

Buried Treasure by Pinkney Gage

Hawken Rifles Also Used By Forty-Niners as Tool

It was an awful lot of gun. It felt so heavy in my hands that I thought the barrel must be plugged with lead.

But that wasn't all. It was merely an early rifle, a muzzle loader of .60 caliber with an extra heavy barrel that was clean enough to take the ramrod all the way to the hammer nipple.

"It's a genuine mountain rifle, Pink," said Larry who had only recently acquired it. It's stamped "J. and S. Hawken" right on the barrel. You can still see it.

The names of the famous American gunsmiths were there, all right. And so also was the name R. Ashmore, stamped on the lock.

"Ashmore's name is an added touch of authenticity, if any were needed," Larry said. "Ashmore shipped over many locks and other parts from England. He was a regular supplier of American gunsmiths."

"Look at this, Pink. I didn't know Amelia Earhart ever meant much to the Mexicans."

Tom picked up an envelope from a batch of stamps and covers in front of him and passed it over. It was a 20 centavo air mail, lake blue in color, of the 1934-35 issue.

"She flies with the good wishes of Mexico," said Tom, making a decidedly free translation.

The date of the cancellation was clearly visible, overlapping only slightly onto the stamp itself. The date was April 16, 1935.

Well, it didn't seem likely to me that the stamp would have any special value, nor to Tom either. So it wasn't until after

I would have sworn the cottage hadn't changed since my last visit nearly 25 years ago. But in stepping over the threshold I knew there was a change and that it was something other than more lines in Miss Abbe's face.

I spotted it when I walked back to the door for another look at the "welcome mat" that had delighted me so much as a child.

The letters in the word "welcome" had always been a royal blue. Now they were a dark red. Everything else on the semi-circular house rug was just the same as I remembered it.

I asked Miss Abbe, who lives in sight of the southern Maine Coast, how much they were worth to her.

"The ones you're standing on is worth \$350, Pinkney," she said. "I've got somebody coming in tomorrow who's been begging me to save it, and I think I've saved it just long enough."

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

SOME "WELCOME MATS" HAVE MONETARY VALUE

had gone on the market right after the Civil War. Stamped-pattern hook rugs aren't generally valuable. The only way those made from the same design can differ is in the color of the material used.

"I remembered several families around here that had this kind," Miss Abbe said. "And a few winters ago I went calling on them and managed to find five. I've been selling 'em off, one a year since. The summer people pay good prices for them."

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As We Live

Caution, Timidity May Mean Success or Failure

While there is only a shade of difference between caution and timidity in the minds of most people, the difference is great enough that it may mean success or failure, depending on which of the two dominates. There is a world of difference in the behavior of the person who is ruled by caution as compared with the person whose life is dominated by timidity.

A cautious person is careful. He uses foresight and good judgment in deciding what to do and how to do it. He does not "rush in where angels fear to tread" but makes sure the path is safe before he embarks on it.

Because he is cautious, such a person makes relatively few mistakes. When he does get on the wrong path, he is progressing at such a slow rate that he can quickly apply the brakes, thus preventing himself from becoming involved in a big mistake.

Because of this approach, he is likely to be successful in whatever he undertakes.

A timid person, by contrast, is held back so by fear he is unwilling to start anything until others have blazed the trail before him and have demonstrated to his satisfaction that all is well. Naturally, under such conditions he frequently starts too late and misses out on the chances for success that were there but which he was too timid to grasp.

WEDDING RING: "I am planning to be married soon and expect to keep my wedding ring on my finger from the time my husband puts it on at the wedding ceremony until I am buried. My friends tell me this is foolish. Do you agree?"—J. T.

There is another wide difference between the cautious and the timid person which helps to explain the difference in success. The cautious person has

self-confidence and self-assurance which act as stimulants to further action. Because of his caution, he has made few mistakes, and, as a result, there has been nothing to undermine his self-confidence.

By contrast, the timid person is ruled by fear of failure because his timidity stems from serious failures in the past. These failures have so undermined his self-confidence he is afraid to try anything new or different in the future. Because of this hesitancy on his part, he is more of a failure than a success and this further increases his lack of self-confidence.

LETTERS FROM READERS Psychological shock: "What is meant by a 'psychological shock' and how does it affect the person?"—D. E.

(A) A "psychological shock" is, in reality, an emotional rather than a physical blow. It affects the person's self-esteem and self-confidence rather than his body. It may take the form of fear, anger, jealousy, remorse, grief, or any other emotional state. Regardless of what emotion it is that is aroused, the characteristic thing about all "psychological shocks" is that they hit the person when he is unprepared for them, when he least expects them, and they come with great suddenness. Because of the damage they cause, their effects are often long-lasting than the effects of a physical blow, no matter how severe.

Wedding ring: "I am planning to be married soon and expect to keep my wedding ring on my finger from the time my husband puts it on at the wedding ceremony until I am buried. My friends tell me this is foolish. Do you agree?"—J. T.

(A) No, I do not think it is foolish for you to keep your wedding ring on your finger for the rest of your life. It is a symbol of the lasting quality of your marriage. However, I warn you to get a ring that may seem much too big for you now. As age creeps on, your fingers are likely to enlarge and that would necessitate having your ring cut off your finger to avoid its cutting off your circulation and leading to trouble in your finger. Wear a guard ring to keep your wedding ring from slipping off until your finger enlarges so this will not be necessary.

Temper outburst: "What is the best way to stop a temper outburst?"—L. V.

(A) About the quickest and most effective way to stop an adult temper outburst is by showing scorn and disapproval. This is made more effective by such comments as, "Act your age," or "You are behaving like a two-year-old." Such comments quickly bring the angry person to his senses and make him realize how undignified and childish his outburst is. (Copyright 1956, General Features Corp.)

Four Valuable Dogs Die in Portland Fire

Portland — (U.P.)—Fire which damaged a home in north Portland Friday resulted in loss of four Boxer breeding dogs valued at \$1000.

Neighbors turned in the alarm and awakened Mr. and Mrs. John Laxon after seeing smoke coming from the attached garage. Flames were confined to the garage and an attic room above it. Firemen said Mrs. Laxon collapsed in a state of shock upon learning that the dogs had died from inhaling smoke. The animals were kept in the garage in kennels heated by cables in the floors.

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