

L.C. Smith Pigeon Gun Serial Number 213564 Finished April 15, 1911

Certificate No. 19210

The Hunter Arms Company record for Serial Number 213564 is on page 113 of Book 17 and show that it is a 12 gauge Pigeon Gun with automatic ejectors and 30-inch barrels. It was finished on April 15, 1911. An "A" in one column of the ledger indicates that it was inspected by Mr. McKnight. No other information is available for this serial number. The type of stock is not recorded in the ledger. Unfortunately, records from this period contain less information than from any of the other L.C. Smith manufacturing eras. The Research Division assumes no responsibility for the recorded accuracy at the factory.

The Pigeon was a medium-grade shotgun. It was the only L.C. Smith designated by the Hunter Arms Company as a "Gun" rather than a "Grade". It was introduced in 1895 at the same time that the Hunter Arms Company introduced its Nitro steel barrels. It was manufactured until 1913. The top of the barrel rib was usually hand-engraved HUNTER ARMS CO., MAKER, FULTON, N.Y. A pigeon is usually engraved on the top of the rib extension. The barrels were rust blued. The stocks were made from French or English walnut and were well-checkered. In 1911, a Pigeon Gun with the configuration of Serial Number 213564 would have sold for about \$110.

Pigeon Guns were produced with several lock plate engraving patterns. In the most common, the left lock had a pigeon standing with wings tucked in, while the right lock had a pigeon in flight. In another type, both lock plates featured a pigeon with its wings outstretched. A few other engraving variations have been reported, and the Hunter Arms Company would do anything within reason to meet the customer's request for engraving modifications. The frame and trigger guard were moderately engraved. The frame and locks were color case-hardened to add strength and beauty.

Pigeon Guns were manufactured in 10, 12, 16, and 20 gauges. Total production during the period of 1895 to 1913 was 1,396. Production of 12 gauge Pigeon Guns was 1,348. Eleven hundred and ninety-eight of the 1,348 had 30inch barrels, and 722 Pigeon Guns shotguns were fitted with ejectors.

The L.C. Smith Collectors Association invites you to keep up with the organization's events and latest information on shooting and collecting L.C. Smith shotguns by visiting www.lcsmith.org.

Sincerely,

James Stubbendieck Research Division

L.C. Smith Collectors Association

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