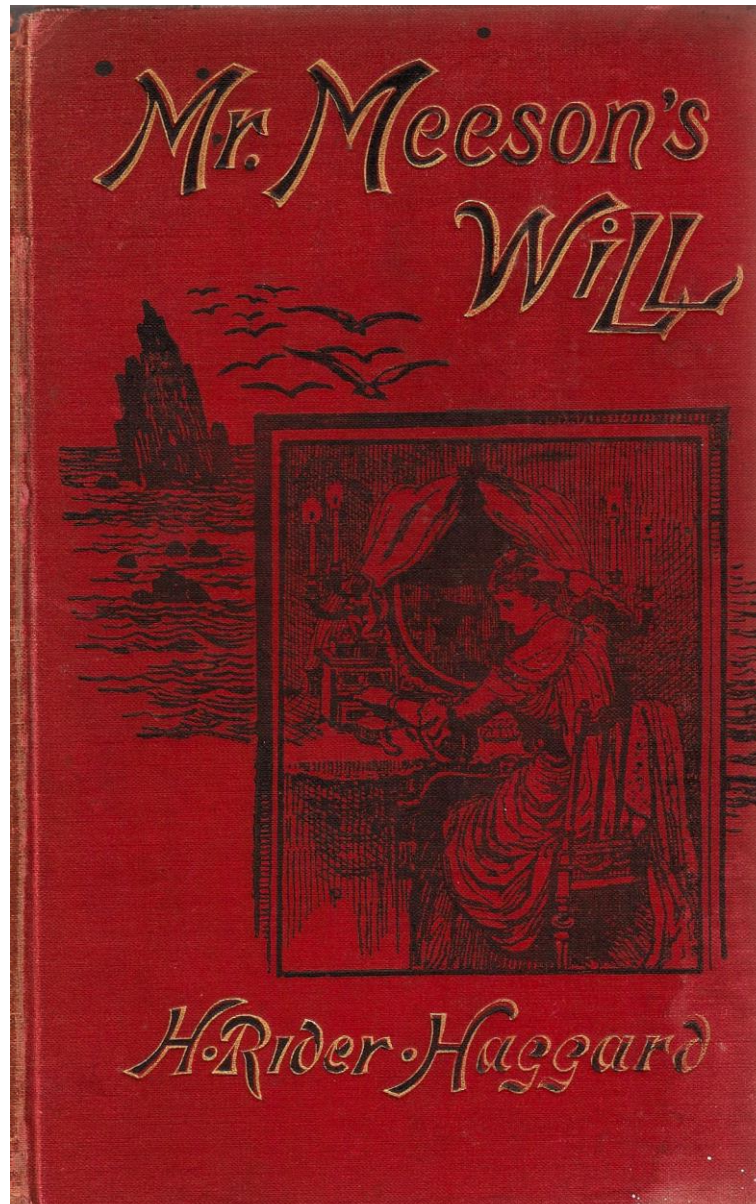


# Convicts' tattoos, France (1880s)





# H. Rider Haggard, *Mr Meeson's Will* (1888)



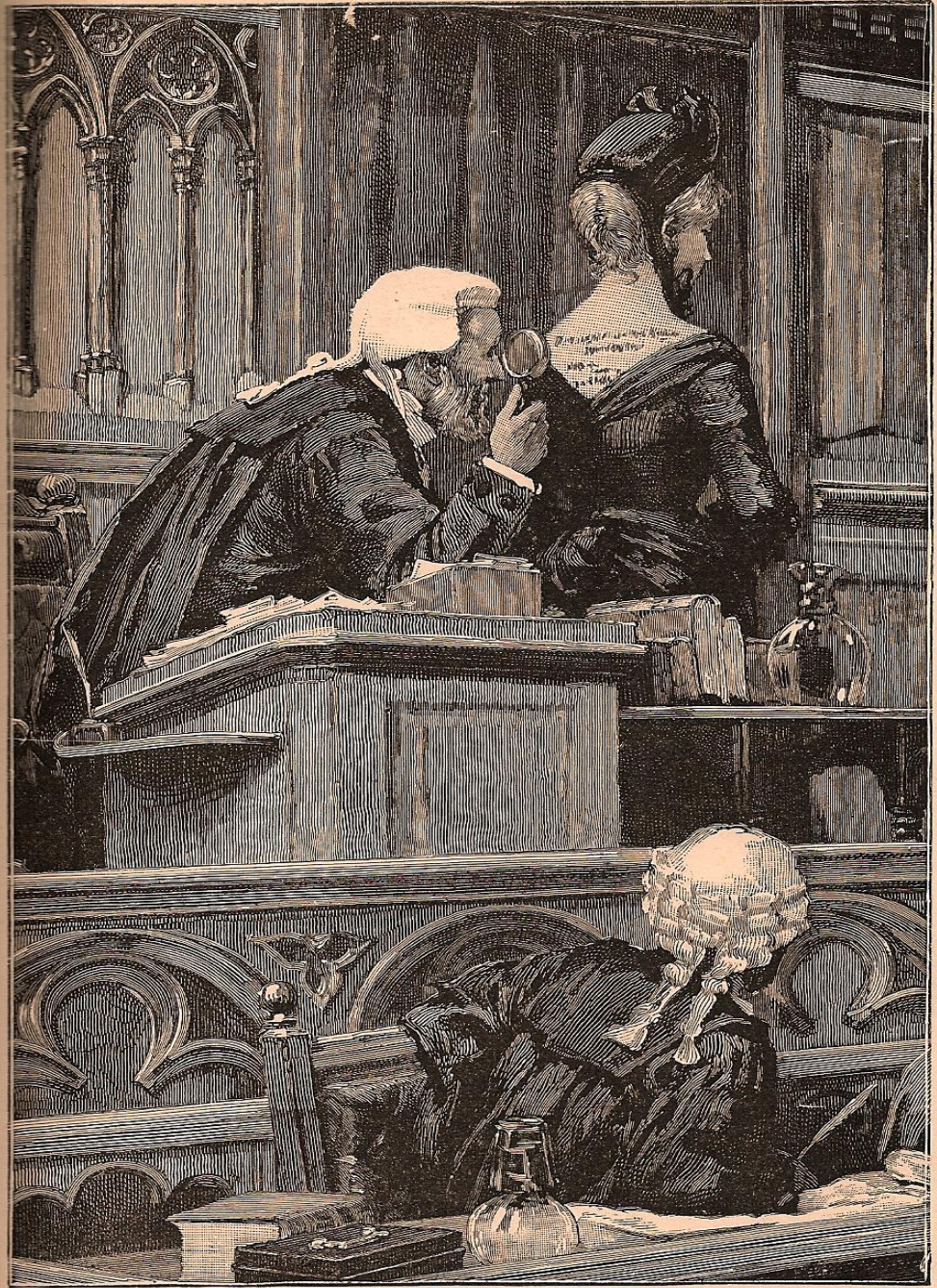


**‘Augusta set  
her  
teeth and  
endured in  
silence.’**





**‘Augusta  
turned her  
back to the  
Judge’**



“Augusta turned her back to the Judge, in order that he might examine what was written on it.”—Page 248.