

Price 42 Lever Arms Co. Shotgun "Grade B E" Overall Condition 12 Gauge
 (Manufactured By) (Model) (Type) (Gauge)

(Single or Repeater) (Magazine) (Barrel Length) (Type Barrel)
30" (Weight)

(Core Condition) (Stock Length) (Overall Length)

(Date of Manufacture) (Type Front Sight) (Type Rear Sight)

Price Skotten Finish Engraved and Gold Butt Forearm in color engraved C.A.B.
Type Butt Plate From
Gold Shell Inscribed "1830-1900"

Remarks Engaved. Presented to Charles A. Bender as a Gift in 1900

Gold engraved Trigger. It Gold Cocking Indicator. Skottized custom Butt Stock.
Automatic Ejectors.

Mr. Dave Bender May 1977 992.50 (Price) (Date) (Price)
 (Bought From) (Date) (Sold To)

January 22, 1987

Dear Sirs:

I just received the copy of your book on the "Lefever". -- You forgot to Autograph it for me -- could I ask that you send me a sheet of such and I can just place it in the book.

I primarily collect Winchester, Colt and a few other items -including "Lefever". And as such -- thought you might be interested in three such items that are in my collection:

No.1.- 23296. - Lefever Double, ~~8~~ 8 Gauge. 34 in. barrels. wt. -14 and 3/4 lbs. One barrel right says "Damascus" on top. Left on top "Steel". Serial no. also stamped underneath of left barrel under forearm. Forearm also carries same serial no. Grade "E" stamped on watertable. Slightly more in basic design of engraving, yet basically as on your page 55. Setter on left side. Pointer on right side. Dogs are not in oval outlines. I.G. motif is also a dog head but the bird is a duck (mallard) not a grouse. Dolls head type, Pistol grip stock, -Forearm checkered with dog head pictured in bakelite as described on page 118 as 2nd variation. double triggers. Safety as on top of page 135. P.G. basically as on top of page 122 except perfectly round no indentations as pictured. all surfaces smooth. With sterling silver escutcheon in stock. Wood appears excellent walnut of excellent work. Gun overall exc. to Fine. Bore as good.

No.2.-30688- Lefever Double. 12 Gauge.wt. -6lbs 12 oz. 30 in. Damascus barrels. stamped on top of right barrel "Lefever Arms Co" on left top barrel "Fine Damascus Steel". "E" stamped on watertable together with serial no. Under forearm on metal of same is stamped the serial no. and on the wood is another stamping "0688 R " Not a B but an R. Screw heads even engraved under or inside portion of forearm. Double triggers. Engraving on locks 2 dogs in oval on left side --and "Lefever Arms Co" slanted crosswise of lock as on page 65. Left side -2 dogs and same slant of name crosswise. Gold Cocking Indicators and Triggers (two are gold) Dolls head. Safety same as on page 61. Checkering same as on page 61. Buttplate is identical to picture on page 126 with horn and skeleton type with same basic design as pictured. Gold escutcheon shield on stock engraved "From W.S.D.-1900" in three lines crosswise in the shield. Design on barrels as pictured on page 63. except not on front part. design as on the shield portion or base of action. Gold band on sighting plane or rib 1 1/2 in. ahead of doll head. P.G. as on page 122. Forearm as almost like top page 77 -center of push release is gold and gold enamel. Round gold (st base with the initials U L B entwined over each other (beautiful have to see it appreciate the work of art) C in Red enamel, L in White enamel and B in blue enamel. (Gun was a Presentation to Mr Charles L. Bender in the year 1900 and has been in that family since that date till I purchased it from the Grandson Charles D. Bender the 1st owner (May 6, 1977)). Gun is close to New overall. (Trigger guard underneath -2 dogs heads in circle and underneath portion almost identical to those on pages 76 and 77 except the figure is a woodcock.

No.3 - Serial no. 18846 Double 12 Ga. in a Grade "G" with 30 in. Damascus barrels. seems to be about a standard gun as depicted.

Sincerely

Lewis E. Yearout, Major USAF Ret.

308 Riverview Drive East, Great Falls, Mont. 59404

Phone 406-761-0859 evenings.

SPORTS AFIELD

Barbara M. Cotton
Associate Editor

December 11, 1985

Mr. Lewis E. Yearout
308 Riverview Dr. East
Great Falls, MT 59404

Dear Mr. Yearout:

Thanks for your letter concerning Grits Gresham's piece, "Classic American Duck Guns," in the November 1986 issue. If you have no objection, we may wish to run a portion of your note in our letters column, "Readers Afield."

By the way, you are right about the guns in the photo; we are running a correction in our March 1986 "Readers Afield" section.

Editors comment: Museum offical misidentified two shotguns 2nd page, top, 2nd and 3rd gun transposed.

Appreciate your taking the time to write.

Cordially,



BC/cm

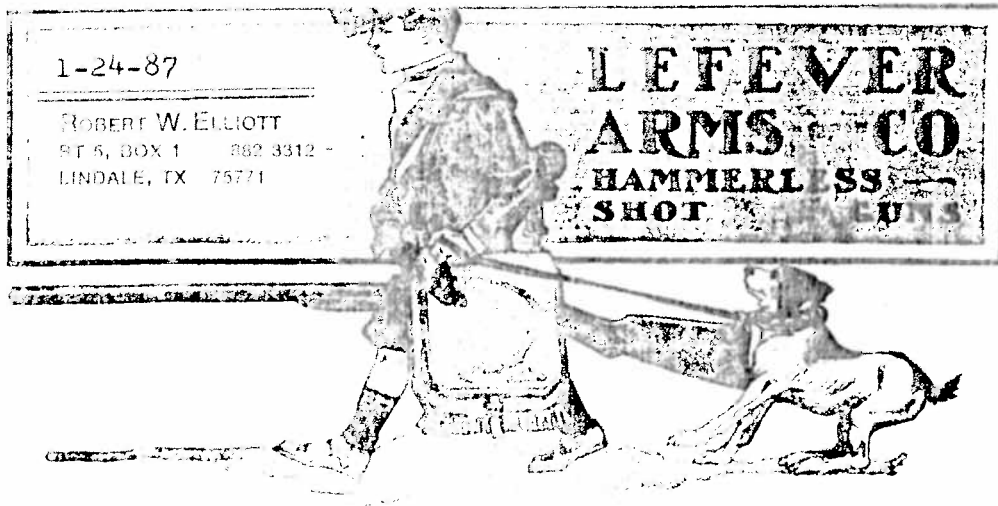
May 6, 1977

Double barrel Damascus Lefever Shotgun, Serial #30688

This shotgun was presented to my grandfather, Mr. Charles L. Bender, as a gift in 1900. It has been in my family since that time.

Charles D. Bender

CHARLES D. BENDER
Major, U.S. Army
Great Falls, Montana



1-24-87

ROBERT W. ELLIOTT
RT 6, BOX 1 862 3312 -
LINDALE, TX 75771

LEFEVER
ARMS & CO
HAMMERLESS
SHOT GUNS

Lewis,

Thank you for the information. Sorry that I forgot to sign the book.

You have a couple of very valuable guns.

The "B" grade is both a "B" & presentation model or could be stated as a marked presentation grade. (most are not marked)

I am always behind, so I won't be long winded.

Sincerely,

Bob

Bob Elliott

Sports Afield Magazine
Readers Afield Section
250 West 55th St.
New York, New York, 10019

November 4, 1985

Dear Sir:

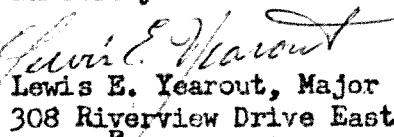
With reference to your recent article by Grits Gresham entitled " CLASSIC AMERICAN DUCK GUNS" on page 72 of your November 1985 issue of Sports Afield Magazine.

The two page Color rendition of the early doubles in color on pages 72 and 73 were well done. - - -But I sure hated you call MY LEFEVER Serial no. 30688-A pictured at the top portion or the top gun therein referred to as a VHE Grade 12 Gauge PARKER BROTHERS GUN. A few words of description on the gun - -It is a Presentation BE Grade presented and so marked on the gold eschuteon of the stock " PRESENTED TO CHARLES L. BENDER-1900"

Tell "Grits" if you will- - -He pictured it properly - -above the Parker VHE - - -but I sure lost faith in an old Duck hunter when he fails to tell or separate a Lefever from a low grade Parker. But then maybe it was the Photographer that could not tell them apart - - -or maybe one of your Editors.

I hope you may correct the mistake at some future date. I acquired the gun from a Major Dave Bender here in Great Falls, Montana many years ago, but it would sure be an injustice to have the former owner have to "turn over in his grave".

Sincerely


Lewis E. Yearout, Major USAFR Ret.
308 Riverview Drive East
Great Falls, Montana, 59404

Info Copy to: Mr Bill Porter
% Winchester Museum
Buffalo Bill Center
Cody, Wyoming 82414