

The following was taken from the book 'Golden Gems of Penmanship and Self Instructor (1884). The claims made below will bring a BIG smile to your face. I will also post the 'Crown of Thorns' image as well as the etching of penman WH Lyons. When you read the description of how the image was made I would keep a healthy dose of skepticism in the forefront of your mind.

Joe Vitolo

THE CROWN OF THORNS.

This beautiful pen-work gem is the most wonderful and marvelous piece of pen-work, and the most remarkable and extraordinary thing ever done with a pen.

It was all done with a single stroke without lifting the pen from the paper.

The picture was commenced by placing the pen at the point to be occupied *by the end of the nose, and then carrying it round and round without raising it from the paper until the picture was completed. Thus the whole picture was all done with a single stroke of the pen.

This remarkable picture was executed by W. H. Lyons, the most wonderful penman and genius in art that has ever lived; and we insert this marvelous gem, The Crown of Thorns," to show what is possible for genius to do with a pen.

We do not insert this picture as a copy for any one to practice from or try to imitate, for no other human being except the great genius, W. H. Lyons, could probably ever learn to make this wonderful pen-work picture with a single stroke of the pen.

You can easily learn to make any other design contained in the Golden Gems in a very short time, but you could probably never learn to make such an extraordinary, marvelous and wonderful thing as this.

The fact that such wonders can be done, and have been done with a pen, ought to prove that any one with ordinary intelligence should be able to learn to write an elegant hand, and do nice ornamental work, at the very least, with such copies, and advantages, and instructions, as are contained in this book, which contains all the best copies and best instructions, and the best of everything to make it easy to learn to write ever thought of by all the greatest penmen and writing teachers that have ever lived.

The great genius penman, W. H. Lyons, is constantly employed by us alone, and by no one else. He is paid an immense salary by us and he cannot be hired to do anything for any one else. Therefore, we are able to challenge the whole world on penmanship, and

are able to produce better copies, and better specimens of elegant writing and ornamental work than can be produced anywhere else in the whole world. And by means of the photo-electrographing process we are able to reproduce on paper, a perfect counterpart of all kinds of pen-work, in any color, or in all colors and gold, so absolutely perfect and exact that you could not see a particle of any difference at all between one of the photo-electrographs and the original pen and ink work.

We lead the world in penmanship, and the 'Golden Gems is the very highest and most exalted summit of all that is good and beautiful in the art of penmanship, and the greatest means ever conceived of for learning to write an elegant hand.

(Copyrighted 1884 by KNOWLES & MAXIM, Pittsfield, Mass.)