

EDITOR'S NOTES

In this issue a second article written by Nathan E. Bender (Ohio raised, present resident of Cody, Wyoming, and author of *The Art of the English Trade Gun in North America*) continues to trace the relationships between different members of the Hawken clans in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, and St. Louis, Missouri. We have included photographs from the Hawken Collection at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody Wyoming and images of more D. T. Hawken rifles from Ohio, supplied by the good graces of our members.

This issue also contains an article on the relation between makers Clutz and Stull, and pictures of a Reinhard target rifle shooting kit. There is also a fascinating article on Masonic imagery on a late 19th century Ohio rifle, a few images of the rifling machine group at a recent trades fair at the Log Cabin shop, and news from the Ladies Auxiliary.

I would like to take this moment to thank all the

contributors to this issue, which we hope will help us on our return to some sense of normalcy in this stage of the Pandemic.

I would also encourage you to send me an article—with nice pictures—detailing any of the interesting rifles you own. Or articles on history of a particular gunsmith—or group of gunsmiths. Personal anecdotes and family memories of the old-time rifles are also interesting, as are accounts of current shoots, displays, museum exhibits, or shows (such as they are yet held). I would love to see articles on contemporary makers in Ohio, who will someday be the subject of future generations interest as the story of Ohio antique guns continues. Leafing through our back issues on the aolrc.com website will give you some ideas. Details for submitting an article (don't be shy) are explained in the box below.

Yours truly, Mark Bender
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GUIDELINES FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSION

1. The preferred format for articles is a Word document. Please use size 12 font, single or double space, 1 inch margins.
2. Printed photographs, drawings, and typed or handwritten manuscripts can be mailed to:
Mark Bender
139 W. Old Powell Rd, Shawnee Hills, Ohio 43065
USA
3. Articles in Word (or compatible system), photos (j-pegs or other formats), and correspondence can be emailed to this address: mabgogo@yahoo.com
4. Please put "AOLRCfile" in the subject line of the email.
5. Please run a spelling and grammar check on your e-files and otherwise proofread them.
6. Please put the **title and author's name** at the top of the article; use the same font size for the whole article.
7. **Photographs** can be color or black and white. If you are not a professional, good results can be obtained by taking photos of objects in soft, outdoor light. Lay the object on a non-reflective black background (blanket, etc.) with no background clutter. Please keep in mind how a color image might look if presented in black and white. Photos should be clear and sharp. (Professionals will, of course, have their own protocols.)
8. Use **past issues as a guideline** to content. Ideas for articles include local or family histories of pre-1900 Ohio gunsmiths and the use of muzzle-loading arms; detailed descriptions of representative or unique rifles (in terms of features or level of craftsmanship); accoutrements; short interviews with AOLRC members relating to collecting and appreciation of the Ohio long rifle as a folk art; accounts of early shooting clubs, shoots, tales, etc.
9. The newsletter is normally published twice a year. Submissions are always welcome, however timely notices for the Spring or Fall shows need to be received **at least 6 weeks** in advance.

THE HAWKEN DYNASTY (PART II): PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND, OHIO, AND MISSOURI

BY NATHAN E. BENDER

Introduction

The Hawken family of gunmakers in many ways exemplifies gunmaking traditions of antebellum America. Their genealogical history was summarized in the previous issue of the AOLRC newsletter (Bender 2020), which included family members of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, and Missouri. This article will discuss changes in the styles of gunmaking from the father Christian Hawken, his sons, and their Ohio cousins.

Christopher and William Hawken

Christian Hawken (1756-1821) and brother Nicholas Hawken (1755-1800) were the sons of Swiss emigrant and York County, Pennsylvania gunmaker Niclaus Hachen (1721-1758). They were likely influenced in their formative years of gunmaking by their uncle Wolfgang Hachen/Haga of Berks County, as Nicholas was only three years old, and Christian two, when their father died. If so, then they would have also known Peter Gonter, Jr. (1751-1818), who apparently apprenticed under Haga and married Wolfgang's daughter (Wood and Whisker 1991: 24).

Christian and Nicholas eventually set up gunsmithing together in Hagerstown, Maryland. Christian made both superb engraved and fully relief carved Golden Age long rifles, as well as plainer guns for the general trade (Reisner 1978: 2-5; Chandler and Whisker 1992: 202). One example of Christian's fine custom work is held at the Cody Firearms Museum, Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, Wyoming (Fig. 1 CFM 1997.4.1). The works of Nicholas are not well known or identified in modern collections.

When Christian Hawken died in 1821, it was his younger son William who took over the shop, purchasing his father's tools at his estate auction. (The youngest son, Christian, Jr., did not follow in the trade.) William continued work in his father's traditional style in Hagerstown until 1840, when his brother John took over the shop. William later started another gunshop

in Williamsport, Maryland from 1846-1850 (Sellers 2008: 155). He is known to have used engraved silver oval cheekpiece inlets featuring spread eagles, as did his father Christian. He made both flintlock and percussion rifles, the drum and nipple percussion method seen on several of his rifles. It is unknown how often he may have used patent percussion breeches. One of his last rifles, held by the Cody Firearms Museum, is a traditional style fullstock flintlock with a pierced three-piece brass patchbox, bearing a Truitt Bros. & Co. flintlock that dates the rifle to between 1847-1850 (Fig. 2 CFM 1997.4 13). His name is script engraved on early rifle barrels "W. Hawken", but stamped on the barrels of other, presumably later rifles (Reisner 1978: 4-7).

Ohio Hawkens

Henry Hawken/Hawkey (c. 1774-1835), son of Nicholas Hawken, moved out of Hagerstown to Greensburg, Pennsylvania, where he married in 1796. In 1816, after the ending of the War of 1812, he moved his gun business to Columbus, Ohio. Henry had likely trained under his father Nicolas and his uncle Christian, and so was likely well steeped in the Golden Age style. Samuel Hawken (1792- 1884) moved to Xenia, Ohio in 1816, and may well have learned at least some of his gunmaking skills from Henry, his eighteen years older cousin. Whether they coordinated their moves to Ohio is unknown. At this time Ohio was a major gateway to the West, with Columbus, Ohio on the National Road, a network of canals joining the state with eastern New York, and Cincinnati, the Queen City, on the Ohio River with access to steamships headed out to the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. The industrial age and its new factory system of labor was just getting started. All of this made Ohio an exciting, developing area for many businesses.

What Sam and Henry's rifles looked like at this time we have only a few examples. One of Sam's rifles is