

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

30 June 1950

Winchester 73 Dept.,  
Universal Pictures Co., Inc.,  
445 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Dear Sirs:

I own a model 1873 Winchester "One of One Thousand",  
serial number 30783 with the following words stamped on  
the flat of the octagon barrel in front of the rear sight:

WINCHESTER'S REPEATING ARMS, NEW HAVEN, CT.  
KINGS IMPROVEMENT - PATENTED-MARCH 29, 1866,  
OCTOBER 16, 1860.

It has engraving around the words "One of One Thou-  
sand" and also at the muzzle, and a silver band around the  
barrel at the muzzle and immediately in front of the re-  
ceiver.

The history of this rifle is not known. I bought  
it from a friend about three years ago. He had acquired  
it in a trade.

Very truly yours,

*T. R. Jordan*  
T. R. JORDAN  
Comdr., U. S. Navy

*Vivian Vandermay*  
Vivian Vandermay  
Notary Public  
My commission expires 16 Feb 1954  
county of KING  
state of WASHINGTON

#20



Chen  
June 3, 1968

Mr. T. E. Hall  
Winchester Gun Museum  
275 Winchester Avenue  
New Haven, Connecticut 06504

Dear Sir:

I am purchasing a 1873 Winchester, which I understand is a fine model and one in a thousand. I would like your appraisal of it.

It is a 44 caliber, serial No. 30783. I am told that there were only 124 of this model made.

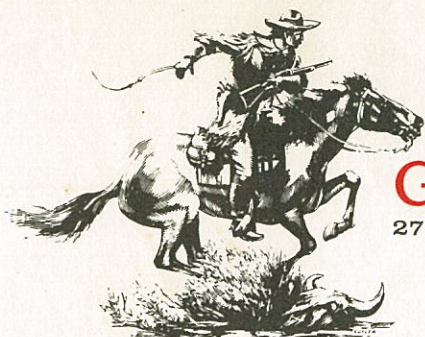
Please advise if the above facts are authentic. I shall appreciate your opinion.

Very truly yours,

W. F. Mitchell  
President

WFM:jc





## GUN MUSEUM

275 WINCHESTER AVENUE, NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06504

**WINCHESTER®**

June 13, 1968

Mr. W. F. Mitchell  
121 & 123 N. Chipman Street  
Owosso, Michigan 48867

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

I am sorry for the typographical error in our letter of June 5, concerning information on your Model 1873, serial number 30783. The information and description sent in that letter pertains to serial number 30783 and not 70783.

Sincerely yours,

*T. E. Hall*

T. E. Hall, Curator

TEH/s



54	"	"	"	"	"			"				54	"
55	"	"	"	"	"			"				55	"
56	"	"	"	"	"			"				56	"
57	Sept	28	Rifle	Oct	30			Set				57	"
58	"	"	"	"	"			"				58	"
59	Sept	28	Rifle	Oct	30			"				59	"
60	"	"	"	"	"			"				60	"
61	Oct	3	"	Rd		Ch		"				61	O
62	"	"	"	Oct	26	"		"				62	"
63	Dec	4	Rifle	Rd		Ch		Set				63	Dr
64	Jan	20	Rifle	Rd		Ch		Set				64	Jan
65	"	25	Rifle	Rd	26	Ch		Set				65	Ja
66	March	4	Rifle	Oct	28	Ch		Set				66	Mar
67	Nov	29	Rifle	Oct		Ch	"Fanny."	Set		St. S.		67	Nov
68	Feb	27	Rifle	Oct		Ch		Set				68	Fe
69	Dec	26	Rifle	Oct	24	Ch		Set		"Crown"		69	Dec
70	Feb	27	Rifle	Oct		Ch		Set				70	Fe
71	Sept	28	Rifle	Oct	28			Set				71	Se
72	"	"	"	"	"			"				72	"
73	"	"	"	"	"			"				73	"
74	"	"	"	"	"			"				74	"
75	"	"	"	"	"			"				75	"
76	"	"	"	"	"			"				76	"
77	Oct	05	"	"	"			"				77	O
78	"	"	"	"	"			"				78	"
79	"	5	"	"	26			"				79	"
80	"	26	"	"	30			"	B. H.			80	"
81	Nov	4	"	"	30.			"				81	Nov
82	"	"	"	"	"			"				82	"
83	July	24	Rifle	Oct	26	CH	XX	Set	Sp Leaf	1 of 1000		83	Ch
84	Nov	14	"	"	30.			"				84	Nov
85	"	"	"	"	"			"				85	"
86	"	"	"	"	"			"				86	"
87	"	"	"	"	"			"				87	"
88	"	"	"	"	"			"				88	"
89	"	"	"	"	"			"				89	"
90	"	"	"	"	"			"				90	"
91	Oct	26	Carbine			Ch		Set				91	Oct
92	Nov	6	Rifle	1/2 Oct				Set	P. G. A. B. H.			92	Nov
93	"	"	"	"				"	" " " " "			93	"
94	"	9	"	Oct				Set		1/2 mag.		94	Nov
95	"	"	"	"				"		" "		95	"
96	"	"	"	"				"		" "		96	"
97	"	"	"	"				"		" "		97	"
98	"	"	"	"				"		" "		98	"
99	Nov	21	"	"	30			"				99	Nov
00	Oct	30	Rifle	Oct				Set	Notes at P.			00	Nov



ARMSFLASH.

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ISSUED BY F. THEODORE DEXTER---COMMISSION SALES SERVICE.  
P. O. Box 1218--1140 No. AVON ST.,--BURBANK, CALIFORNIA.  
PHONE: THORNWALL--2-0844.

VOL. 1.

JUNE 3, 1958

NO. 10.

ADDRESSING SOPHISTICATED ARMS-COLLECTORS:

THE "CARPETBAGGERS" AND "CAMP FOLLOWERS" AND "FAST BUCK BOYS" CAN HAVE THE "BARGAIN HUNTERS". LATELY THE SELF-ESTIMATED EXPERTS HAVE BEEN "HAD" TO THE EXTENT OF SEVERAL WALKERS AND AT LEAST TWO "ONE OF ONE HUNDRED" WINCHESTER. THE ONES TAKEN ON THE "ONE OF ONE THOUSAND" WINCHESTERS WERE THE SUPER-SMART ONES WHO UPON GETTING THE SERIAL NUMBER OFF THE 1 OF 1000 OFFERED BY THE "ROVING PEDDLER", WROTE RIGHT INTO THE WINCHESTER FACTORY, AND SURE ENOUGH, IN BOTH CASES THE FACTORY HAD THE NUMBERS; AND THUS ASSURANCE WAS GIVEN TO THE "BARGAIN HUNTERS". BUT, THE "CARPENBAGGER" WAS A BIT SMARTER--HE HAD GOT TO THE WINCHESTER RECORD FIRST, GOT HIMSELF SOME AUTHENTIC WINCHESTER "ONE OF ONE THOUSAND" NUMBERS, AND PROCEEDED TO CREATE A MODERN "WORK OF ART" IN FAKED ENGRAVING AND NUMBER STAMPING. BOTH VICTIMS ARE SMART--THEY BOTH HAVE SPURIOUS ONE OF ONE THOUSAND WINCHESTERS.

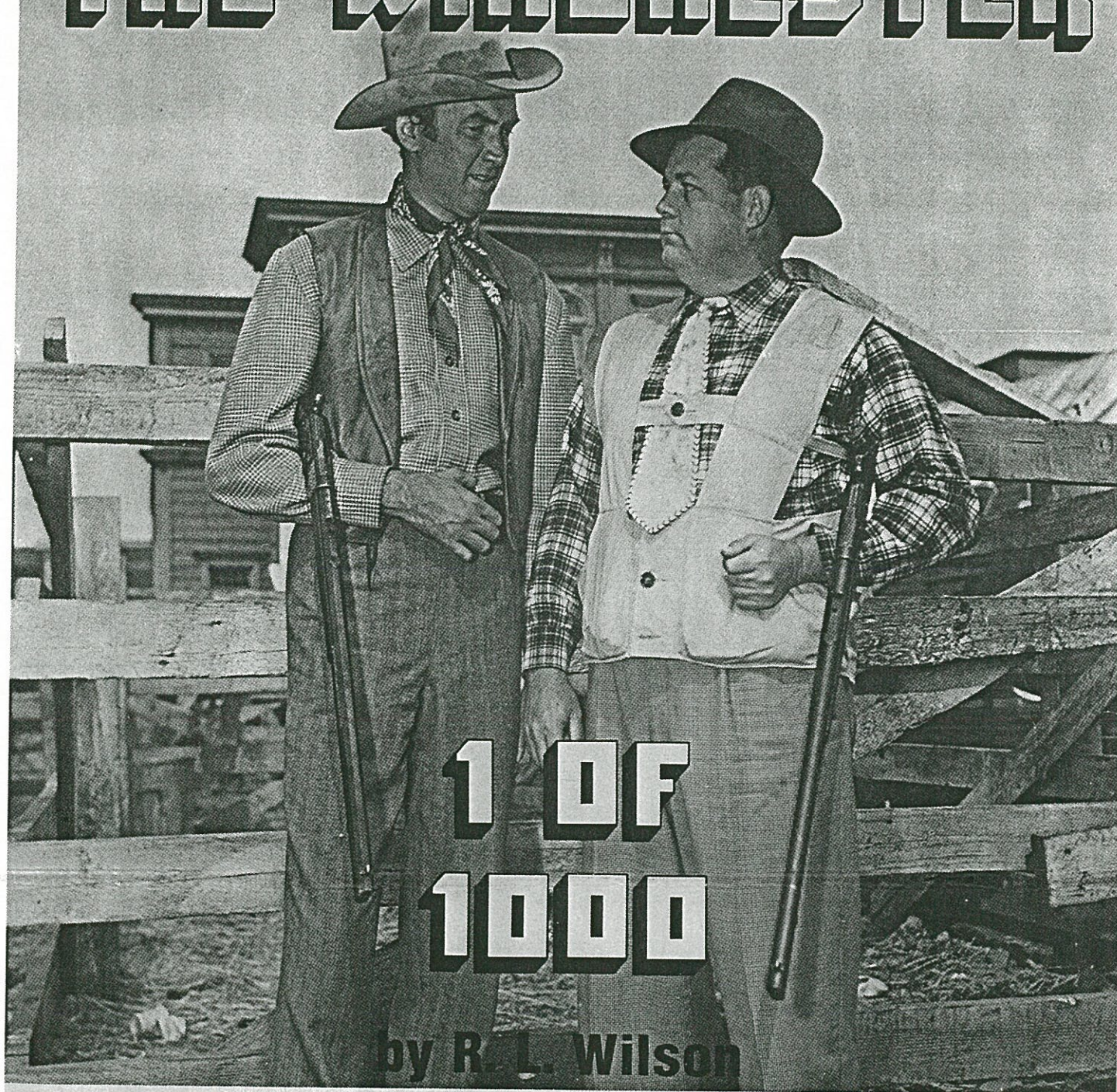
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ON-1. BEFORE THE "SMART OPERATOR" STARTED "LAYING EM LOW", THIS WINCHESTER, "ONE OF ONE THOUSAND" 1873 MODEL SERIAL No. 30783 HAD BEEN AUTHENTICATED BY THE WINCHESTER FACTORY. LET'S GO A BIT FURTHER: ON PAGE 38 OF THE OCTOBER 1950 ISSUE OF THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, THERE IS AN ARTICLE, STATEING THAT THIS WINCHESTER No. 30783 WAS ONE OF THE FIRST 20 TO BE RECORDED BY THE FACTORY WHEN THE FACTORY ADVERTISED TO GIVE A BRAND NEW 1894 CARBINE TO THE FIRST TWENTY PEOPLE WHO OWNED AN AUTHENTIC WINCHESTER 1873 "ONE OF ONE THOUSAND" RIFLE. LET'S GO A BIT BEYOND THIS: IN AN ARTICLE IN "HOBBIES" MAGAZINE OF OCTOBER 1953, BY BILL DEPPERMAN (ON PAGE 143) THERE IS GIVEN A LIST OF OWNERS OF AUTHENTIC "ONE OF ONE THOUSAND" WINCHESTERS, AND THIS ONE I OFFER IS LISTED THEREIN. REMEMBER THE No. 30783. NOW I WOULD CALL THE CONDITION VERY GOOD. THE ONLY DETRACTION FROM EXCELLENT RATEING IS A SMALL CHIP OUT CLOSE TO THE FORESTOCK TIP (THIS ALWAYS SEEMS TO BE A WEAK PLACE). NATURALLY THIS WILL BE GAURANTEED FULLY AUTHENTIC, AND THAT'S THE ONLY SAFE WAY TO BUY AMERICAN RARITIES TODAY. IF THE SELLER IS HONEST, HE WILL BE VERY GLAD TO GIVE YOU AN AFFIDAVIT GAURANTEE ON ANY RARITY HE OFFERS. THEN THE SOPHISTICATED BUYER KNOWS EXPERTS WHO WILL CHECK OFFERED ARMS AND ADVISE. THIS "ONE OF ONE THOUSAND" (1873) IS NET- - - - - \$2875.00







# THE WINCHESTER



RESEARCH ON THE *WINCHESTER 1 of 1000* BOOK, funded by the James H. Woods Foundation and the Kunnican Chair of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, is now nearly completed. The results to date:

Total of rifles located:

46 1 of 1000 Model 1873  
4 1 of 100 Model 1873

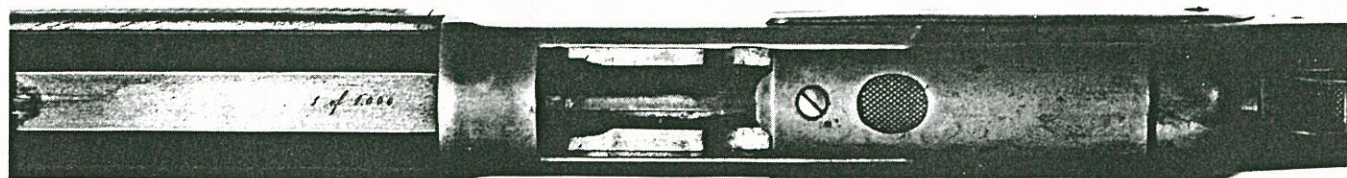
13 1 of 1000 Model 1876  
2 1 of 100 Model 1876

Over 170 black and white photographs of most of these arms have been collected, as well as a few other pictures which are relevant to the subject. Among the latter are stills from the James Stewart film "Winchester 73", the Wanted posted printed up by Winchester in their search for 1 of 1000s, and pictures covering arms documented in the factory ledgers as "like 1 of 1000".





An 1876 I of 1000 rifle from the collection of the Winchester Museum, Buffalo Bill Historical Center.



I of 1000 inscription from a Model 1873 rifle in the Winchester Museum, Buffalo Bill Historical Center. Note lack of scroll engraving or band inlay, and use of numbers instead of spelled out inscription.

Over 50 color transparencies have been collected, which means at least a couple dozen color illustrations in the book. Besides overall views of arms, details of the breech areas, and closeups of 1 of 100 and 1 of 1000 inscriptions, the color includes a "Winchester 73" movie poster, and a selection of intriguing group shots of collections which have three or more 1 of 100/1000s. One of these pictures is this issue's centerspread.

The Winchester factory did a research book in conjunction with their c. 1952 research for the "Winchester 73" film promotion, and a copy of that has been located. Information gleaned from the factory's notes will add to the color and romance connected with these rare arms. Original factory advertising notices and all known articles and book references help account for further information.

Research has turned up nearly three times the number

of 1 of 100/1000 rifles that were located by Winchester in their early 1950s project. No doubt more pieces remain to be found, but we now believe that what is at hand is more than sufficient to go ahead with writing the book. Originally, the manuscript was scheduled to be delivered to the printer, Meriden Gravure, in September 1981. An extra half year extension was made, in order to make some final attempts at garnering further material and illustrations.

The complete manuscript for the book is now scheduled to be ready for the printer by May 1982, with publication by early 1983. Any collectors, owners, museums, or dealers who wish to have their rifles pictured and detailed in this book, and who have not been in touch with the author, are requested to do so at this time. Contact: R.L. Wilson, Box 394, Hadlyme, CT 06439.

#### KNOWN RIFLES, 1 of 100/1000 PROJECT, AS OF JANUARY 1982:

1873 - 1 of 100:	18443	18950	27179	31266					
1873 - 1 of 1000:	201A*	1213*	2340*	3548*	4113	5611	6594	7276	7280
	7282	7559	7778	10036*	10695	10950*	11217	11413	14706
	18070	18386	18387	18390**	18521	23336	23385	25710	25715
	25829	25850	27044	27087	27140	27141	27727	28031	28038
	29547	30180	30182	30783	31268	31270	35290	35298	37944
	44262	551816	(movie rifle)	40688	("like 1 of 1000")				
1876 - 1 of 100:	713	818							
1876 - 1 of 1000:	455	457	710	712	724	1216	4770	4772	8017
	10014	10036	10094	10096	13600	("like 1 of 1000")			

\*Recorded in "Winchester 73" movie research but not in factory shipping ledgers.

\*\*Not listed as 1 of 1000 in factory ledgers but inscription accepted as original.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FOLLOWING RIFLES STILL NEEDED BY THE AUTHOR:

1873 1 of 1000:	#s 7559	19675	23336	25850	27044	28031	30180	31266	31268
	31270								
1876 1 of 100:	818								
1876 1 of 1000:	#s 710	712	4770	4772	10036				

Type pictures desired: Black & white of overall view, left side; detail of right side of frame from checkered grip area into about three inches of the forend; plus shot of barrel breech inscription. For color: prefer transparencies, 2½" x 2¾" or 4" x 5" size; latter two views only. Pictures should be sent to: R. L. Wilson, Box 394, Hadlyme, CT 06439. □