

"Uncle Henry" Uses Unique "Bank" To Hide His Gold In

Where would you hide your treasure? Where would you look for hidden gold?

It is doubtful that you could find so secure a hiding place as did Henry Blanchard, eighty-year-old colored farmer of Perquimans, and it's a pretty safe bet you would not have been able to find the gold that "Uncle Henry" kept hidden for half a dozen years.

Many strange and unusual hiding places have been found for money. It is interesting to learn of some places other than the old teapot, the tin can and the sock. It takes imagination to devise a hiding place such as "Uncle Henry" found.

Henry Blanchard was born in slavery. His master was the grandfather of J. C. Blanchard, of Hertford, and there has always existed an attachment between the descendants of his former owner and "Uncle Henry." When the firm of J. C. Blanchard & Company celebrated its one hundredth anniversary back in 1932, issuing an attractive descriptive booklet, among the pictured faces of those associated with the Blanchard family appeared a very fine likeness of Henry Blanchard.

Henry Blanchard is a highly respected citizen. His word is good. His bond is good, too, for he has accumulated property. He is a substantial farmer, owning land and chattels, carrying on considerable business. That's not a bad record for a man who started from scratch in the reconstruction period following the Civil War. He earned his money by the sweat of his brow. And "Uncle Henry" has reared a family of eight children.

He worked, did "Uncle Henry," but he did more than work; he saved. Saving got to be a habit. Long after "Uncle Henry" had paid for the land he bought, and after he had added more acres to the original plot, he continued to exercise those habits of thrift.

Some years ago some money came into the hands of "Uncle Henry" which looked good. It was gold. Later he acquired other coins of gold.

Now, "Uncle Henry" believes in banks. He has always kept his money in the bank. But somehow these gold coins were different. "Uncle Henry" felt that he could keep them safe. He didn't wish anybody to know he had this money, in the first place, he says. And he didn't know when he might need some money in a hurry, so he decided to keep it within sight!

Strolling in the woods one day, along the edge of a swamp, "Uncle Henry" found an old cypress knee. He picked up the odd formation of root so familiar to the dweller in the lowlands, and right then he had an inspiration. The knee had a small hollow. Just the right kind of a hollow pocket in which to hide the golden coins. The hollow was formed so that the coins could be placed inside and pushed down out of sight.

So in that little old cypress knee, not much larger than his arm, "Uncle Henry" stored his gold. And where would you suppose he placed the queer treasurer chest? He was too smart to be seen taking any particular care of an old cypress knee. He just threw it under the grapevine!

"Uncle Henry" admits, however, that he put it in the corner nearest to the house, which made it only about a dozen steps from his back door, and he owns that he often glanced that way as he passed in and out, to make sure that the little old chunk of wood lay with a few other similar looking pieces. Maybe his heart was in the cypress knee, because we are told that "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also."

In the half dozen years that the money lay there, though many passed in and out the back door, close enough almost to touch the treasure chest that Nature had made, nobody guessed what lay hidden underneath the grapevine.

And then the order went out that no longer might gold money be kept in hiding. All the gold coins must be given up, and so, reluctantly, no doubt, "Uncle Henry" picked up the old cypress knee and shook out the shining golden coins, and placed them in a little bag and brought them in to the bank in Hertford, five hundred dollars in gold.

17-Year Locusts To Appear This Spring

The largest of the 17-year locust broods is due to swarm over the eastern United States this spring.

Millions of the winged insects will fill the woods with their steady droning during the latter part of May and the first of June, said Dr. Z. P. Metcalf, head of the State College entomology department.

In North Carolina they will appear mostly in the mountain and Piedmont counties, though the brood has been recorded as far east as Wake County.

Eggs of the brood which will emerge this year were laid in the summer of 1919. After hatching, the grubs burrowed into the ground and attached themselves to tree

roots from which they have been sucking sap ever since.

In a few weeks they will crawl up on trees, shed their skins, and change into adults with fully developed wings. The locust is a form of July fly rather than a grasshopper, Dr. Metcalf said.

Usually they do little damage; occasionally they injure young orchard trees which have been set out on new ground. These trees may be protected by covering them with mosquito netting or tobacco cloth until the locusts disappear.

The department of entomology at State College is anxious to get a complete record of this brood, and has asked that interested persons in the State keep a look-out for the insects.

The department will appreciate any reports received, also specimens that may be sent in. Dr. Metcalf stated. The locusts may be mailed safely in a strong pasteboard box.

NEW HAMPSHIRE VISITORS

Dr. Earl M. Sikes, of Dartmouth College, who is on vacation during the spring holidays, accompanied by Mrs. Sikes, visited Mrs. Sikes' mother, Mrs. Herbert Newby, and her sister, Mrs. T. J. Nixon, Jr., this week.

Shelton White At Home

Shelton White, of Raleigh, spent the week-end in Hertford, visiting his mother, Mrs. R. T. White.

TABLETS DISCLOSE DEEDS OF XERXES

New Finds Tell How Persian Crushed a Revolt.

Chicago.—Seven stone tablets, on which the great Persian Emperor Xerxes records for posterity the state of his empire some 2,420 years ago, have been discovered in Iran (Persia) by excavators for the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago.

The tablets were found stored in a room of Xerxes' army garrison east of the Great Palace Terrace at Persepolis, the "Versailles" of ancient Persia, now being unearthed and restored by the Oriental Institute.

Three of the tablets bear inscriptions new to historians, listing for the first time the provinces Xerxes ruled, and more important, relating Xerxes' success in putting down enemies of the religion of Zoroaster after an uprising, hitherto unknown, which occurred in the early days of Xerxes' reign.

Announcement of the find is made by Dr. John A. Wilson, newly-appointed acting director of the Oriental Institute and successor of the late Dr. James H. Breasted. Dr. Erich F. Schmidt, field director of the Iranian expedition, reported the discovery.

Written in cuneiform characters in the Elamite, Babylonian and Old Persian languages, the tablets apparently were made for use as "cornerstone" foundation deposits. As translated by Prof. Ernst Herzfeld the three "new" tablets read as follows:

Translation of Tablets.

1. A great god is Ahuramazda who created the earth here, who created the heaven yonder, who created mankind, who created peace for men, who made Xerxes king, one king of a multitude, one law-giver of a multitude

2. I, Xerxes, the great king, the king of kings, the king of the lands of many tribes, the king on this wide, far-stretching earth, the son of Darius the king, the Achaemenid, a Persian son of a Persian, an Aryan of Aryan lineage.

3. Sayeth Xerxes the king: By the will of Ahuramazda, these are the lands beside Pars over which I was king; I ruled them; they brought me tribute; what was ordered them by me they did; my law held them; Media, Elam, Arachosia, Zranga, Parthia, Arela, Bactria, Sogdia, Chorasmia, Babylonia, Assyria, the Satrapydes, Sardis, Egypt, the Ionians that dwell in the Sea and those that dwell beyond the Sea, Gedrosia, Syria, Gandara, the Indus-land, Cappadocia, the Dahae, the Amyrgian Sacae, the Orthokorymbanthian Sacae, the Macedonians, the Akatfaciya, the Punt, the Carians, the Kush.

4. Sayeth Xerxes the king: When I became king, there were among those lands, which are written above, some who rebelled; then, Ahuramazda helped me; by Ahuramazda's will, such a land I defeated, and to their place I restored them; and among those lands were such where, before, the Daivas were worshipped; then, by Ahuramazda's will, of such temples of the Daivas I sapped the foundations, and I ordained: "The Daivas shall not be worshipped!"

Worshipped Ahuramazda.

Where the Daivas had been worshipped, there I worshipped Ahuramazda together with 'Rtam the exalted. And there were other things which were done wrongfully, such I righted. This what I did, I did it all by the will of Ahuramazda. Ahuramazda helped me, until I had performed the work. Thou who art of an after age, if thou thinkest, "I wish to be happy in life, and in death I wish to belong to 'Rtam," abide in those laws which Ahuramazda has established and worship Ahuramazda together with 'Rtam

the exalted! The man that abides in the laws which Ahuramazda has established and worships Ahuramazda together with 'Rtam the exalted, that one will be happy in life and will, in death, belong to 'Rtam.

5. Sayeth Xerxes the king: Ahuramazda shall guard me from the evil of my house and this land! It is for this that I implore Ahuramazda, it is this that Ahuramazda shall grant me!

Xerxes' empire, the greatest the world had seen up to that time, extended northeast to the region northeast of modern Afghanistan, southwest through ancient Kush to the borders of modern Ethiopia, southeast to the Indus river in northwestern India, and northwest through most of Asia Minor. In the new inscriptions Xerxes claims, on the west, "the Ionians that dwell in the sea and those that dwell beyond the sea." This indicates that the tablets were inscribed during the five years between Xerxes' accession in 485 B. C. and the battle of Salamis, 480 B. C., when the Persian attack on Greece ended in dismal failure.

Stamp Collectors Get

Market in City Hall

Brussels.—The business of stamp collecting is becoming so important that the city of Antwerp has granted permission to collectors to use as a market one of the rooms of the Bourse de Commerce on Sunday from 10 a. m. until noon. This is said to be the first time a postage stamp market has been officially instituted in a city hall in Belgium.

Antwerp is naturally the center of the stamp collecting business in Belgium, because of its shipping interests. Shipping offices receive correspondence from all parts of the world and rare stamps are comparatively common. Professional stamp collectors meet the ships at Antwerp and coax sailors and others to barter their specimens of rare stamps for ready cash.

VISITING PARENTS

Miss Gladys Hamrick, Home Demonstration Agent of Perquimans, left Wednesday to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hamrick, at Kings Mountain. Miss Hamrick expects to return home on Sunday.

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