R.L. WILSON

Samuel Colt Presents
The Arms Collection of Colonel Colt
L.D. Nimschke Firearms Engraver
The Evolution of the Colt
Colt
Commemorative Firearms
Theodore Roosevelt Outdoorsman
The Book of Colt Firearms
The Book of Winchester Engraving
Antique Arms Annual
Colt Pistols (with R.E. Hable)
Paterson Colt Pistol Variations (with P.R. Phillips)
The Colt Heritage
The "Russian" Colts
Colt Engraving
Rare and Historic Firearms (Christie's)
Winchester 1 of 1000
Colt's Dates of Manufacture
The Deringer in America, 2 Volumes (with L.D. Eberhart)
Colt An American Legend
Rare Firearms - A Benefit Auction (Christie's)
Winchester An American Legend
The Peacemakers
Steel Canvas
Ruger & His Guns
The Colt Engraving Book (two volumes)
The Official Price Guide to Gun Collecting
The World of Beretta
The Paterson Colt Book, Dennis LeVett Colln.
The Guns of Manhattan (2014)
American Arms Collectors The Al Cali Collection
Things I Love The William I. Koch Collection
Theodore Roosevelt Hunter-Conservationist,
Boone & Crockett Club Publications
Magnificent Colts, with Robert M. Lee

Historical Consultant
Colt's Manufacturing Co., Hartford
and to
'The Art of American Arms'
and
'Silk and Steel Women at Arms'
Museum Loan Exhibitions
'Son of a Gun' - BBC-TV
'Colt Firearms Legends' - SONY
'The Guns That Tamed the West' - A & E
'The Story of the Gun' - A & E
'The Gun Industry in America' - BBC-TV/Open University
'Annie Oakley' - Riva Productions for PBS American Experience
Chairman, Antique Arms Committee (1990-2005)
U.S. Society of Arms and Armour/America Remembers
Fine Colts The Dr. Joseph A. Murphy Collection
The Arms of Tiffany (with Janet Zapata) (2014)
The Art of the Gun, Mini-Series, 5 Vols. (with RM Lee)
The Art of the Gun, Maxi-Series, 5 Vols. (with RM Lee)
A Life's Tapestry of a Collector - with George F. Gamble
Great Colt Treasures, with William L. Berg
Colt Dates of Manufacture, Blue Book Publications

An American Firearms Classic: The Winchester Model 1866 "Ivory Stock" Believed Made for Presentation to The Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. Subsequently in the Personal Arms Collection of Porfirio Diaz

(b. Sept. 15, 1830 - d. July 2, 1915), President of Mexico (1877-80, 1884-1912) Serial No. 21921

.44 Henry Rimfire Caliber, 20-Inch Barrel
Solid Elephant Ivory Stock and Forend
Featuring Relief Carved Mexican Eagle Motif
on Left Side of the Buttstock.
Profuse, Custom and Fine Engraving
& Extraordinary Ivory Carving
Attributed to L.D. Nimschke
and His Shop

**

Documented in the Collection of Porfirio Diaz
and Subsequently in the Collections of:
Walter Douglas, The Bulk of Which
At the Royal Military College,
Kingston, Ontario, Canada.
Which Collection's Archives Include
Period Photographs of Serial No. 21921.

**

From Walter Douglas
No. 21921 Went to the Collector,
Lt. Colonel James W. Flanagan,
Subsequently Sold as Lot 351 by
Parke-Bernet Galleries, New York,
April 21-22, 1944
The Catalogue Including
Description of the Winchester
"engraved arabesque silvered lockplate;
ivory stock and butt carved in high relief
with Mexican eagle on cactus holding snake;

patch box at engraved buttplate. In walnut case. Believed to have been a presentation piece."

**

The Winchester Ivory Stock Further Documented in Article by R.L. Wilson in *Man at Arms Magazine*, Centerfold, January-February 1981, pages 31-34: "quoting from a letter from [H.G. Houze] to [Joseph T. Hajec dated June 21, 1980:] 'Lieutenant Colonel Leslie M. St. J. Collins... stated that Mr. [Walter] Douglas had not donated all the arms he purchased from the Diaz heirs to the [Royal Military] College, but had given or sold a number of pieces to James W. Flanagan. Colonel Collins mentioned several specific items in Flanagan's Collection which had formerly been in the Diaz Collection. One of these pieces was an ivory stocked Winchester rifle with a Mexican Eagle carved in high relief in the butt stock . . . . Further evidence relating to . . . Porfirio Diaz [guns came from] Stephen V. Grancsay, Curator Emeritus of Arms and Armor of the Metropolitan Museum of Art . . . . At one time Mr. Grancsay told me that the ivory stocked Winchester which belonged to the Emperor Maximilian originally was in the Diaz Collection . . . . Lieutenant Colonel Flanagan's collection was sold at auction by the Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., on April 21 and 22, 1944. The ivory stocked Winchester was Lot 351 and sold for $425.00'"

**

The Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 No. 21921
Awarded Serial No. 5 Silver Medal
in the NRA Annual 10-Best Firearms,
In the First Year of That Competition, 1960.

**

One Other Ivory Stock Winchester
With Relief Carved Mexican Eagle Motif Known,
In Chapultepec Castle Museum in Mexico.
This Winchester Is
Attributed in Ownership to
Miguel Gregorio de la Luz Atenogenes
Miramon y Tarelo,
(Born September 29th 1832),
Miramon was a Distinguished Mexican General,
and Key Associate of
The Emperor Maximilian.
General Miramon and General Tomas Mejla
Were Executed with
The Emperor on
June 19th 1867.

**

With General Miramon Having a
Presentation and
Relief Carved Mexican Eagle Stocked
Winchester Model 1866
Begs the Question:

Why Wouldn't The Emperor Maximilian
Have Been Presented a Similar Winchester –
The Likelihood is That Serial No. 21921
Is the Winchester Model 1866 of
The Emperor Maximilian –
As Has Been The Tradition Associated
With This Extraordinary Winchester for Decades.
The Presentation History of No. 21921
Frequently Published in Numerous Books,
Articles in Periodicals and on
Covers of Collector Publications,
From as Early as 1944 to 2016.

**

Subsequent Collections following
The Emperor Maximilian
(ruled May 1864-June 19th 1867),
President Porfirio Diaz,
and Lt. Colonel Flanagan:
William M. Locke (acquired at
1944 Parke-Bernet Sale)
Richard P. Mellon (via Herb Glass)
W. Buhl Ford, III (via Herb Glass)
John B. Solley III
Joseph T. Hajec
Carl Press
and
Paul Tudor Jones II

**

Serial No. 21921 Ivory Stock Worthy of Any Major Museum or Private Collection

**

A Classic in American Arms and Among the Most Published, Honored and Recognized of American Firearms Treasures

Among the most striking of all Winchester firearms, and a treasured masterpiece of 19th Century gunmaking in America, **The Ivory Stock Model 1866 Saddle Ring Carbine Serial No. 21921** has captured the interest and fascination of innumerable arms collectors and students for decades.

Long regarded as a favorite arm of the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico, and known to have been in the possession of keen firearms collector President Porfirio Diaz, **No. 21921** holds the present record for being published the most of any 19th century Winchester.

A listing of as many of these publications as presently known to the writer is enclosed, and ranges from standard works of reference such as the author's own *Winchester Engraving* and *The Book of Winchester Engraving*, as well as *Winchester 1 of 1000* and *Steel Canvas*, and to the centerfold in *Man at Arms* magazine's issue of January/February 1981.

Among the distinguished collector owners, the widow of Lilly Pharmaceutical heir John B. Solley III was so proud of his collection of masterpiece and historic arms, that she was published several times in an unprecedented photograph taken with the finest pieces – prominent in front is **The Emperor Maximilian and President Diaz Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 S.R.C. No. 21921.**

The Ivory Stock first appeared in a publication of the author in the *Antique Arms Annual*, 1971. Selected as Editor of that book, the writer spent several months in 1970 and 1971 organizing the unprecedented volume, and seeking important and rare arms to be featured therein.

The Ivory Stock is featured within a multi-page section by Herb Glass, with its position designed for placement on page 97. Picturing the left side, with the relief-carved Mexican Eagle motif, the caption reads:

> **The ivory-stocked Model 1866 Winchester saddle ring carbine, believed made for the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. The butt relief-carved with the Mexican eagle, and the frame and buttplate profusely scroll engraved and silver plated. Serial #21921.**
>
> **A renowned classic in antique American Arms, widely illustrated in John E. Parsons *The First Winchester*, Harold L Peterson *The Treasury***

***of the Gun*, Howard Blackmore *Guns and Rifles of the World*, and in several other arms publications.**

HISTORY and PROVENANCE of THE IVORY STOCK MODEL 1866 WINCHESTER SADDLE RING CARBINE, Serial No. 21921

The history and provenance of "The Ivory Stock" has been established back as far as the arms collection of Mexican President Porfirio Diaz. Diaz served as Mexico's President from 1877-80 and from 1884-1912. Biographical material accompanying this letter reveals Diaz to have been skilled in ruling a country known for its intrigue and tempestuous battles for leadership and domination.

A summation of the pedigree is provided in the author's centerfold article in the *Man at Arms* magazine, issue of January/February 1981. The following presents the article, in the page of its principal text. Note that at the time this article was written, the author was unaware of the existence of the Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 of General Miramon in Chapultepec Castle – powerful evidence strongly suggesting that the Emperor Maximilian would also have had such a special Winchester.

Further information and photographs of the General Miramon Ivory Stock Winchester is presented in the material collected in the document case accompanying the present letter.

THE OLD ADAGE, "rank has its privileges", has often over the centuries applied also to arms collecting. Certainly collector Porfirio Diaz is a case in point. Born in 1830, Diaz became president of his native Mexico in 1877, and for most of the next 33 years was virtual dictator. His regime benefitted Mexican industry, agriculture, and mining, but most of the profits poured into the pockets of him and those who supported him. Part of the Diaz fortune was devoted to gun collecting.

Diaz was forced to resign in 1911 (he was by then senile), and he moved to Paris, where he died July 2, 1915. Some of the better pieces from his personal arms collection ended up in the Walter Douglas Collection, housed at the Royal Military College of Canada, at Kingston, Ontario. Five of the finest specimens are pictured in *The Book of Winchester Engraving* (p. 188, two Model 1873 rifles, deluxe engraved by Winchester for Diaz, in 1887) and *The Colt Heritage* (three Model 1889 New Navy revolvers, p. 206).

A deluxe Winchester which has long been attributed to the Emperor Maximilian can now be credited, at least as to the collector-owner, to Porfirio Diaz. The gun is — no matter who owned it — a classic in arms collecting. It is the only original ivory stocked Winchester at present known to collectors, and has been pictured in more books and periodicals than any other specific Winchester firearm. The serial number, 21921, dates the gun at about 1867-68. Its richly carved elephant ivory stock, profuse Nimschke style engraving (on frame, butt-plate, barrel bands, and barrel), silver and blued finish, and Mexican eagle stock motif all point to the original owner as an individual of wealth, status, and power. This might indeed have been Maximilian (he was executed June 19, 1867); since the gun could well have been made on his order, and delivered prior to or even after his death. Or manufacture could well have been for Diaz directly, who was already a powerful figure in Mexico at that time.

Recent information supplied to present owner Joseph T. Hajec, by H.G. Houze, establishes the "Ivory Stock" as from the Diaz collection. Quoting from a letter from the latter to the former, dated June 21, 1980:

> Lieutenant Colonel Leslie M. St. J. Collins . . . stated that Mr. [Walter] Douglas had not donated all the arms he purchased from the Diaz heirs to the [Royal Military] College, but had given or sold a number of pieces to James W. Flanagan. Colonel Collins mentioned several specific items in Flanagan's Collection which had formerly been in the Diaz Collection. One of these pieces was an ivory stocked Winchester rifle with a Mexican Eagle carved in high relief in the butt stock . . . . Further evidence relating to . . . Porfirio Diaz [guns came from] Stephen V. Grancsay, Curator Emeritus of Arms and Armor of the Metropolitan Museum of Art . . . . At one time Mr. Grancsay told me that the ivory stocked Winchester which belinged to the Emperor Maximilian originally was in the Diaz Collection . . . . Lieutenant Colonel Flanagan's collection was sold at auction by the Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., on April 21 and 22, 1944. The ivory stocked Winchester was Lot 351 and sold for $425.00.

351. CARTRIDGE REPEATING RIFLE *English, XIX Century*
Blued engraved barrel stamped *Henry's Patent Oct. 16, 1860, King's Patent March 29, 1866;* spring chamber beneath for holding cartridges; engraved arabesque silvered lockplate; ivory stock and butt carved in high relief with Mexican eagle on cactus holding snake; patch box at engraved buttplate. In walnut case. Believed to have been a presentation piece.

Sale of the Ivory Stock at the Flanagan auction, April 21 and 22, 1944, by Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., New York City. Note rather reasonable figure of $425!

The collector who is believed to have purchased the Ivory Stock from the Flanagan sale was the legendary William M. Locke. Later owners were Richard P. Mellon, W. Buhl Ford III (a great grandson of Henry Ford), and John B. Solley III. Mr. Solley, an heir to the Lilly pharmaceutical fortune, was the subject of a previous article in *Man at Arms* (vol. 1, no. 6 and vol. 2, no. 1). The Ivory Stock was decidedly a favorite of Mr. Solley, and is pictured in the centerfold of vol. 1, no. 6, with several of his other prime arms, accompanied by Mrs. Solley, who inherited the collection in 1979.

The published pedigree of the Ivory Stock is rather impressive: *The Book of Winchester Engraving* (p. 79), *The First Winchester* by John E. Parsons (p. 139), *Antique Arms Annual* p. 97), *The William M. Locke Collection* by Frank Sellers (p. 505), *The Treasury of the Gun* by Harold L. Peterson (p. 238), *Guns and Rifles of the World* by Howard L. Blackmore (plate 693), and various issues of such antique arms publications as the *Arms Gazette, The Gun Report, Guns & Ammo,* and even *Man at Arms.*

Among the several distinctions of Porfirio Diaz's Ivory Stock Winchester is the award of sterling silver medal no. 5 by the National Rifle Association, at their first annual competition for the "Ten Best Antique Arms" of the NRA Annual Meetings. The award competition is reserved for the finest and most important antique arms, displayed as part of the NRA convention. The silver medal is a much prized honor, and W.M. Locke won more of these than any other collector in history.

The casing illustrated was made for display purposes by Arno Werner, Chief Bookbinder for Harvard University's Houghton Library, on commission of Joseph Hajec. Color photography by G. Allan Brown.

=9=

CITATIONS in VARIOUS BOOKS and PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS - The IVORY STOCK MODEL 1866 WINCHESTER SADDLE RING CARBINE PUBLISHED in BOOKS and PERIODICALS

Featured in *Man at Arms* Magazine,
Issue of
January/February 1981, pages 31-34.

Follows is a description of **The "Ivory Stock" Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, Serial No. 21921**, from the catalogue of the Carbine's sale at the James W. Flanagan auction of April 21 and 22, 1944, by Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., New York City. Sold at price of $425.

This data was also published in the article by the author, "The Ivory Stock Winchester '66 of Porfirio Diaz" - in *Man at Arms*, January-February 1981 (pp. 31-34). That essay featured color images of the left and the right side of the Winchester, in a gilt-embossed leather bound display case built by Arno Werner, bookbinder, c. 1980. Credit to the collector ownership of the Carbine at that time: Joseph T. Hajec. The enclosed collection of background material on The Ivory Stock includes a complete copy of that *Man at Arms* centerfold article. Mr. Hajec acquired the Carbine when the writer was a partner in the sale of the John B. Solley III Collection, administered through auspices of Morgan Guaranty Trust, of New York City.

The following is the text of the Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., auction catalogue of April 21 and 22, 1944, describing the regal **Winchester No. 21921**.

351. CARTRIDGE REPEATING RIFLE ***English, XIX Century***
Blued engraved barrel stamped *Henry's Patent Oct. 6, 1860, King's Patent March 29, 1866; spring chamber beneath for holding cartridges; engraved arabesque silvered lockplate; ivory stock and butt carved in high relief with Mexican eagle on cactus holding snake; patch box at engraved buttplate. In walnut case. Believed to have been a presentation piece.*

Caption to the centerfold of the above-noted *Man at Arms* article, on page 33:

The Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, No. 21921, of His Excellency Porfirio Diaz, of Mexico. *Joseph T. Hajec Collection. G. Allan Brown photographs. Casing by Arno Werner, Chief Bookbinder, Harvard University's Houghton Library.*

Again Featured in *Man at Arms* Magazine: November/December 1979

Text of caption for Figure 4, page 33, *Man at Arms* magazine, November/December 1979:

Figure 4 – Selected pieces from the John B. Solley III collection, inherited by his widow, Fern, in 1979. Easily recognized are many of the finest antique firearms known to collectors, each of museum quality and rarity.

For background details, see *Man At Arms*, Volume II, issue No. 1.

The Ivory Stock Winchester No. 21921 As Featured in Numerous Other Publications

Organized in chronological order, those additional citations, discovered in the author's research, are as follows:

John E. Parsons, *The First Winchester*, 1955. Pictured on page 139.

Texas Gun Collectors Magazine, No 69, of September 1960, page 6.

Cited in 1960, NRA Gun Collectors Newsletter, 1971. List of award winners of the coveted NRA Silver Medal Serial No. 5, issued in 1960: **"Presentation Engraved Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, Serial #21921 – William M. Locke (C. #5)."**

Front Cover Gun of *The Gun Report*, July 1963 issue; accompanied by descriptive article on page 44.

Howard L. Blackmore, *Guns and Rifles of the World* The Viking Press, 1965. Pictured and described in collection of photographs, Plate 693 (no page number). **"693 Silver-plated Winchester Model 1866 [carbine] with carved ivory stock made for**

Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. Serial No. 21,921. William M. Locke Collection. B. 20 in. Cal. 0'44 in."

R.L. Wilson, Ed., *Antique Arms Annual 1971*, Texas Gun Collectors Assn. **Page 97, full page color illustration, with caption cited above.**

Frank Sellers, *The William M. Locke Collection*, 1973. Pictured page 505.

R.L. Wilson, *The Book of Winchester Engraving*, p. 79. **". . . . Traditionally ownership of this ultra-rare Winchester has been attributed to the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. (*W. Buhl Ford III Collection*)."**

R.L. Wilson, "A Matter of Provenance," part I, January/February 1980 *Man at Arms* magazine, and part II, November/December 1979 *Man at Arms* magazine. Articles on the John B. Solley III Collection, and that of others. Includes the centerfold color image and a black & white image, showing **Mrs. John B. Solley III, proudly seated on a Queen Anne settee, with "The Ivory Stock" at her feet with several other American firearms treasures. For the January/February 1980 issue, the caption includes the statement: "The ivory stock Winchester is the famous Emperor Maximilian Model 1866 carbine No. 21921."**

R.L. Wilson, *Winchester An American Legend*, 1991 (Random House), pages 334-335. Repeats the remarkable photograph of Mrs. John B. Solley III, with treasures from her husband's arms collection – **the picture caption specifically notes: ". . . . the fabled 'ivory-stocked Winchester' Model 1866, of Mexican President Porfirio Diaz, in *foreground*."**

R.L. Wilson, *Winchester An American Legend*, 1991, pages 28-29. Full page color photograph, the caption reading: **"From the private arms collection of Mexican President Porfirio Diaz, Model 1866 number 21921 boasts a Mexican eagle carved in relief on the ivory stock. Ivory-stocked longarms rank high in American firearms rarities. So rare is the Diaz carbine that it is known to collectors as the ivory-stocked Winchester."**

Sotheby's Annual of Sales Results, following the occasion of that firm's auction of the W. Buhl Ford III Collection (a great grandson of Henry Ford).

R.L. Wilson, *Steel Canvas The Art of American Arms* (Random House, 1995). Color illustration, page 159, the caption reading: **"The Porfirio Diaz ivory-stock Model 1866, no. 21921, with Mexican eagle carved in butt; engraving attributed to Nimschke shop. A classic in American antique arms."**

R.L. Wilson, *American Arms Collectors Percussion Colts and Their Rivals, The Al Cali Collection*, 2009,

page xxii. Picture of Mrs. John B. Solley in Queen Anne settee, the caption including: **"The Winchester in foreground the 'Ivory Stock' Model 1866, attributed to ownership by Porfirio Diaz . . . ."**

R.L. Wilson, *The History and Art of the American Gun* (Chartwell, 2015; reissue of *Steel Canvas*). Color illustration, page 159; the caption reading: **"The Porfirio Diaz ivory-stock Model 1866, no. 21921, with Mexican eagle carved in butt; engraving attributed to Nimschke shop. A classic in American antique arms."**

The writer hastens to note there undoubtedly are numerous other instances of **The Ivory Stock Winchester** being published in books and periodicals. And there will be innumerable other publications of this extraordinary American firearms treasure in the future. Consequently, enclosed with the present documenting letter, is a large tray style library collections case specifically made to collect references and data further expanding the growing body of documentation on **The Maximilian-Diaz Winchester Model 1866 S.R.C. Serial No. 21921.**

Appropriately, manufacture of the half-leather and gilt-embossed case was by Arno Werner's grandson, Peter Werner, of Arno Werner Bookbinders, Blue Hill, Maine.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION of the IVORY STOCK WINCHESTER MODEL 1866 S.R. CARBINE

The Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 Saddle Ring Carbine Serial No. 21921 has been described and pictured so extensively that the present description is hardly necessary – but with the extensive detail of the present letter, is nevertheless appropriate.

Serial No. 21921. Marked on the lower tang.
.44 Henry Rimfire Caliber.
20-inch round barrel, with integral front sight on front barrel band.
Fitted with extraordinary ivory stock, with matching forend and the buttstock exquisitely relief-carved on the left side with the Mexican Eagle and Shield.
Engraving and carving attributed to the shop of L.D. Nimschke, though the artistry has also been attributed to the hand of Conrad Ulrich, for Winchester – which would also suggest the ivory carving would have been executed by or for the Winchester factory. It is known that Nimschke and his shop were capable of excellent ivory work, and that distinguished artisan included Winchester as a client. Craftsmen at Winchester were also capable of building and carving this exquisite ivory stock.
Profuse engraving on the frame, carrier block, crescent buttplate, barrel and barrel bands – latter two parts only rarely engraved on Winchester Model 1866

carbines. Barrel coverage on the breech, fore and aft of the center barrel band, and to the rear of the muzzle barrel band. Profuse Arabesque scrolls present with stippled or pearled backgrounds on frame, buttplate tang, barrel and barrel bands. Diamond and dot pattern engraved on the carrier block; the center with four-petal flower blossom motif; the pattern with border of zigzag décor.

Silver-plated frame and buttplate. Steel parts blued. The bore bright and the Carbine likely never fired, unless for standard test-firing at factory in the production state.

Barrel marking with Henry and King's patent, and Winchester maker and address name, in two lines.

Historic Carbine accompanied by deluxe gold-tooled leather display case, by Arno Werner, for over 50-years Master Bookbinder for Harvard University's Houghton Library rare book collection, and maker of cases for presentation revolvers for U.S. Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Reagan built in the 1962-1980s period by the Colt Firearms Division of Colt Industries. Casing lined in burgundy velvet and with green leather gold-embossed descriptive plaques on lid top of and mounted on interior.

PROVENANCE

The Emperor Maximilian
Porfirio Diaz, President of Mexico

Walter Douglas
Lt. Colonel James W. Flanagan
William M. Locke
Richard Prosser Mellon
W. Buhl Ford III
John B. Solley III
Joseph T. Hajec
Carl Press
Paul Tudor Jones II

CONCLUSION

The writer first met William M. Locke, and Mrs. Locke, in their home, late in the summer of 1958 – traveling to Cincinnati, Ohio after a summer job in the New York Catskills, returning to Carleton College for the fall semester.

I was so thrilled with the experience of meeting the Lockes and the honor of a private viewing of their legendary collection that after the visit, when riding the bus to arrive downtown for the trip on to my home in Minnesota, my thoughts were so absorbed that the bus did a full circle, and drove by the stop near the Locke's home on Ault Park Road . . . .

Since then I had the privilege of two other opportunities to visit and view their legendary collection –

each over a period of two weeks' intense study and discussions.

The only reason Bill Locke ever allowed **The Ivory Stock** to leave his collection was because that piece was a necessary element of the trade and sale which brought to his possession The Sultan of Turkey Colt Dragoon gold inlaid and cased set. Ultimately that treasure was donated to The Metropolitan Museum of Art by George and Butonne Repaire – and is now a pivotal exhibit in The Robert M. Lee Gallery of American Arms.

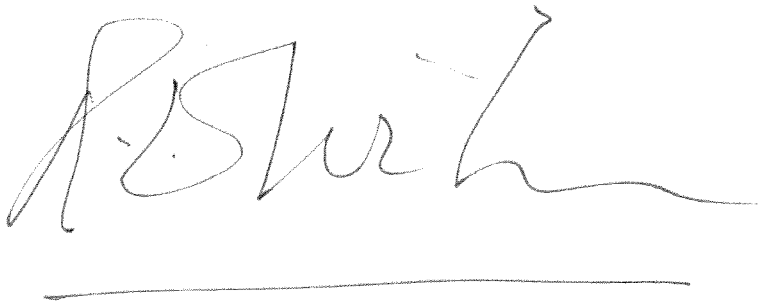
The most successful American antique arms collector of all time, Bill Locke's favorites were **The Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 No. 21921** and The Sultan of Turkey Dragoon Colt No. 12406.

The most-published and celebrated Winchester collector's treasure of all time, mere words cannot adequately celebrate and recognize this American Firearms Classic.

Only seeing **The Ivory Stock** in person can provide the thrill it is to be in the same space as this Winchester Masterpiece.

The author is honored to have had the opportunity to prepare this documenting letter on this celebrated Icon of American Firearms – worthy of the finest museum or private collection, anywhere on the planet earth:

The Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 S.R.C. Carbine of The Emperor Maximilian and of President Porfirio Diaz of Mexico Serial No. 21921



Attached are scans of the Flanagan catalogue and a letter I received many years ago from a friend of my mother's who knew Flanagan.

As you can see the ivory stocked Winchester was Lot 351 in the sale and sold for $425.

After it was sold from the Locke Collection it was owned by Buell Ford, me in partnership with Arnie Chernoff, then a chap named Solley (pharmaceutical heir) and finally Joe Hajec.

I have never been able to positively determine whether Flanagan got the rifle directly from Diaz or whether it was part of the Diaz collection that Walter Douglas (head of Phelps Dodge and the Southern Pacific Railroad Co. of Mexico) purchased in the 1930s from Diaz' heirs. Flanagan was associated with Douglas in the railroad business, so I've always assumed the latter.

Col. Collins was head of Sun Life of Canada during the 1930s and married one of the Massey girls (as in Massey-Ferguson). As a boy, I remember seeing the gold table service of Flanagan's at some sort of affair that my parents dragged me to in Toronto. Wished I had paid more attention.

Dear Merl:

Your letter of the 5th greeted me on my return from England. I am glad that you had a chat with Ralph Henson although nothing came of it.

In the early 20s I believe that I saw what you describe as the Douglas Collection - at that time it was owned by a man named Daly who lived on Oriole Parkway and the peculiar part of it is that it later came into the hands one Captain Jim Flanagan who was a close personal friend of Porfiro Diaz. Flanagan was a Captain with Roosevelt's Roughriders in Cuba and received a bad machete wound in the back in addition to the Medal of Honor. Flanagan was a multi-millionaire ex director of Standard Oil Company - on his retirement he became President of Indian National Pipeline Corporation, Columbia and Peru, with his office on the 32nd floor of the Bank of Commerce, 25 King Street West, Toronto. Flanagan built a magnificient home just south of Sunnybrook Hospital, before the latter was built, of course. In there he housed his collection of guns. I was in his house on numerous occasions and well recall his solid gold dinner service (twelve of each) given him by Diaz. It was I managed to get Flanagan to be the Hon Col. of the Irish, the only non-Canadian to so become - in addition to which he had been a soldier which very few Hon Cols ever were. Flanagan gave his home as a convalescent home for RCAF officers during the war. I think he died before I got back from the war. I would be interested to know if his collection of guns - of every description - was the Douglas collection ?. Glad to hear that your mother is well and intends to spend the winter in Florida. It is possible that I shall go to Mexico where I was in the latter part of ~~July~~ August to about the 7th September. A friend of mine has a dress manufacturing plant in Nuevo Laredo and he asked me there to a meeting on the 9th of Dec., and I might just go.

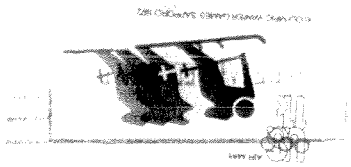
Hope your good wife is better and enjoying Canada

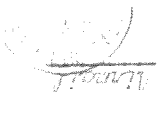
Kindest of regards,

Sincerely,

A C Kunnel

PS: My neighbour's children write me when I'm away and they address me as Kurnel - and it has stuck.





SALE NUMBER 558
EXHIBITION FROM SATURDAY, APRIL 15, TO TIME OF SALE
WEEKDAYS 9 TO 5:30 · CLOSED SUNDAY

Collectors' Firearms

Rare American and European Specimens

PISTOLS · REVOLVERS · MUSKETS
RIFLES · SWORDS · RAPIERS

ORIENTAL ARMS AND A SUIT OF ARMOR
INVENTORS' MODELS OF SMALL ARMS
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL CANNON MODELS

Collection of

LT. COL. JAMES W. FLANAGAN

Toronto, Canada and New York

SOLD BY HIS ORDER

Public Auction Sale
April 21 and 22 at 2 p.m.

PARKE-BERNET GALLERIES · INC
30 EAST 57 STREET · NEW YORK 22 · 1944

120— 350. MATCH-LOCK RIFLE *German, XVI Century*
Barrel ornamented with fluting and inscribed near rear sight with date 1611; plain lock; walnut stock with openwork carved lion amid foliage. Brass mounts. Collection of William Randolph Hearst, Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., New York, 1939

425— 351. CARTRIDGE REPEATING RIFLE *English, XIX Century*
Blued engraved barrel stamped *Henry's Patent Oct.* 16, 1860, *King's Patent March* 29, 1866; spring chamber beneath for holding cartridges; engraved arabesque silvered lockplate; ivory stock and butt carved in high relief with Mexican eagle on cactus holding snake; patch box at engraved buttplate. In walnut case. Believed to have been a presentation piece.

55— 352. WHEEL-LOCK HUNTING GUN *Austrian, Late XVI Century*
Octagonal bell-mouthed barrel inscribed *Franz Weier in Wienn* at breech; allover engraved lock and plate representing nobility at stag hunt, allegorical figures, and hound. Carved root walnut stock and butt mounted with plaquettes of hunters at rest.

150— 353. WHEEL-LOCK WALL GUN *French, XVI Century*
Long octagonal barrel, engraved massive lock and plate; pearwood stock and butt, *ajouré* steel inlay and plaquettes of pearl.

75— 354. CHILD'S WHEEL-LOCK RIFLE *French, XVI Century*
Barrel chiseled in high relief with panoply of arms and equestrian figures; pearwood stock and butt, with inlaid engraved bone arabesques, knight attacking chimera, and cherubs. Poor condition; parts missing.

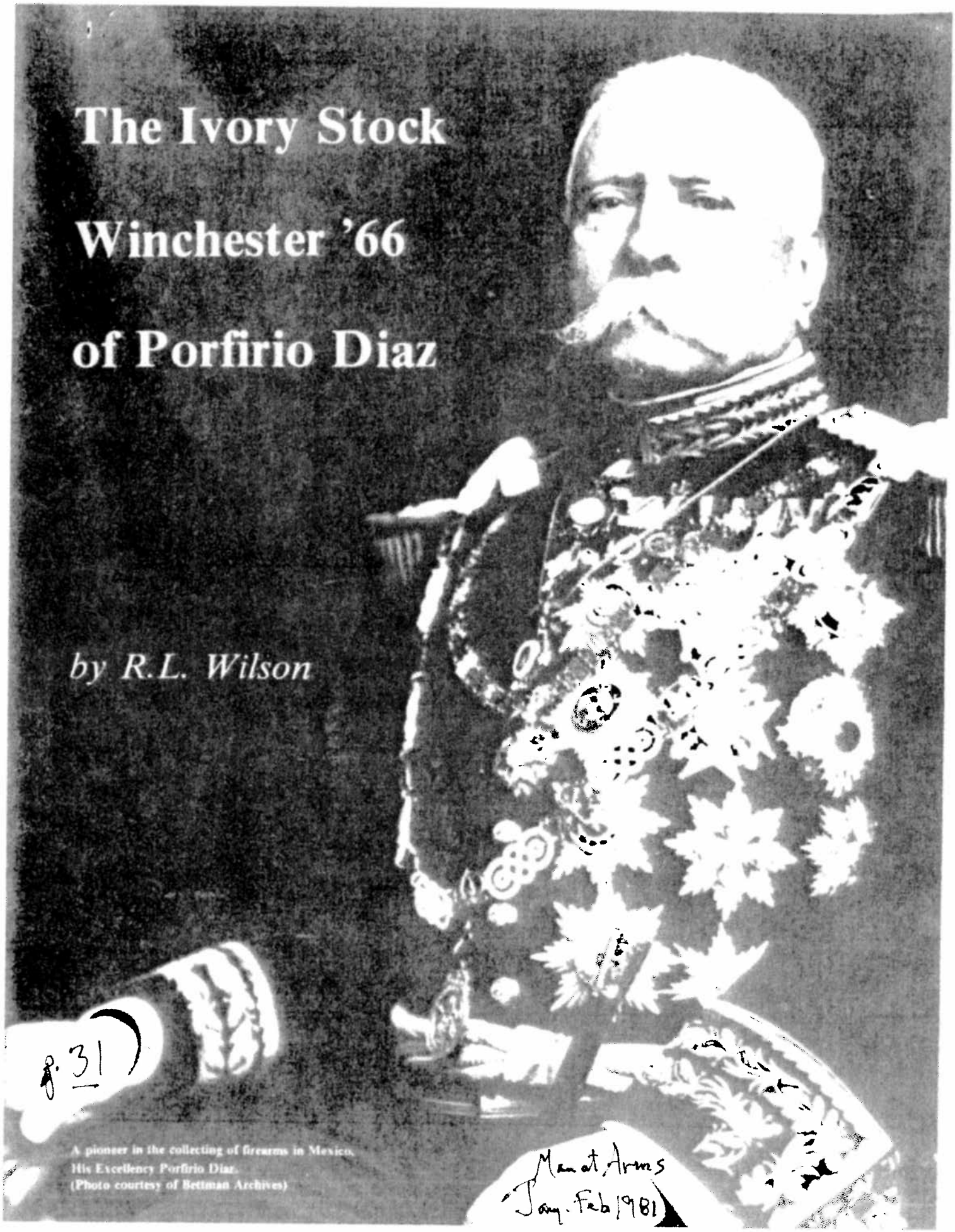
BRONZE AND WROUGHT IRON CHESTS, BELLS, AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS

25— 355. SPANISH BRONZE MONASTERY BELL
Pear-shaped, with flaring flange; chiseled decoration of Crucifix at centre front, band of grape leaves and clusters, four acanthus leaves at top, and inscription *Moises Diez* 1364-*A Palencia.* Shows age crack. *Height* 13¾ *inches*

15— 356. SPANISH CAST IRON MONASTERY BELL
Pear-shaped, with flaring flange, plain except for five ring bandings near mouth. Shows old repair; clapper missing. *Height* 19 *inches*

The Ivory Stock Winchester '66 of Porfirio Diaz

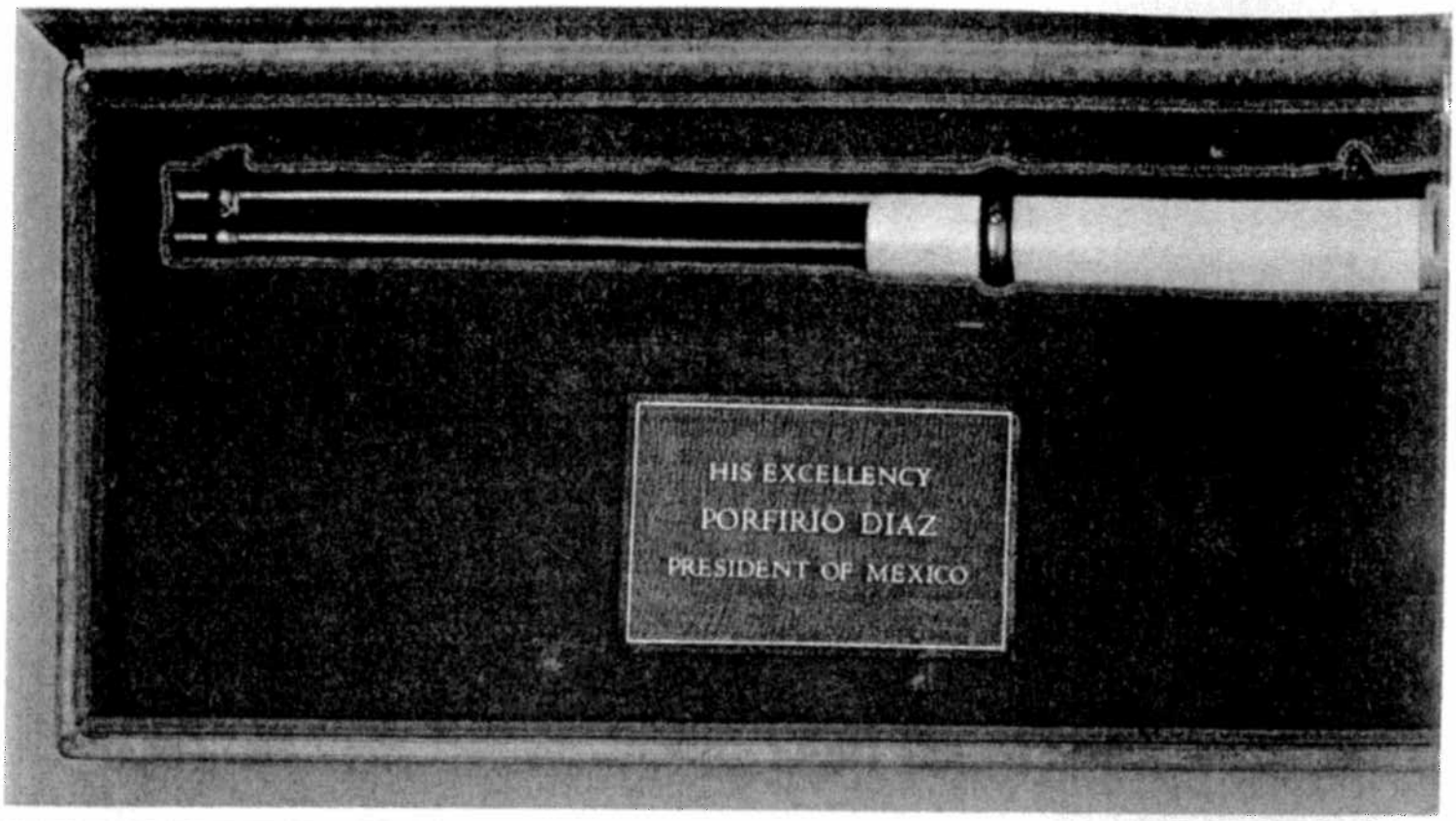
by R.L. Wilson

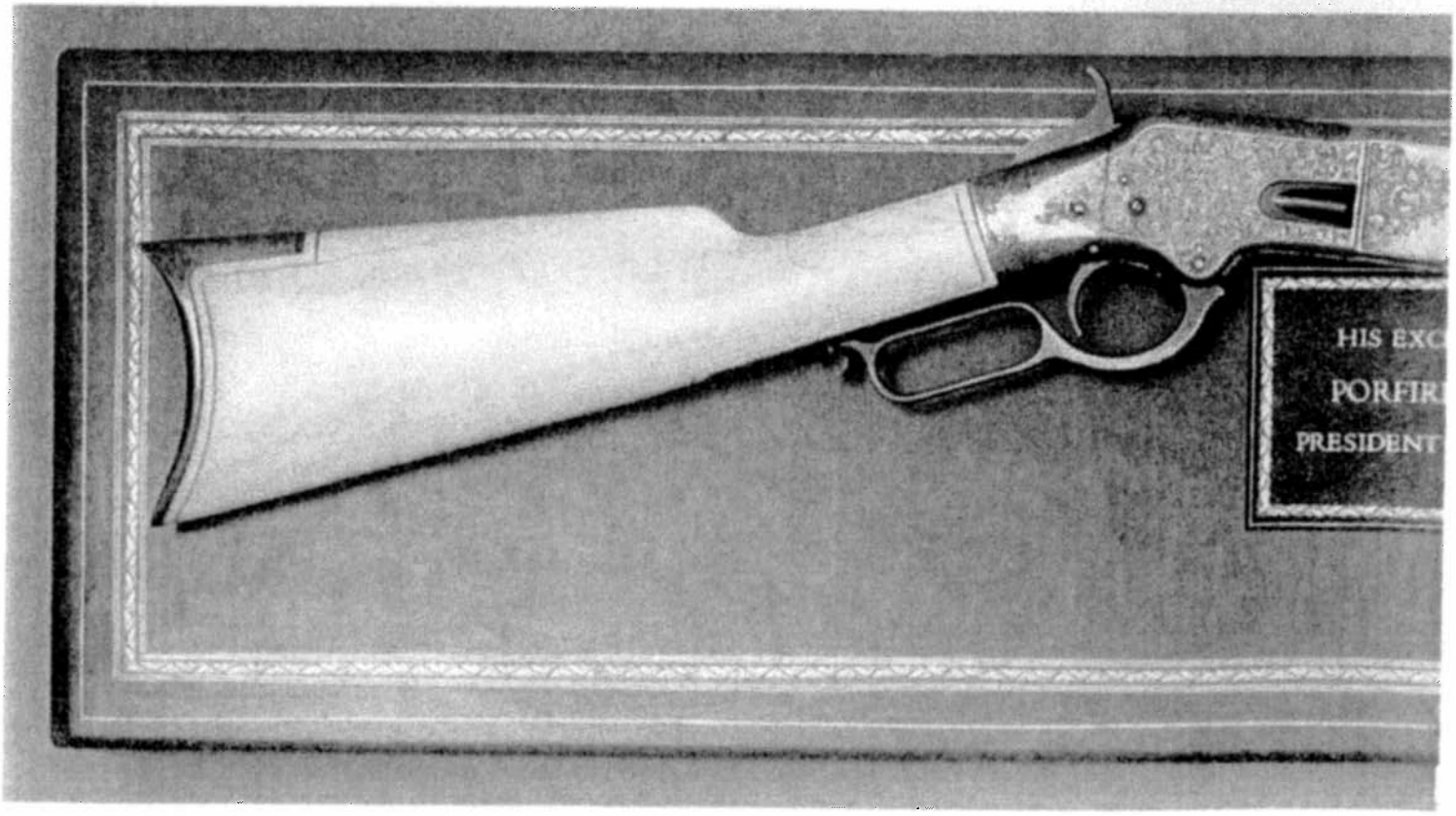


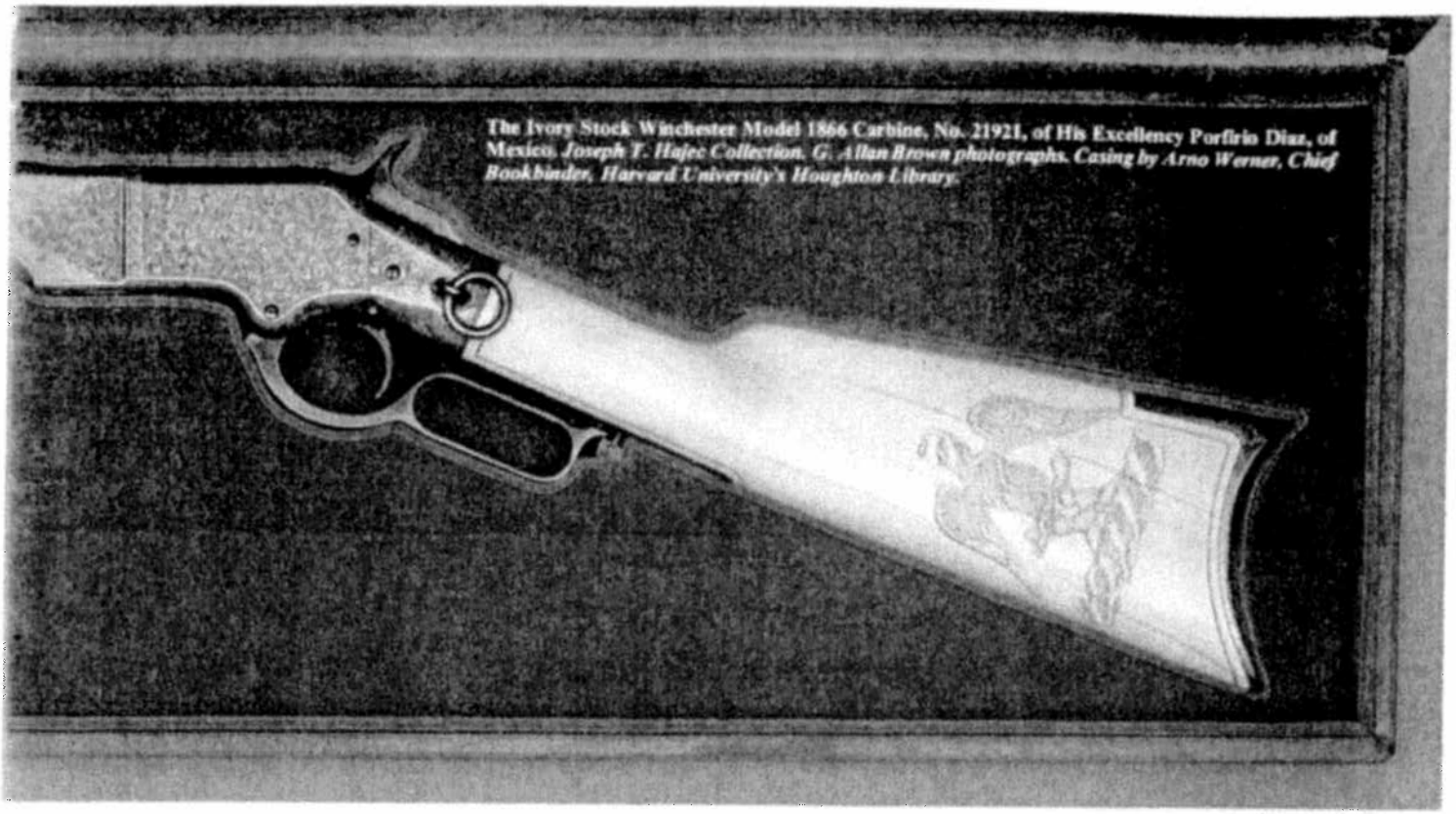
A pioneer in the collecting of firearms in Mexico, His Excellency Porfirio Diaz. (Photo courtesy of Bettman Archives)

p. 31

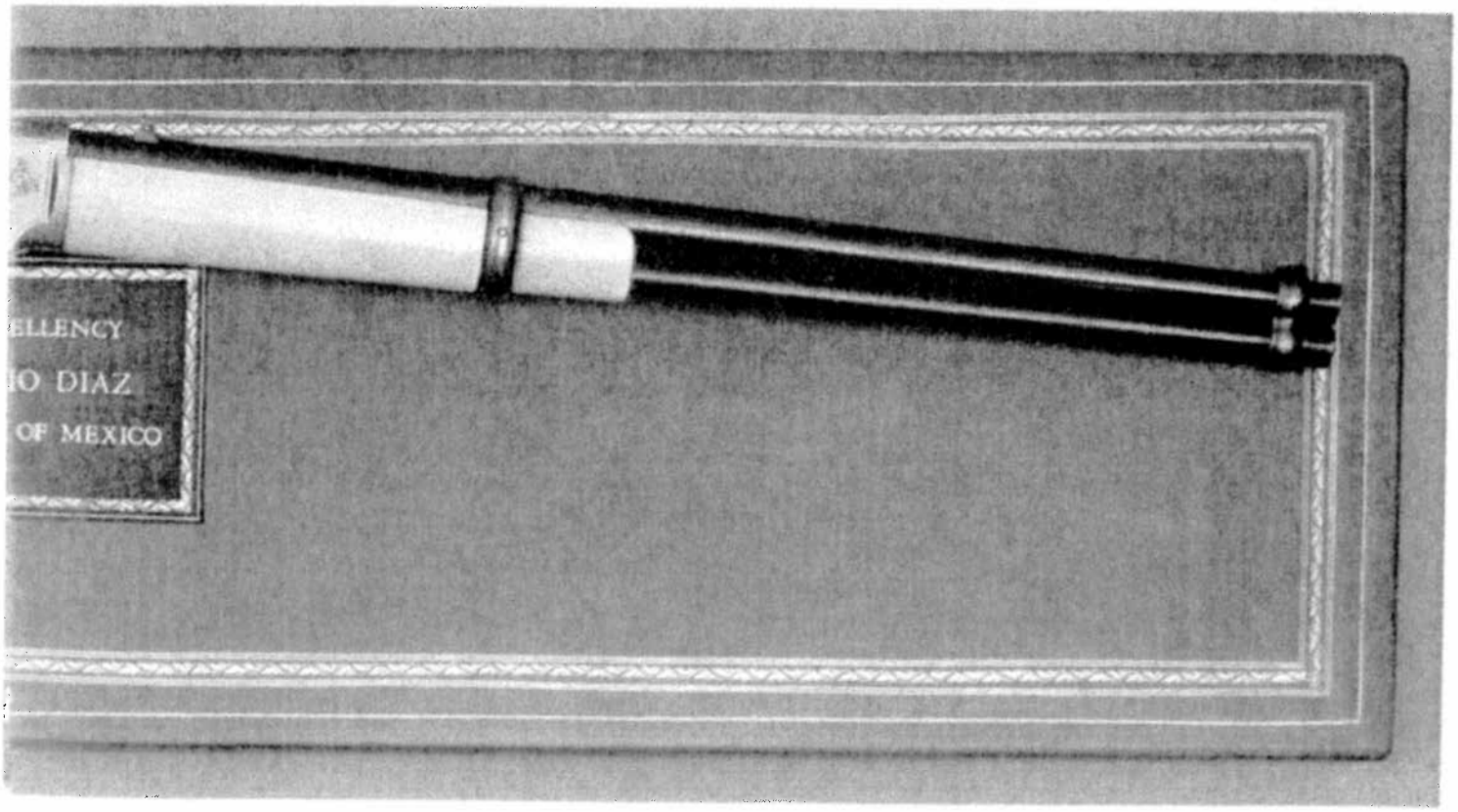
Man at Arms Jan.-Feb 1981


HIS EXCELLENCY
PORFIRIO DIAZ
PRESIDENT OF MEXICO





The Ivory Stock Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, No. 21921, of His Excellency Porfirio Diaz, of Mexico. *Joseph T. Hajec Collection. G. Allan Brown photographs. Casing by Arno Werner, Chief Bookbinder, Harvard University's Houghton Library.*



THE OLD ADAGE, "rank has its privileges", has often over the centuries applied also to arms collecting. Certainly collector Porfirio Diaz is a case in point. Born in 1830, Diaz became president of his native Mexico in 1877, and for most of the next 33 years was virtual dictator. His regime benefitted Mexican industry, agriculture, and mining, but most of the profits poured into the pockets of him and those who supported him. Part of the Diaz fortune was devoted to gun collecting.

Diaz was forced to resign in 1911 (he was by then senile), and he moved to Paris, where he died July 2, 1915. Some of the better pieces from his personal arms collection ended up in the Walter Douglas Collection, housed at the Royal Military College of Canada, at Kingston, Ontario. Five of the finest specimens are pictured in *The Book of Winchester Engraving* (p. 188, two Model 1873 rifles, deluxe engraved by Winchester for Diaz, in 1887) and *The Colt Heritage* (three Model 1889 New Navy revolvers, p. 206).

A deluxe Winchester which has long been attributed to the Emperor Maximilian can now be credited, at least as to the collector-owner, to Porfirio Diaz. The gun is — no matter who owned it — a classic in arms collecting. It is the only original ivory stocked Winchester at present known to collectors, and has been pictured in more books and periodicals than any other specific Winchester firearm. The serial number, 21921, dates the gun at about 1867-68. Its richly carved elephant ivory stock, profuse Nimschke style engraving (on frame, butt-plate, barrel bands, and barrel), silver and blued finish, and Mexican eagle stock motif all point to the original owner as an individual of wealth, status, and power. This might indeed have been Maximilian (he was executed June 19, 1867); since the gun could well have been made on his order, and delivered prior to or even after his death. Or manufacture could well have been for Diaz directly, who was already a powerful figure in Mexico at that time.

Recent information supplied to present owner Joseph T. Hajec, by H.G. Houze, establishes the "Ivory Stock" as from the Diaz collection. Quoting from a letter from the latter to the former, dated June 21, 1980:

> Lieutenant Colonel Leslie M. St. J. Collins . . . stated that Mr. [Walter] Douglas had not donated all the arms he purchased from the Diaz heirs to the [Royal Military] College, but had given or sold a number of pieces to James W. Flanagan. Colonel Collins mentioned several specific items in Flanagan's Collection which had formerly been in the Diaz Collection. One of these pieces was an ivory stocked Winchester rifle with a Mexican Eagle carved in high relief in the butt stock . . . . Further evidence relating to . . . Porfirio Diaz [guns came from] Stephen V. Grancsay, Curator Emeritus of Arms and Armor of the Metropolitan Museum of Art . . . . At one time Mr. Grancsay told me that the ivory stocked Winchester which belinged to the Emperor Maximilian originally was in the Diaz Collection . . . . Lieutenant Colonel Flanagan's collection was sold at auction by the Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., on April 21 and 22, 1944. The ivory stocked Winchester was Lot 351 and sold for $425.00.

351. CARTRIDGE REPEATING RIFLE *English, XIX Century*
Blued engraved barrel stamped *Henry's Patent Oct. 16, 1860, King's Patent March 29, 1866;* spring chamber beneath for holding cartridges; engraved arabesque silvered lockplate; ivory stock and butt carved in high relief with Mexican eagle on cactus holding snake; patch box at engraved buttplate. In walnut case. Believed to have been a presentation piece.

Sale of the Ivory Stock at the Flanagan auction, April 21 and 22, 1944, by Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., New York City. Note rather reasonable figure of $425!

The collector who is believed to have purchased the Ivory Stock from the Flanagan sale was the legendary William M. Locke. Later owners were Richard P. Mellon, W. Buhl Ford III (a great grandson of Henry Ford), and John B. Solley III. Mr. Solley, an heir to the Lilly pharmaceutical fortune, was the subject of a previous article in *Man at Arms* (vol. 1, no. 6 and vol. 2, no. 1). The Ivory Stock was decidedly a favorite of Mr. Solley, and is pictured in the centerfold of vol. 1, no. 6, with several of his other prime arms, accompanied by Mrs. Solley, who inherited the collection in 1979.

The published pedigree of the Ivory Stock is rather impressive: *The Book of Winchester Engraving* (p. 79), *The First Winchester* by John E. Parsons (p. 139), *Antique Arms Annual* p. 97), *The William M. Locke Collection* by Frank Sellers (p. 505), *The Treasury of the Gun* by Harold L. Peterson (p. 238), *Guns and Rifles of the World* by Howard L. Blackmore (plate 693), and various issues of such antique arms publications as the *Arms Gazette, The Gun Report, Guns & Ammo,* and even *Man at Arms.*

Among the several distinctions of Porfirio Diaz's Ivory Stock Winchester is the award of sterling silver medal no. 5 by the National Rifle Association, at their first annual competition for the "Ten Best Antique Arms" of the NRA Annual Meetings. The award competition is reserved for the finest and most important antique arms, displayed as part of the NRA convention. The silver medal is a much prized honor, and W.M. Locke won more of these than any other collector in history.

The casing illustrated was made for display purposes by Arno Werner, Chief Bookbinder for Harvard University's Houghton Library, on commission of Joseph Hajec. Color photography by G. Allan Brown.

attorney of the Winchester Company in the patent-office controversy, that he, Morse, could furnish oral and documentary proof that his gun, which was patented October 28, 1856, was invented before August 14, 1855, and that the documentary proof was contained in a *caveat* which he had filed before his application.

High Backed Wolf's Henry Rifle, Serial 2,729
The House of Yesterday, Hastings, Nebraska

W. W. Winchester, learning of Morse's assertion, negotiated with him for this proof, and in August paid him $10,000 cash plus a company note of $15,000. Part of the deal was that upon payment of the note Morse would give Winchester a release against having infringed Morse's extractor patent. It turned out, however, that Morse's caveat, because of a confusion of

Ivory-stocked Model '66 Carbine with Mexican Eagle, Serial 21,921
Collection of William M. Locke

drawings, did not in fact prove anticipation of Hicks, and it was held insufficient for this purpose when the Cooper case came on for trial in September.[6] Judge Blatchford granted the requested injunction in New York, and Renwick soon afterwards brought suit for infringement directly against the Winchester Company in Connecticut.[7]

1955

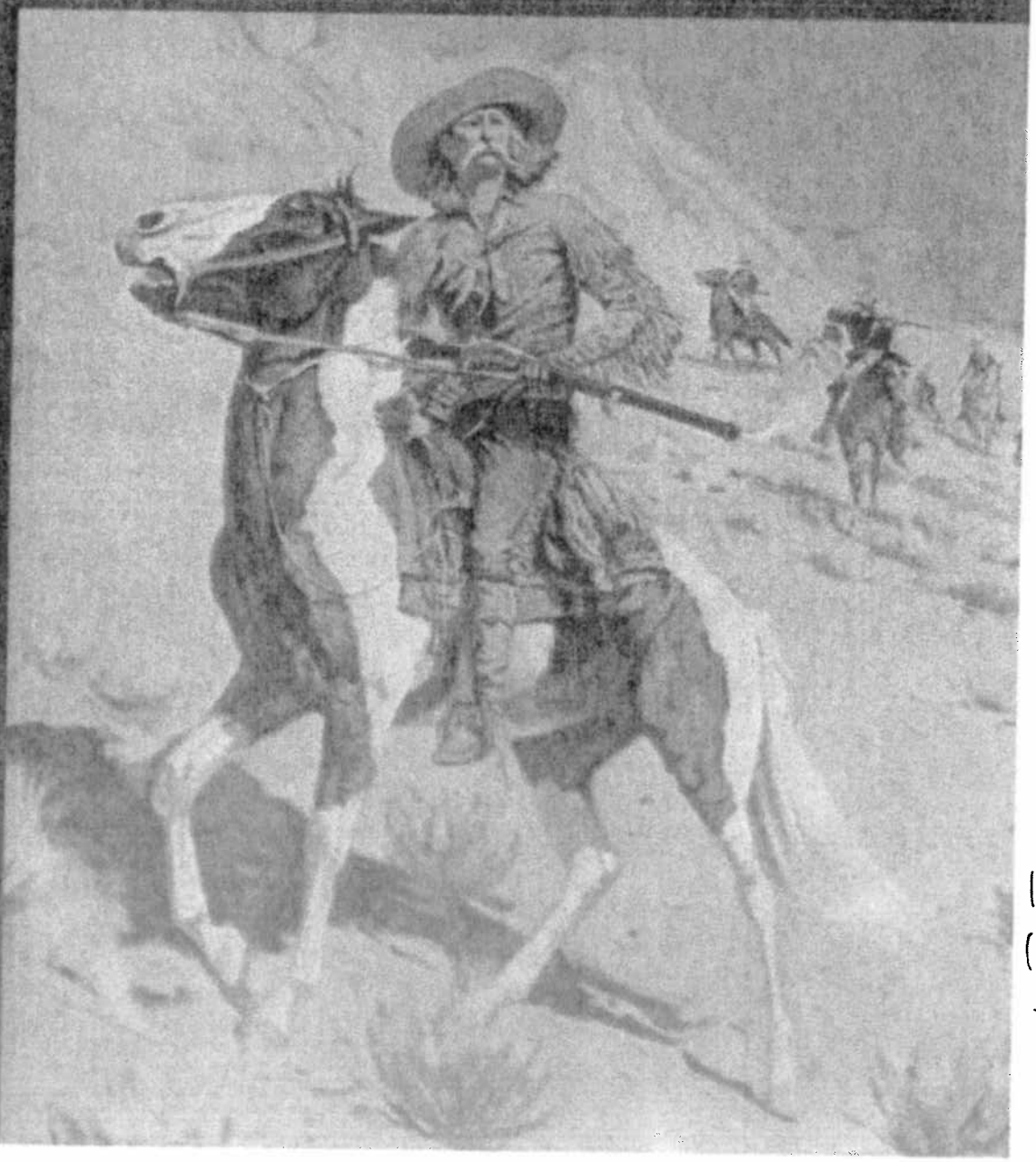
THE FIRST WINCHESTER

The Story of the 1866 Repeating Rifle

John E. Parsons

author of The Peacemaker

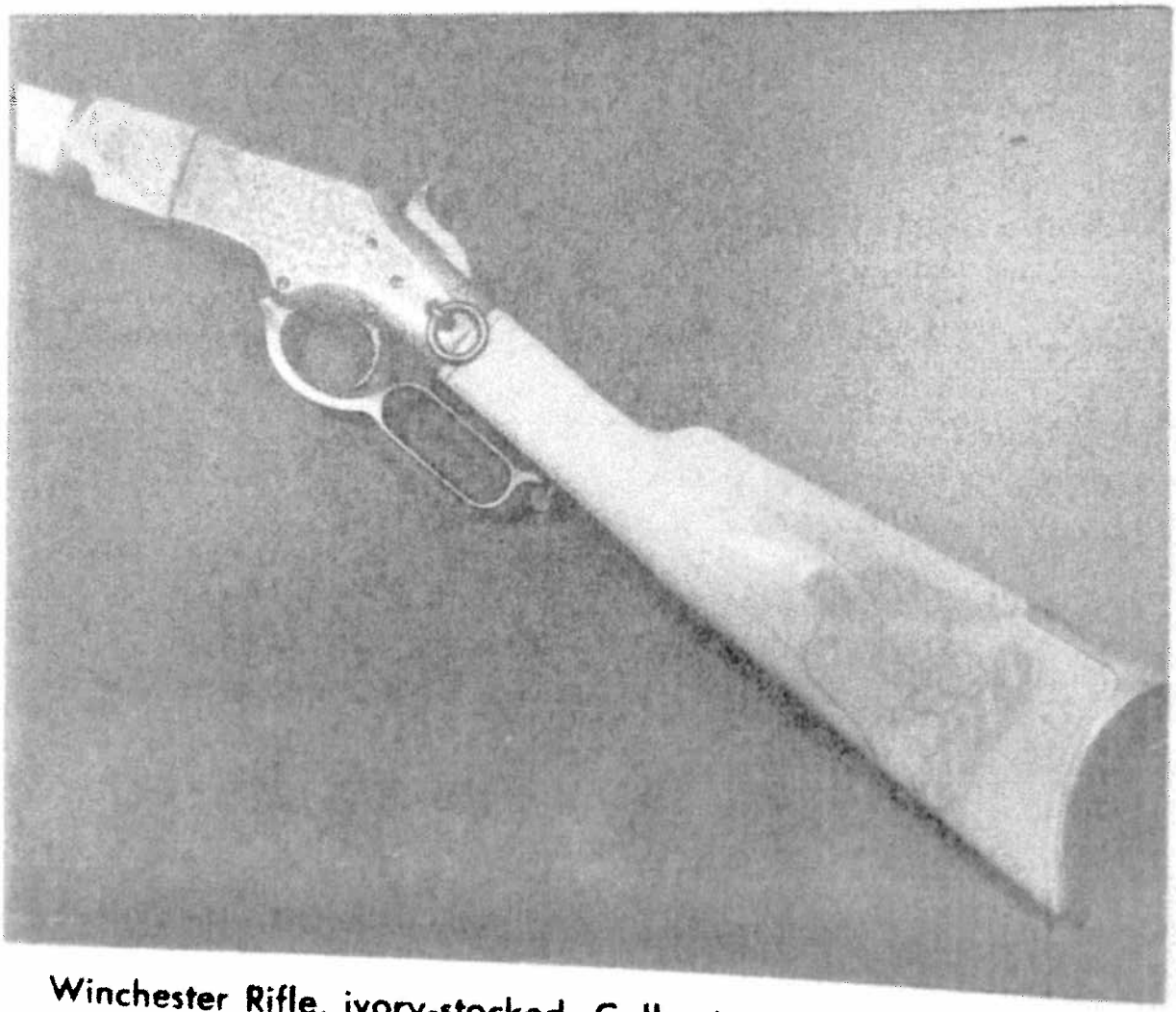
ILLUSTRATED



1955
1969
edn.

there were exceptionally good [illegible]
hawks, medals, insignia and other memorabilia.

For the first time this year a trophy donated by the Gun Collectors Committee of the NRA was awarded to the best collector display determined by the votes of all of the organizations exhibiting. The choice was difficult with especially close competition among Massachusetts, Ohio and Texas, but when the votes were tallied Ohio was found the winner. The trophy itself, a sterling silver Revere bowl, was displayed in the Ohio booth for the remainder of the show, after which it was placed in the NRA museum and engraved with the name and date of the first winning organization. A framed photograph of the bowl was presented to the Ohio Gun Collectors for their permanent collection. Judging from comments



Winchester Rifle, ivory-stocked. Collection of William Locke.

TGCA Mag. #69 - Sept. 1960

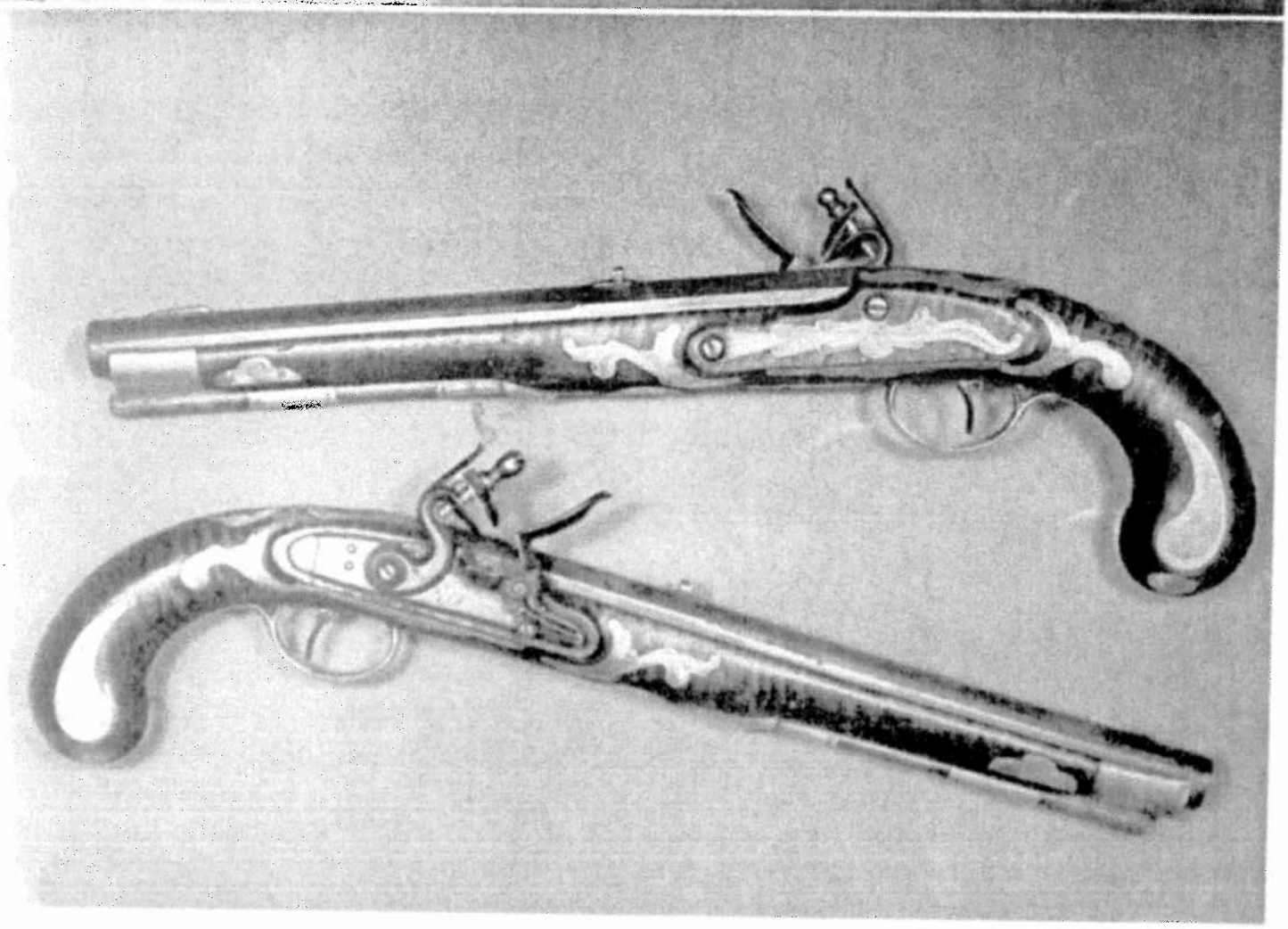
heard throughout the hall, competition for this trophy next year will be even more intense, and bigger and better exhibits can be expected.

Another new departure was the awarding of certificates for ten outstanding antique weapons exhibited at the show. These attractively designed documents bearing the description of the arm and its owner's name were presented at the open meeting of the Gun Collectors Com-

Frank Wesson falling block Creedmore rifle. Collection of John R. Briggs.

THE TEXAS GUN COLLECTOR

September 1960 Issue No. 69



1960

Presentation Engraved Frank Wesson Creedmoor Rifle, Serial #1—John Briggs (C. #1)

Sharps "Coffee Mill" Carbine (New Model 1863) Serial #99730 —William Florence (C. #2)

P. M. Weddell Kentucky Rifle, ornately silver inlaid and engraved—George N. Hyatt (C. #3)

Pair of Butterfield Deringers, Serial #6 and 7—C. G. Johnson (C. #4)

Presentation Engraved Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, Serial #21921—William M. Locke (C. #5)

1862 Colt "Belt" Model Revolver in Book-type case, Serial #26378—William M. Locke (C. #6)

1862 Colt "Belt" Model Revolver with gold-plated "Tiffany" grip, Serial #38549—William M. Locke (C. #7)

Cased pair 1860 Colt Army Model Revolvers, Serial #151388 and 151389—Larry Sherrin (C. #8)

Cased Officer's Model Sharps Rifle, Serial #11—Henry M. Stewart (C. #9)

Presentation Engraved Henry Rifle, Serial #9—William O. Sweet (C. #10)

1961

Cased

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20036

GUN COLLECTORS NEWSLETTER

Produced by

The Gun Collectors Section, Office of Publications

MEETINGS OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO COLLECTORS

DATES: April 2 through April 7, 1971

PLACE: Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Gun Collectors Open Meeting - Sunday, April 4th, 9:30 A.M. A meeting of the Gun Collectors Committee open to all NRA members and their guests interested in gun collecting. The Gun Collectors Committee Trophy, Best Educational Group awards, and Best Weapons Medallion awards and certificates will be presented.

Following these presentations, there will be a talk by antique arms authority James E. Serven, "Amusing Adventures In The Pursuit Of Old Guns--They Could Happen To You", and a 30-minute color film presentation "Rendezvous With History--Salvage Of The Cairo". A Union gunboat, the Cairo was the first warship to be sunk by an enemy mine. The incident occurred at Vicksburg, Miss., during the Civil War.

Gun Collectors Committee Closed Meeting - A closed meeting of the NRA Gun Collectors Committee, to consider the problems and suggestions of the NRA-Affiliated Gun Collector groups and to formulate plans for the coming year regarding gun collector activities will be held. All NRA members are urged to bring to the attention of any member of the Gun Collectors Committee, matters that they believe should receive attention at this Closed Committee meeting.

Other Meetings of Importance - The Members Meeting, Saturday, April 3rd, 7:00 P.M
General Session - Firearms Legislation, Sunday, April 4th, 2:00 P.M.

CLUB RECOGNITION AWARD

Through the efforts of the NRA Gun Collectors Committee, the NRA now offers a handsome cased medallion as a sales item to its affiliated collector groups. Priced at $10 postpaid from the NRA Membership Services Dept., this heavy-gauge 2½" medallion has an attractive rose gold finish with polished highlights. It is provided for presentation to deserving club members as an award of special recognition or merit. There is space on the reverse side for engraving the names of the organization and recipient. Engraving will be the responsibility of the purchasing organization.

692

693

DEVELOPMENT OF WINCHESTER MAGAZINE RIFLE **689** Walter Hunt's rifle, patented 1847–9. *Winchester Gun Museum. B.* 25½ in. *Cal.* 0·54 in. **690** Smith & Wesson experimental rim-fire rifle, 1854–5. *Winchester Gun Museum. B.* 23 in. *Cal.* 0·50 in. **691** 'Volcanic' rifle made by New Haven Arms Co., in original box, *c.* 1858–60. *Winchester Gun Museum. B.* 16½ in. *Cal.* 0·3 in. **692** Henry rifle with brass frame. Serial No. 2928. *c.* 1864. *Winchester Gun Museum. B.* 24 in. *Cal.* 0·44 in. **693** Silver-plated Winchester Model 1866 rifle with carved ivory stock made for Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. Serial No. 21,921. *William M. Locke Collection. B.* 20 in. *Cal.* 0·44 in.

1965

Plate 693 —
no page no. —

GUNS and RIFLES of the World

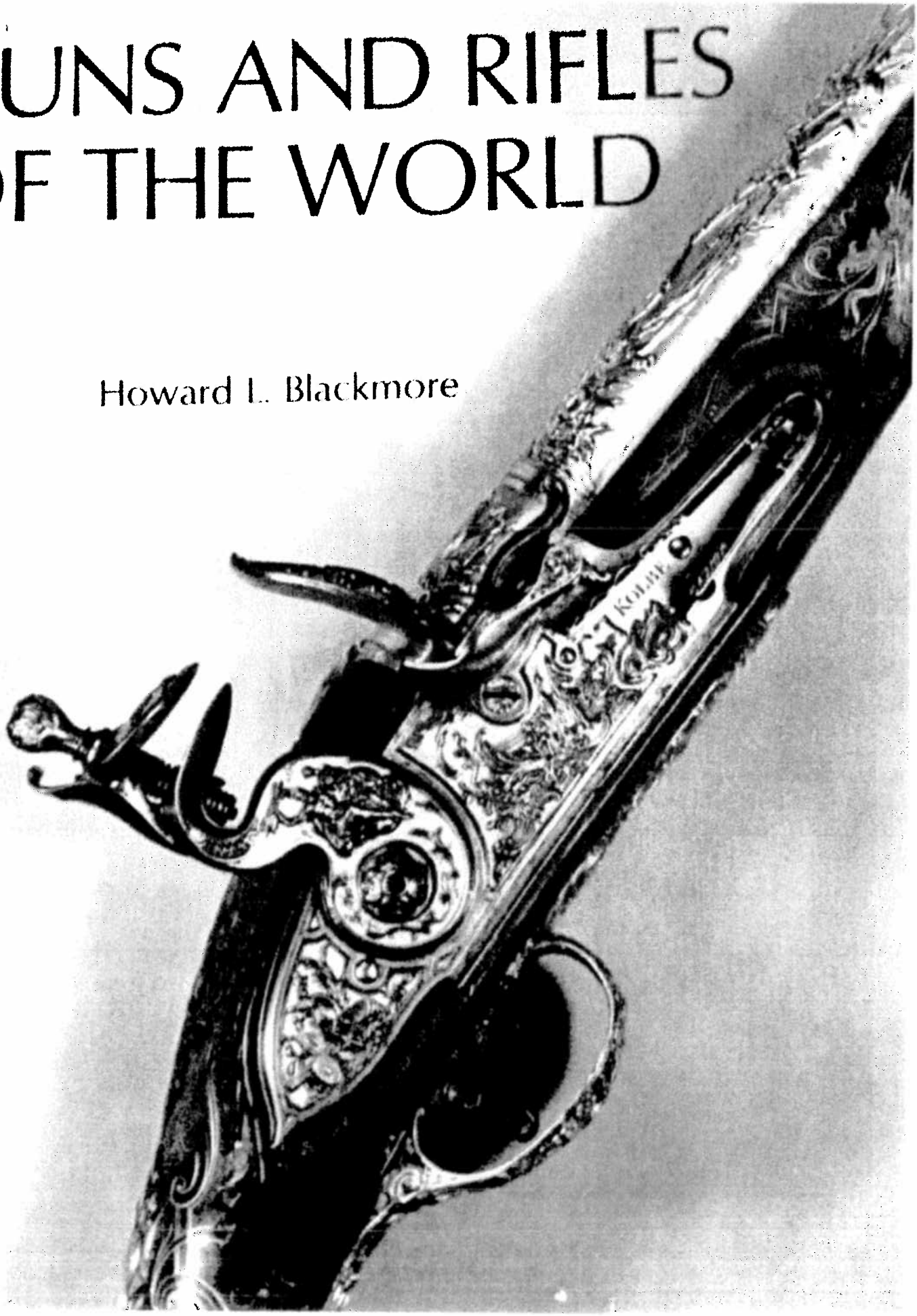
Howard L. Blackmore

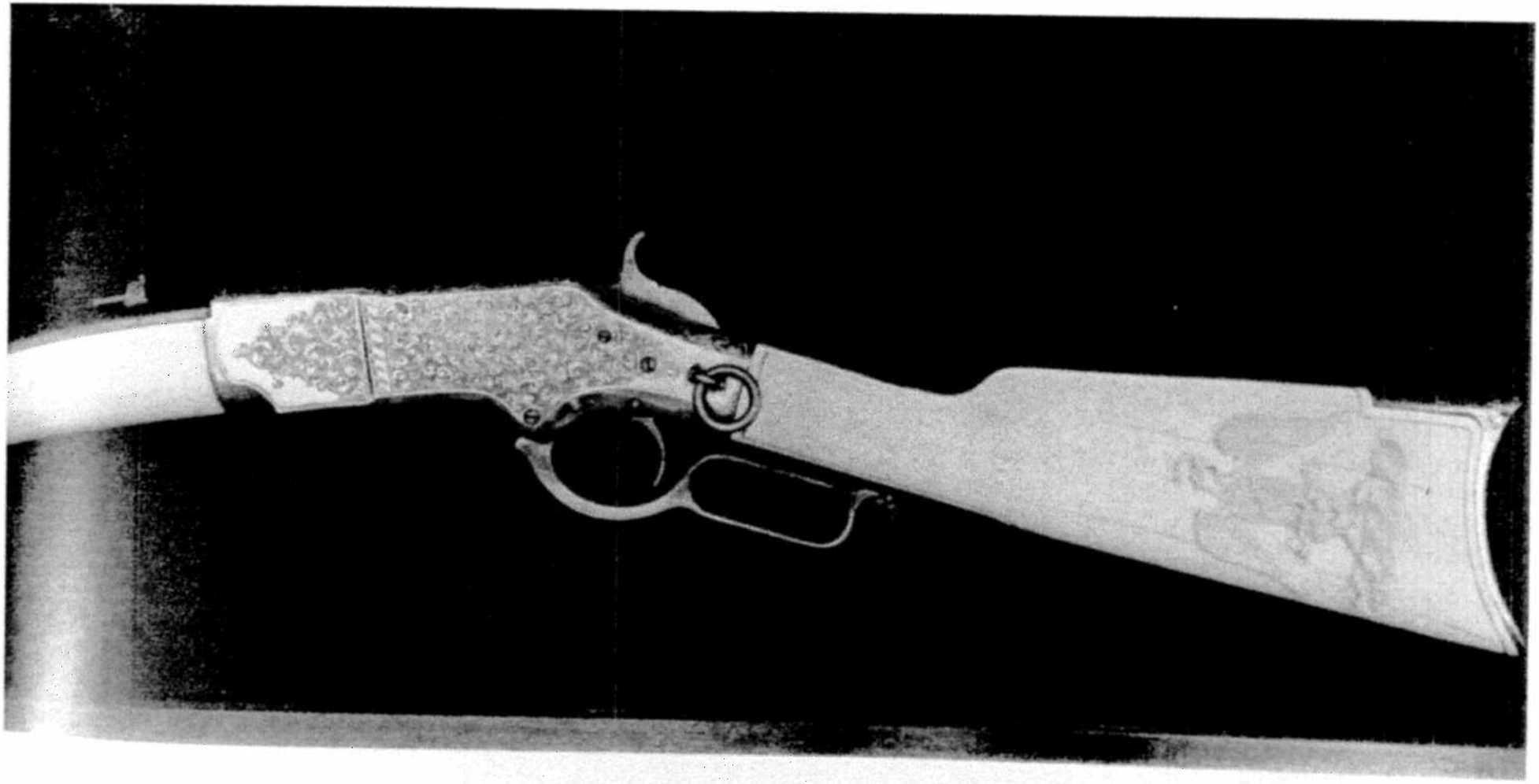
1965

A Studio Book
THE VIKING PRESS · New York

GUNS AND RIFLES OF THE WORLD

Howard L. Blackmore





[illegible] walnut stocked Model 1866 Winchester saddle ring carbine, believed made for the [illegible] Maximilian of Mexico. The butt relief-carved with the Mexican eagle, and the [illegible] buttplate profusely scroll engraved and silver plated. Serial #21921.

A renowned classic in antique American arms, widely illustrated in John E. Parsons *The First Winchester*, Harold L. Peterson *The Treasury of the Gun*, Howard Blackmore *Guns and Rifles of the World*, and in several other arms publications.

Herb Glass

Collectors' Firearms

p. 77

Antique Arms Annual 1971

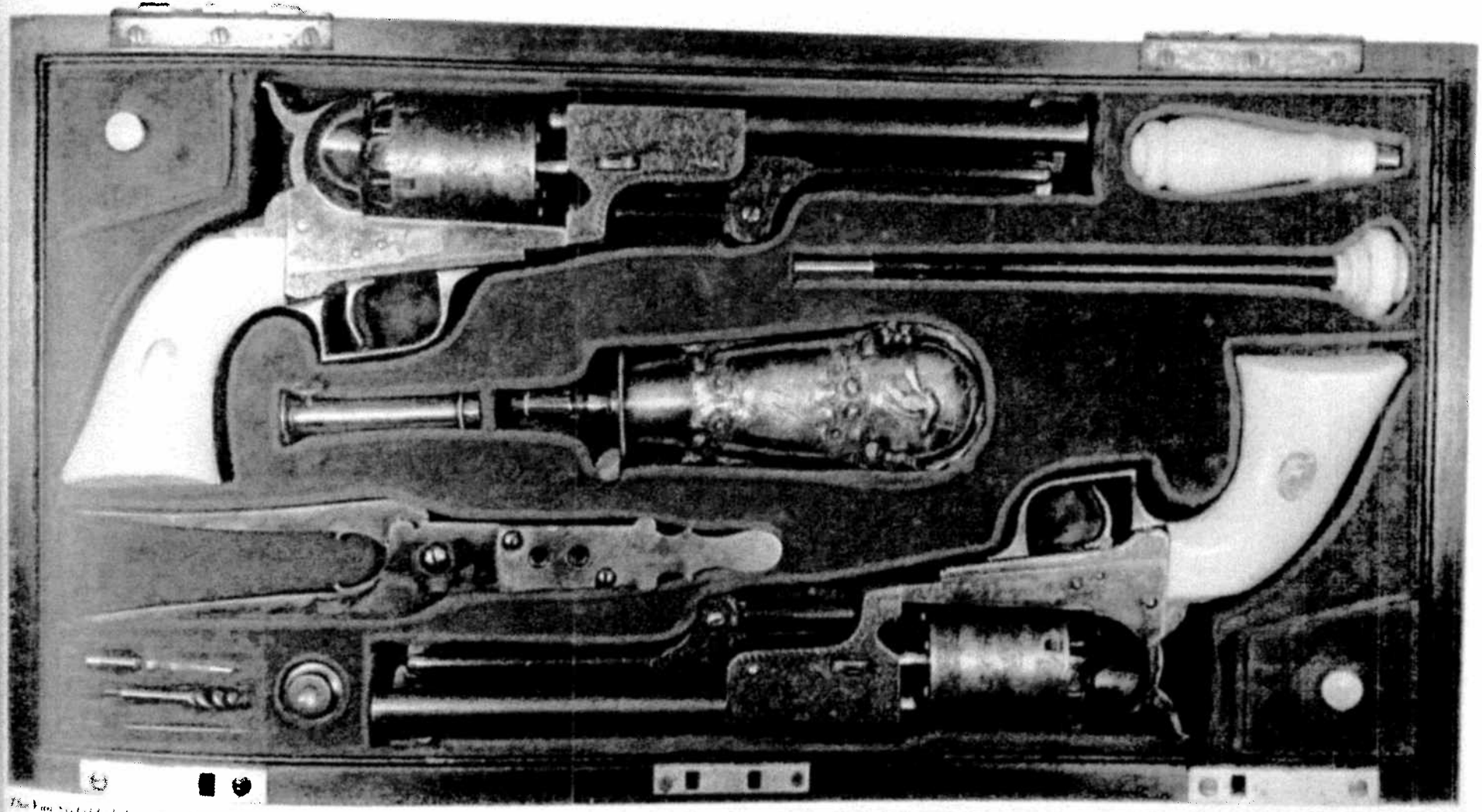
Antique Arms Annual

SPONSORED BY THE TEXAS GUN COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION

EDITED BY R. L. WILSON S. P. STEVENS / PUBLISHER SUGGESTED $[illegible]

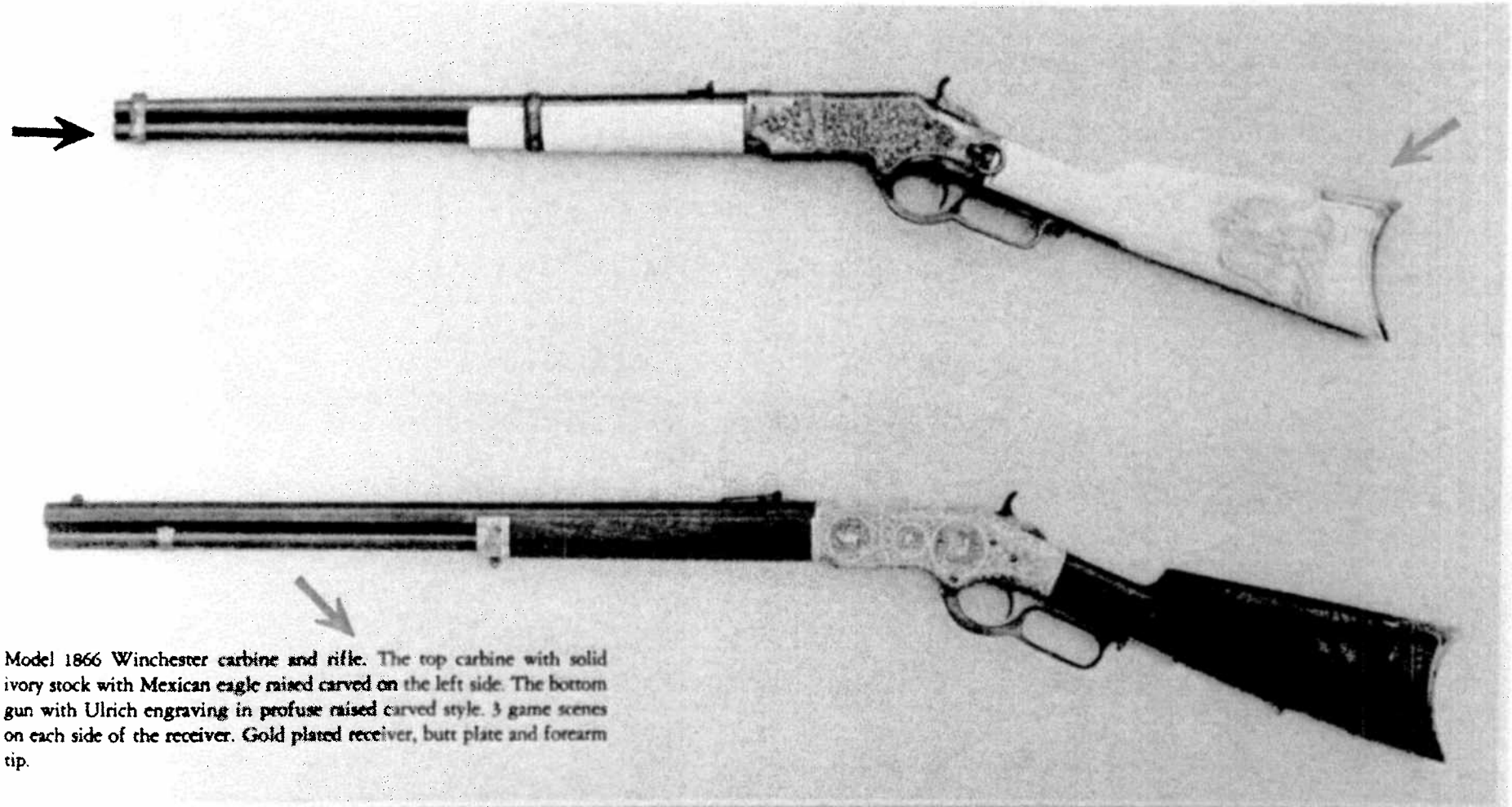
1st EDITION

FEATURING THE JAMES S. FOULER COLLECTION

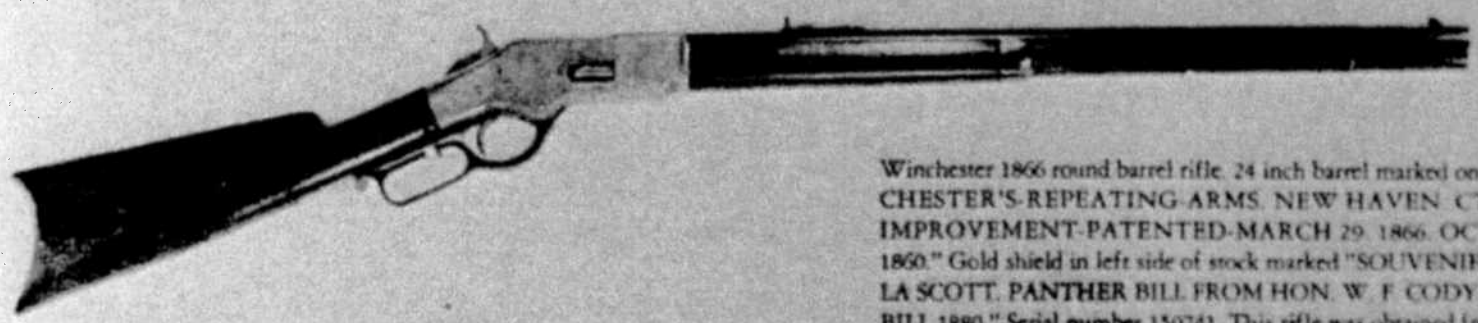


The Van Syckel Colt Dragoons—Serial Nos. 8151 and 8913.

James Fouler Collection



Model 1866 Winchester carbine and rifle. The top carbine with solid ivory stock with Mexican eagle raised carved on the left side. The bottom gun with Ulrich engraving in profuse raised carved style. 3 game scenes on each side of the receiver. Gold plated receiver, butt plate and forearm tip.



Winchester 1866 round barrel rifle. 24 inch barrel marked on top "WINCHESTER'S-REPEATING-ARMS. NEW HAVEN CT. KING'S-IMPROVEMENT-PATENTED-MARCH 29. 1866. OCTOBER 16 1860." Gold shield in left side of stock marked "SOUVENIER A.B.W.L. LA SCOTT. PANTHER BILL FROM HON. W. F. CODY, BUFFALO BILL 1880." Serial number 150741. This rifle was obtained from F. Theodore Dexter in March 1930 for $75.00.

1973.

P. 505

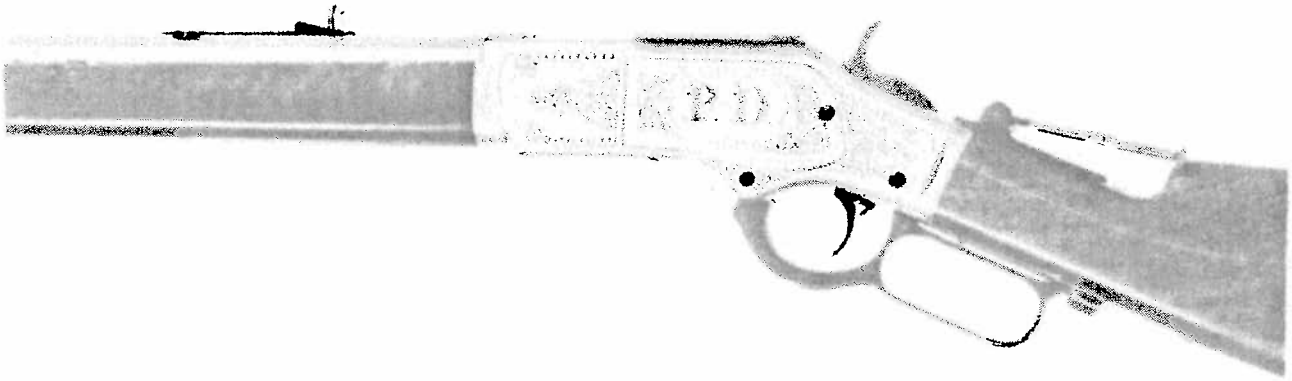
The William M. Locke Collection

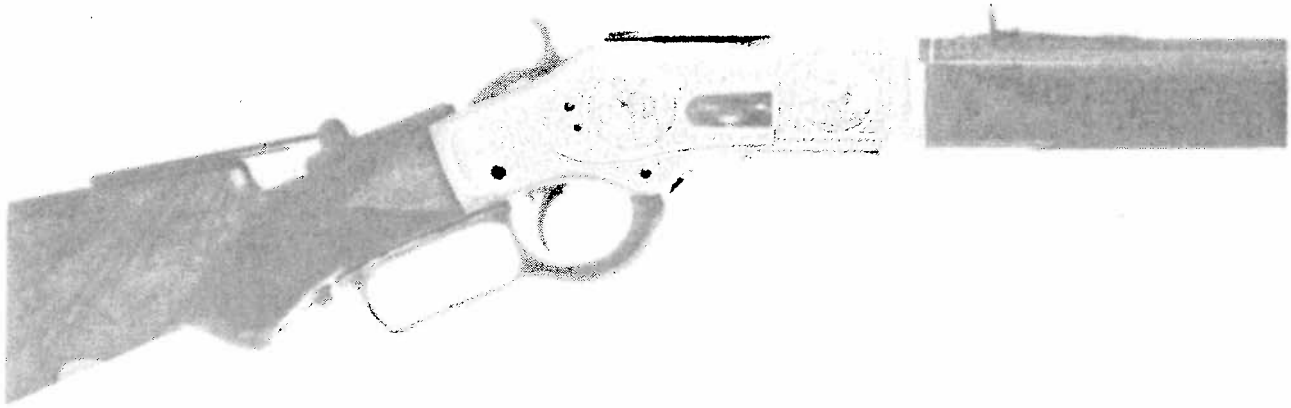
Frank Sellers
Author

Published by: The Antique Armory Inc.

D/B/A Berryman's Sports Center
2525 Main St.
East Point, Georgia 30344

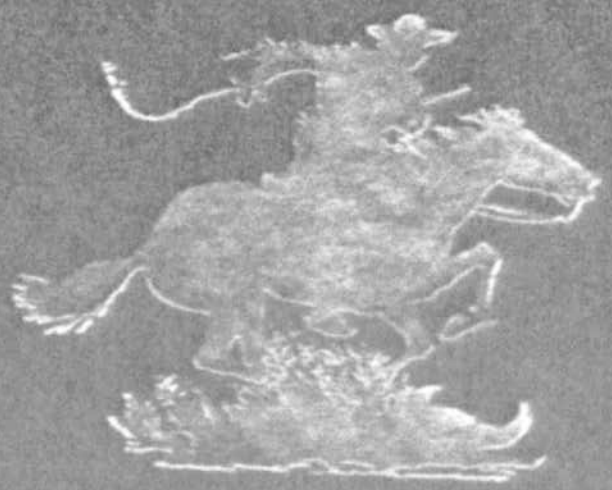
1973





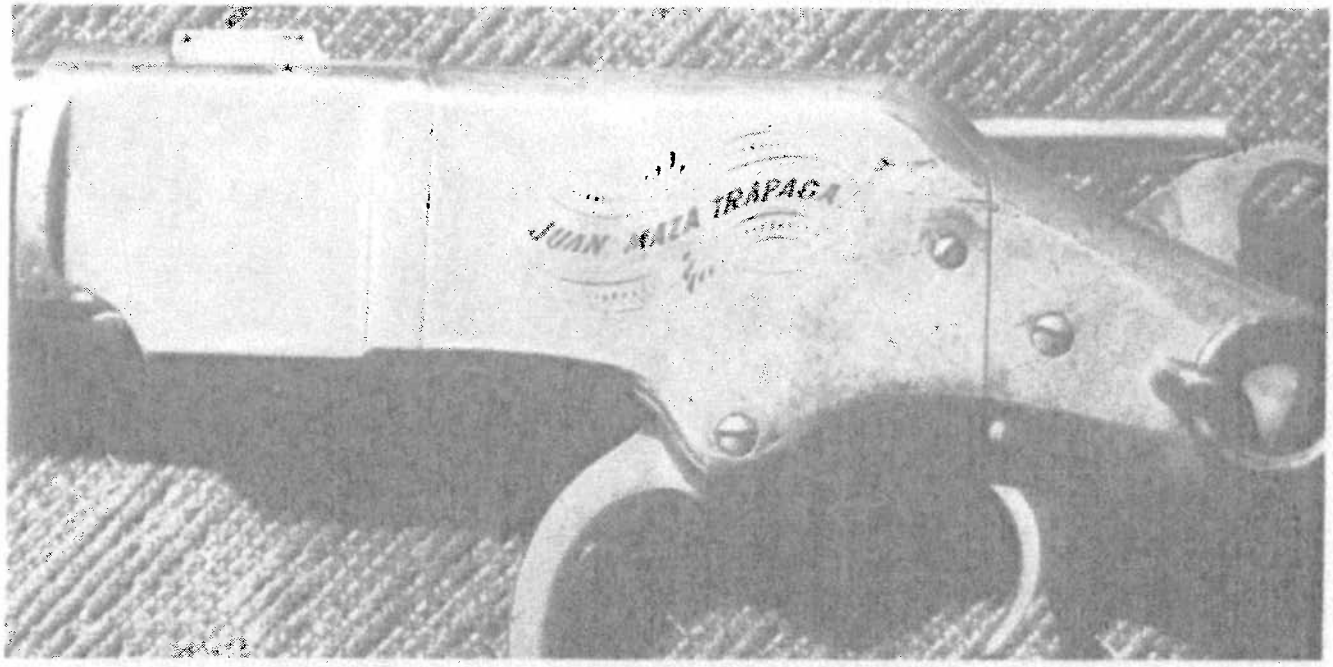
Two of the most historic Model 1873 rifles known, both attributed to John Ulrich: At top, number 222286, made for Porfirio Diaz of Mexico, in 1887. On the right side of the frame a game scene; and on the left, the monogram P.D. .44-40 caliber; 24¼" barrel. Nickel and gold plated finish; the top of the barrel matted for an improved sight picture. On the tang a folding rear sight. Select walnut stocks. At bottom, number 206057, .44-40 short rifle made for Diaz, in 1886. *Rare* J.C. monogram inlaid in mother of pearl on the right side of the select walnut buttstock. The frame was engraved on both sides with game scenes. The walking moose later appeared on page 25 of the "Highly Finished Arms" catalogue of 1897. Gold inlaid band on the barrel at breech, with scroll engraving, and matt finished top flat. Finished in gold plating and blue. Note the folding tang rear sight. A Beach type sight was on the muzzle end of the barrel. For Colt handguns richly engraved and fitted with pearl grips for Diaz, see chapter X of *THE BOOK OF COLT ENGRAVING. (Walter Douglas Collection, Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, Ontario)*

The Book of WINCHESTER® Engraving

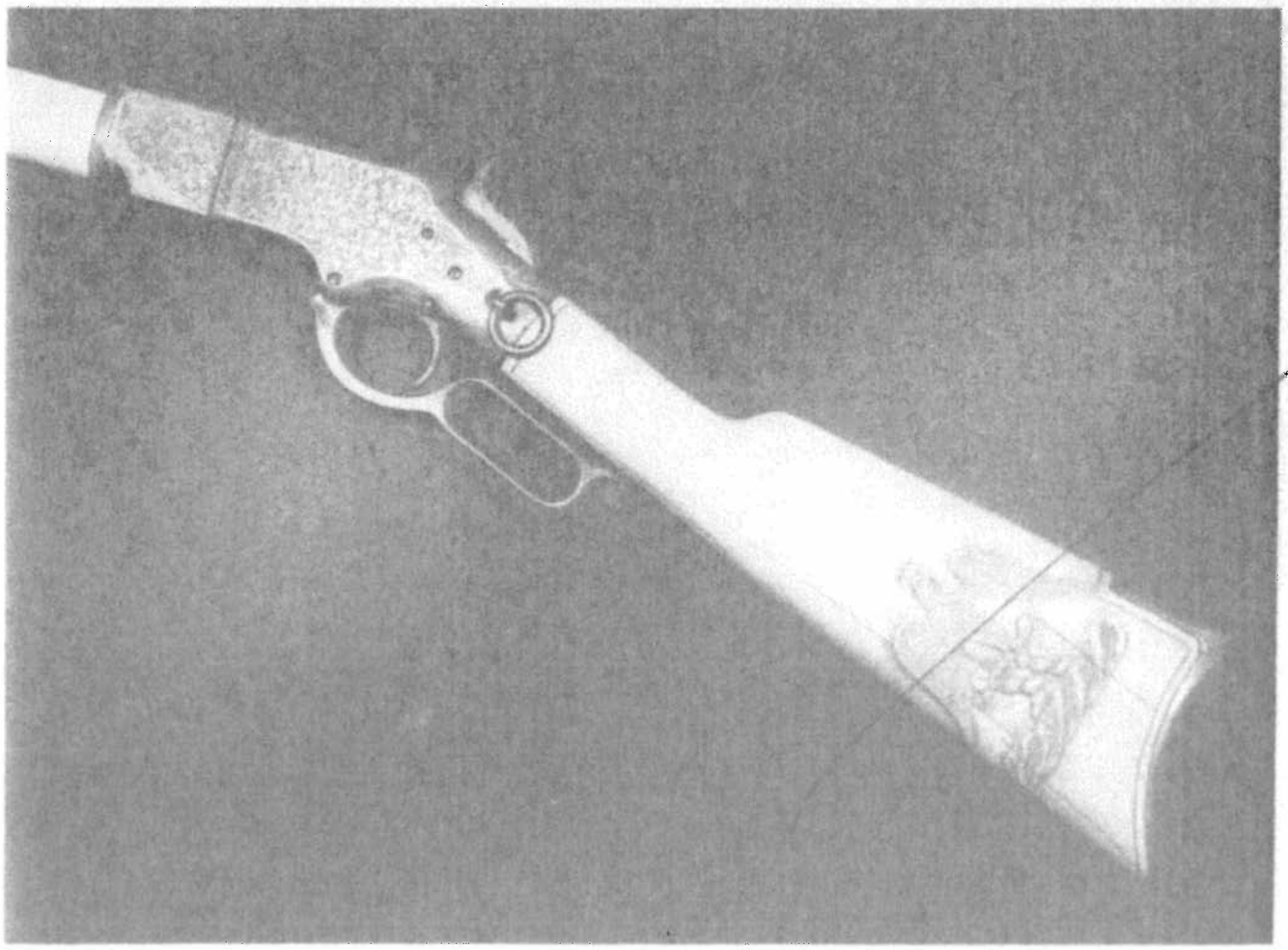


©1995,

by R. L. Wilson



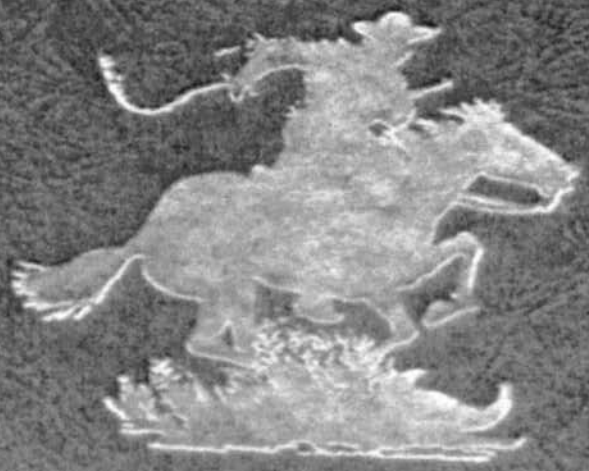
An inscribed Model 1866 carbine, half nickel finish, with the factory inscription intended to personalize the weapon. *(Anonymous Collection)*



Serial number 21921, the classic "Ivory Stock" Model 1866 carbine, with profuse scroll coverage on the frame, buttplate, barrel, and barrel bands. The Mexican eagle relief carved on the butt. Traditionally ownership of this ultra-rare Winchester has been attributed to the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. *(W. Buhl Ford III Collection)*

R.L. Wilson The Book of Winchester Engraving

The Book of WINCHESTER® Engraving



by R. L. Wilson ©1975

R. L. WILSON ON COLT

Jany Feby 1980

A Matter of Provenance

PART II

"When a field of collecting has reached an age and a stage

lieutenant and leaving, in 1946, with the rank of

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1979

R. L. WILSON ON COLT

A Matter of Provenance

WITH THE CURRENT SUBSTANTIAL VALUES of

The collector can usually spot Brooks-U.S. Cartridge

World War II Arms

$3.00
volume one number six
november/december 1979

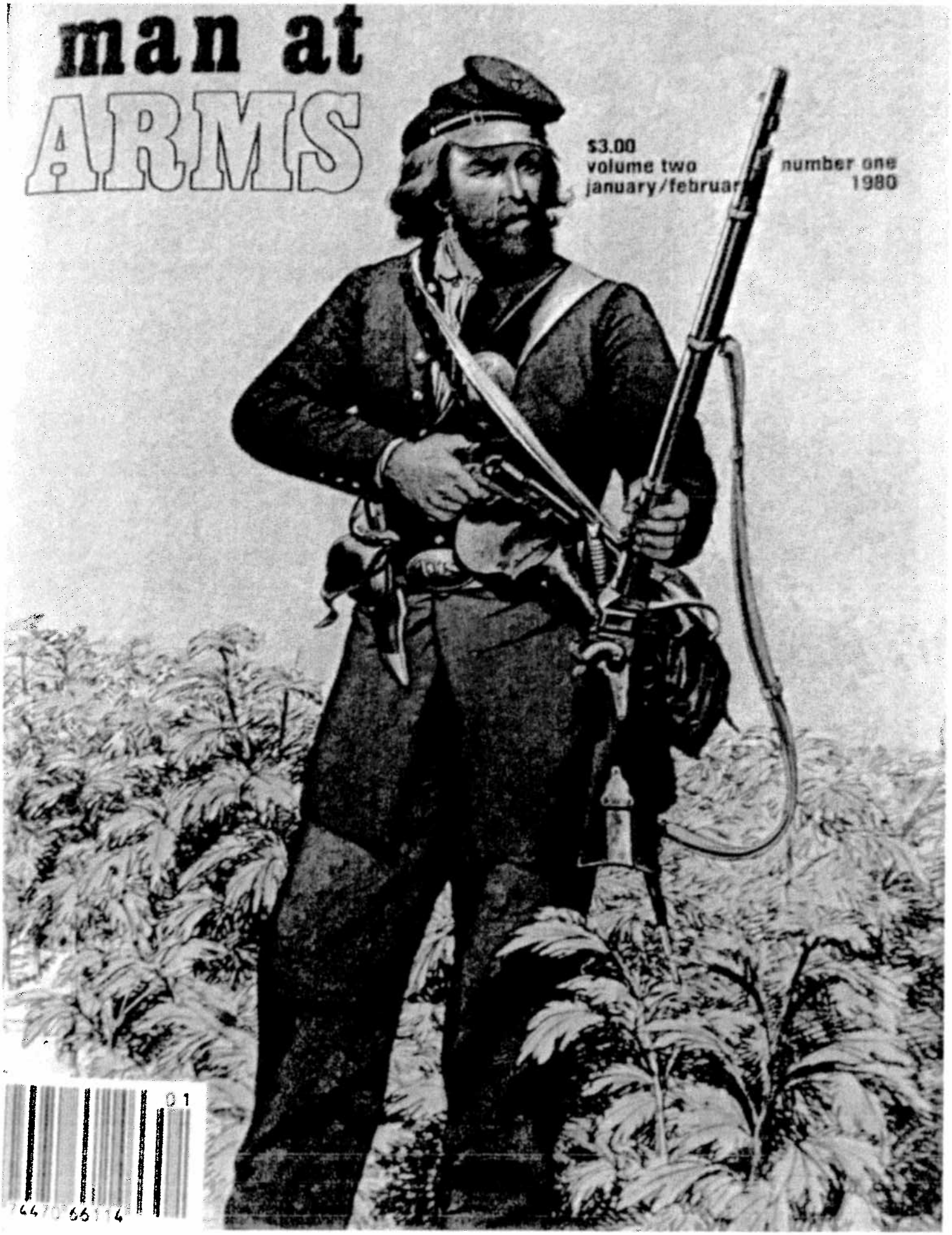
Airborne to Normandy

The F-S Fighting Knife

Guns of the American Indians

man at ARMS

$3.00
volume two
january/februar
number one
1980



Nov. Dec 1979.
p.33

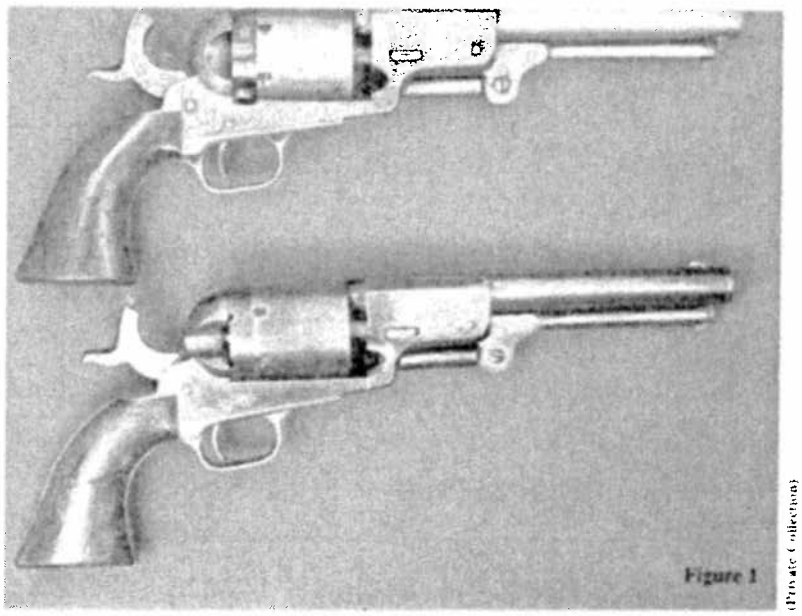


Figure 1

(Private Collection)

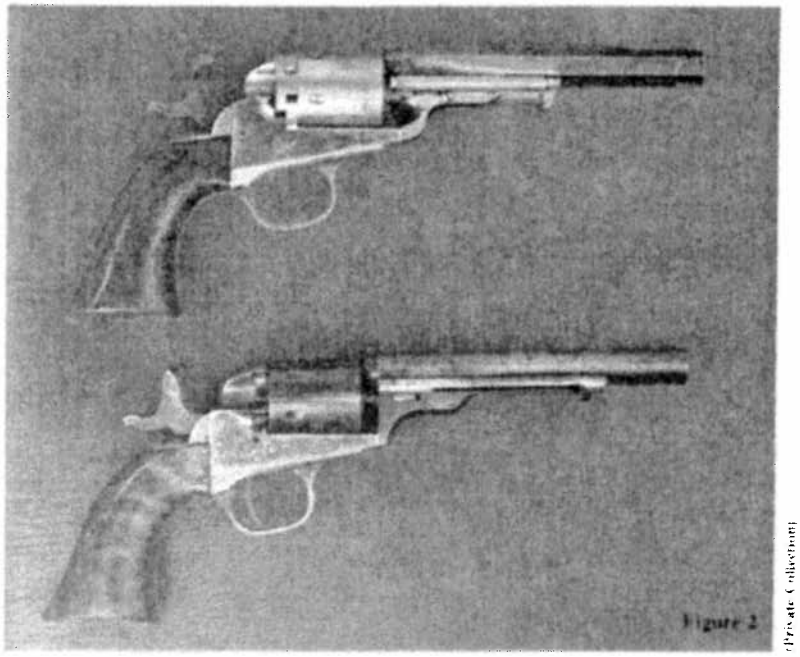
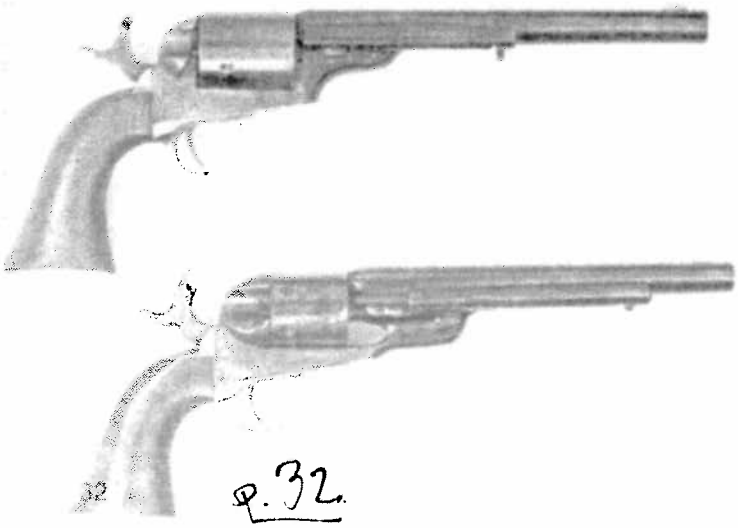


Figure 2

(Private Collection)

Man at Arms, Nov. Dec. 1979 Figure 3



(Private Collection)

Text of caption for Figure 4, p. 33, *Man at Arms* magazine, November/December 1979:

Figure 4 – Selected pieces from the John B. Solley III collection, inherited by his widow, Fern, in 1979. Easly recognized are many of the finest antique firearms known to collectors, each of museum quality and rarity. For background details, see *Man At Arms*, Volume II, issue No. 1.

Page 50
Jan Feb 1980
Man at Arms
A Matter of Provenance"
R.L. Wilson

Horse's
even a
ned and
s over-
nlights!
d be on
lorida
ing the
erefore
him in
lection
period
times,
raham

basic
persons
buy, or
or rust
intent
ook —
atter of
Colt he
nce, he
uarded

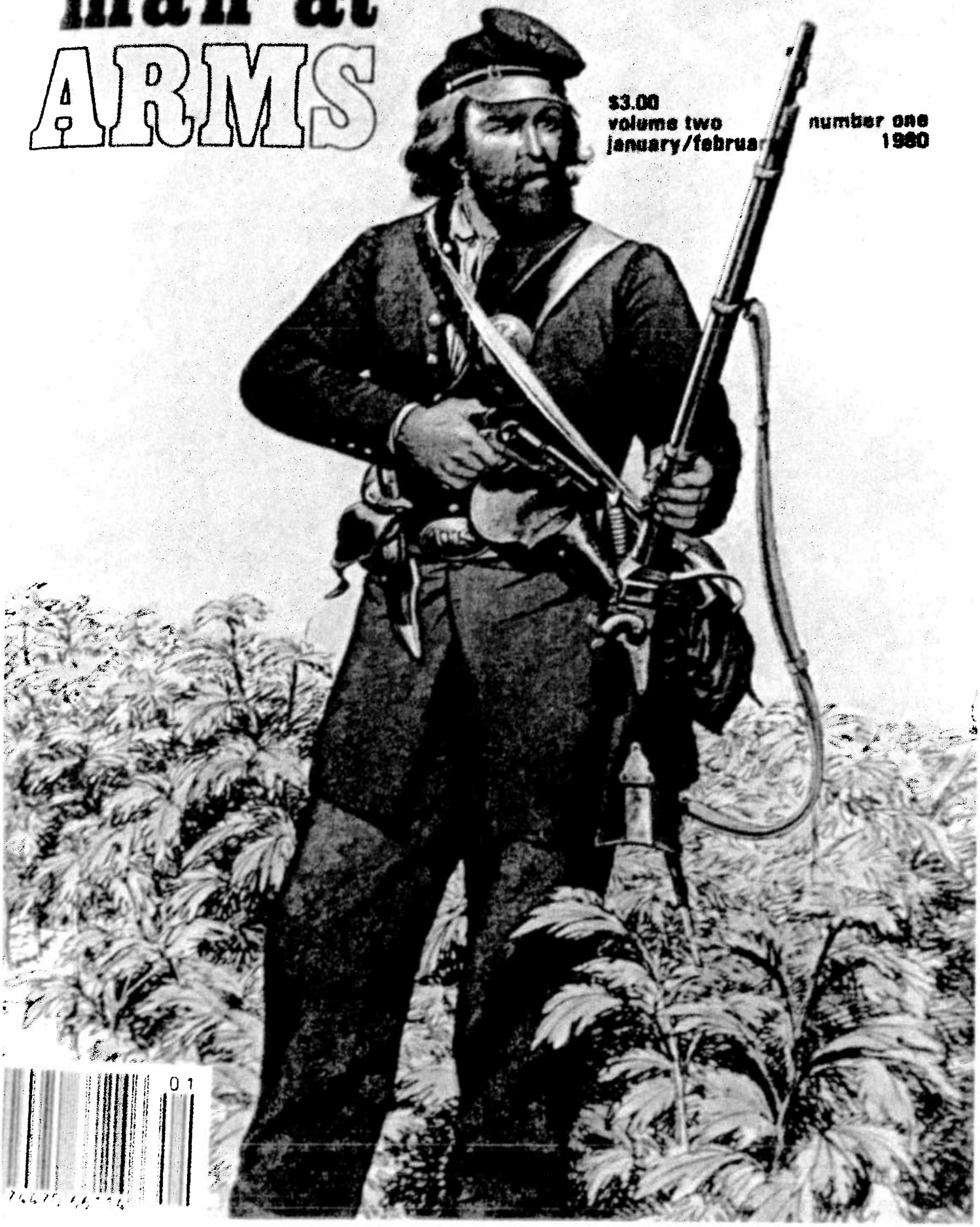
activity
a brain
, 1978.
ed and
57, and
he will

(G. Allan Brown photograph)

Key to centerfold picture in *Man At Arms*, November/December 1979: Sampling of some of the more exotic items in the Solley collection: on couch next to Fern are the cased pair of No. 2 Smith & Wesson revolvers presented by J.B. Sutherland to General George Armstrong Custer, and *the* matched pair of Texas Paterson pistols (see *Man At Arms* May/June 1979); being held is a magnificent Bertrand Piraube flintlock pistol presented to King Charles XI of Sweden (dated 1676). Leaning on the armrest is Annie Oakley's L.C. Smith shotgun No. 44937; at lower right, *the* cased Walker revolver No. 1022; at center with ivory stocks the pair of Remington Rolling Block Model 1866 pistols presented by the factory to King Alphonso of Spain. At lower center the unique cased Colt set presented by Colonel Colt to H.A.G. Pomeroy, architect/engineer of Colt's mansion Armsmear. The ivory stock Winchester is the famous Emperor Maximilian Model 1866 carbine No. 21921. At left center *the* serial No. 1 Colt pre-Paterson revolver (see *Man At Arms*, March/April 1979); and at upper left *the* Van Syckel Colt Second Model Dragoons, undoubtedly the most exotic custom set of Colt Dragoon revolvers ever produced.

man at ARMS

$3.00
volume two
january/februar
number one
1980



Office of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company
New Haven Conn. February 10th 1891

B. L. Lawrence, Esq
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir

The "Imming's" gun came to hand this morning and it is a connecting link in the history of our gun. I should like to keep it in my collection and for this reason will accept your proposition, and give you one of our best sporting guns for it. Will leave the selection with you when you are here again or I will send it to you. If you have a few of the balls used in that gun I should be pleased to have them

Yours truly
O F Winchester
President Winchester Rep. Arms Co

Arms collecting is often a father-son adventure, instilling an appreciation of history, mechanics, art, craftsmanship, and adventure. Author and son Peter with a One of One Thousand and the Henry Brown presentation Model 1873 which was used by the Kansas marshal in a bank holdup.

This letter evidences Oliver F. Winchester's pursuit of a Jennings rifle for his burgeoning arms collection, which was the nucleus of the Winchester Arms Museum. In the mid 1970s, the museum's collection was transferred by the Olin Corporation to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, to which it was formally presented in 1989.

Highlights from the John B. Solley III collection, photographed accompanying his widow Fern. Mr. Solley, an heir to the Lilly pharmaceutical fortune, specialized in the finest nineteenth-century American firearms. Note the fabled "ivory-stocked Winchester" Model 1866, of Mexican President Porfirio Diaz, in foreground. The Solley Winchesters were a special favorite, and one of the strong suits in his extraordinary collection.

R. L. Wilson, Winchester An American Legend, 1991

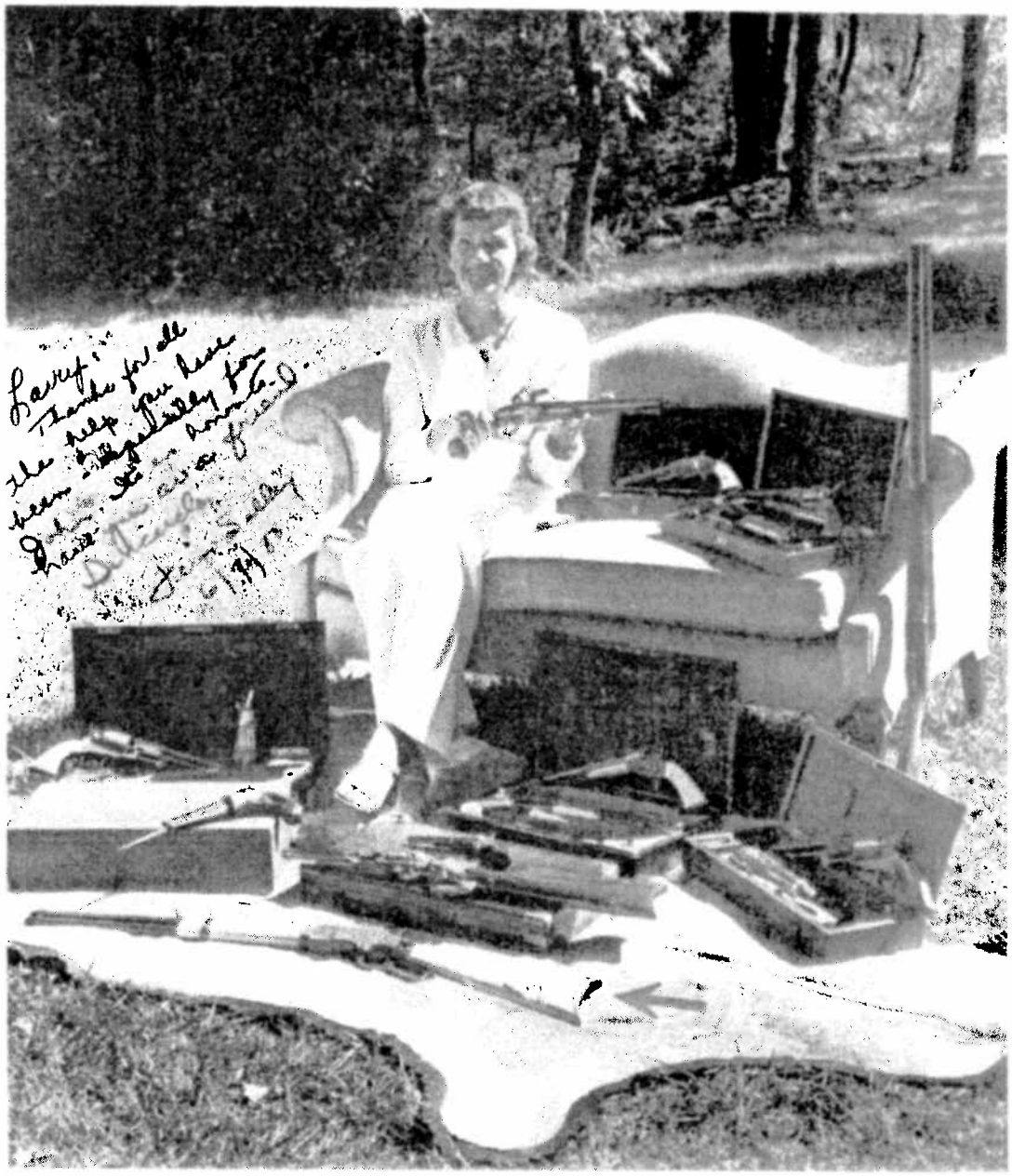
ably somewhere between 15,000 and 20,000. There is an extraordinary amount of collecting activity, with hundreds of gun shows held annually in the United States, several catalogues by various dealers, advertisements in such journals as *Shotgun News*, *Gun List*, *Man at Arms*, and *The American Rifleman*, and active organizations like the Winchester Club of America and the Winchester Collectors Association, in addition to private contracts among friends and acquaintances.

Sales figures certainly reach—in antique and modern Winchesters—more than $250 million annually, and the current record auction price for a modern American firearm is held by a Winchester Model 70—the superb "The Leopard," pictured on page 316. It was custom-built by the David Miller Company and was sold in 1986 for $201,000.

By any measure the Winchester field is big. Total production of collectible firearms (excluding machine guns, which are federally restricted and were often scrapped) is upward of 20 million, with the number of models in excess of 250. The range is so vast that only a few collectors can try to be complete. A couple from California are among such enthusiasts—their collection has over 5,000 objects, including firearms and memorabilia, in a grouping which rivals the Winchester Arms Museum!

Because of the high value of many examples and the sheer numbers of arms involved, most collectors specialize in specific types, models, and variations. Their choices are based on a combination of particular likes and available funds. Thus, a sportsman is more likely to pursue bird or other game guns, while the more academically oriented collector may concentrate on variations of the lever-actions, single-shot rifles, or even memorabilia. Cartridge boards, for example, have attracted a devoted following.

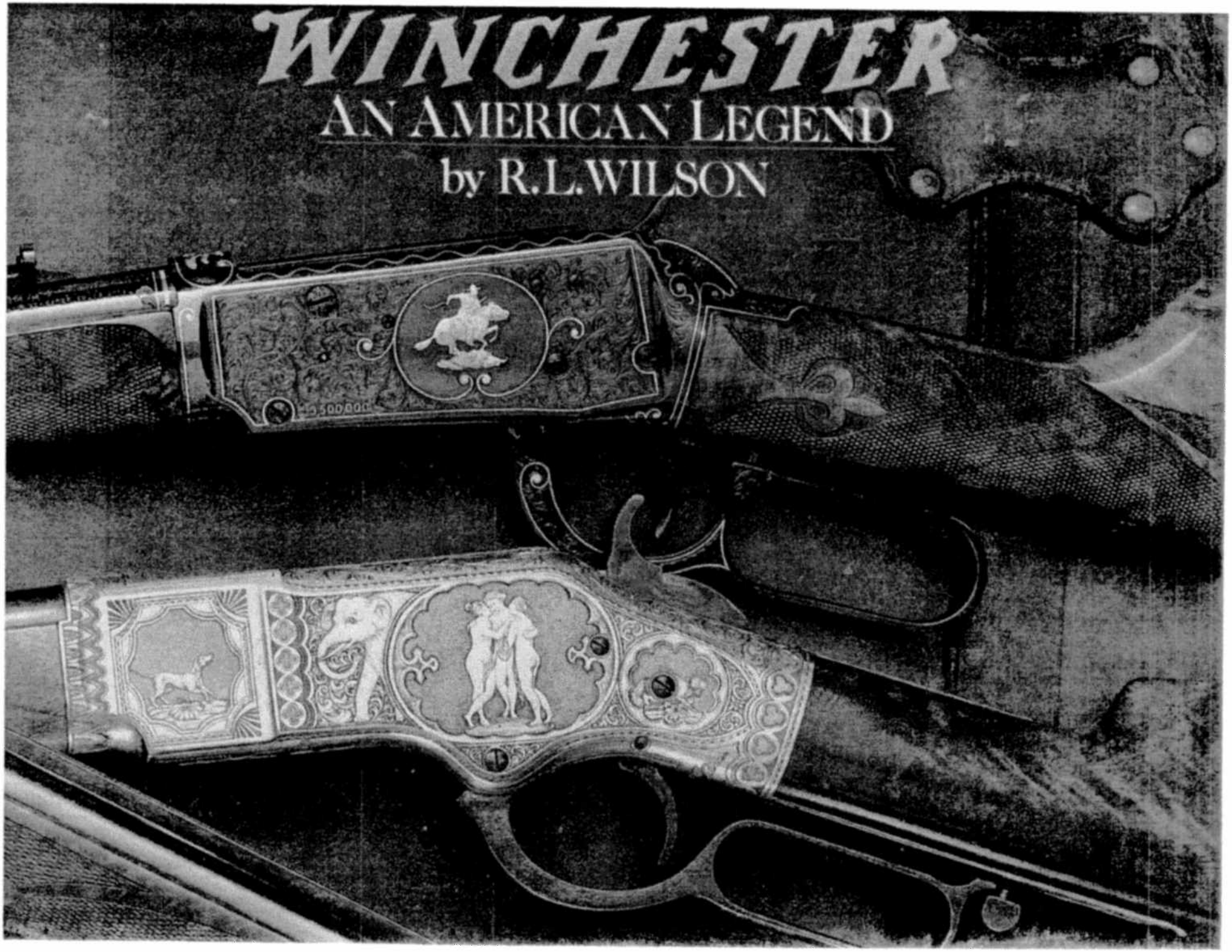
Often the well-heeled collector will seek embel-

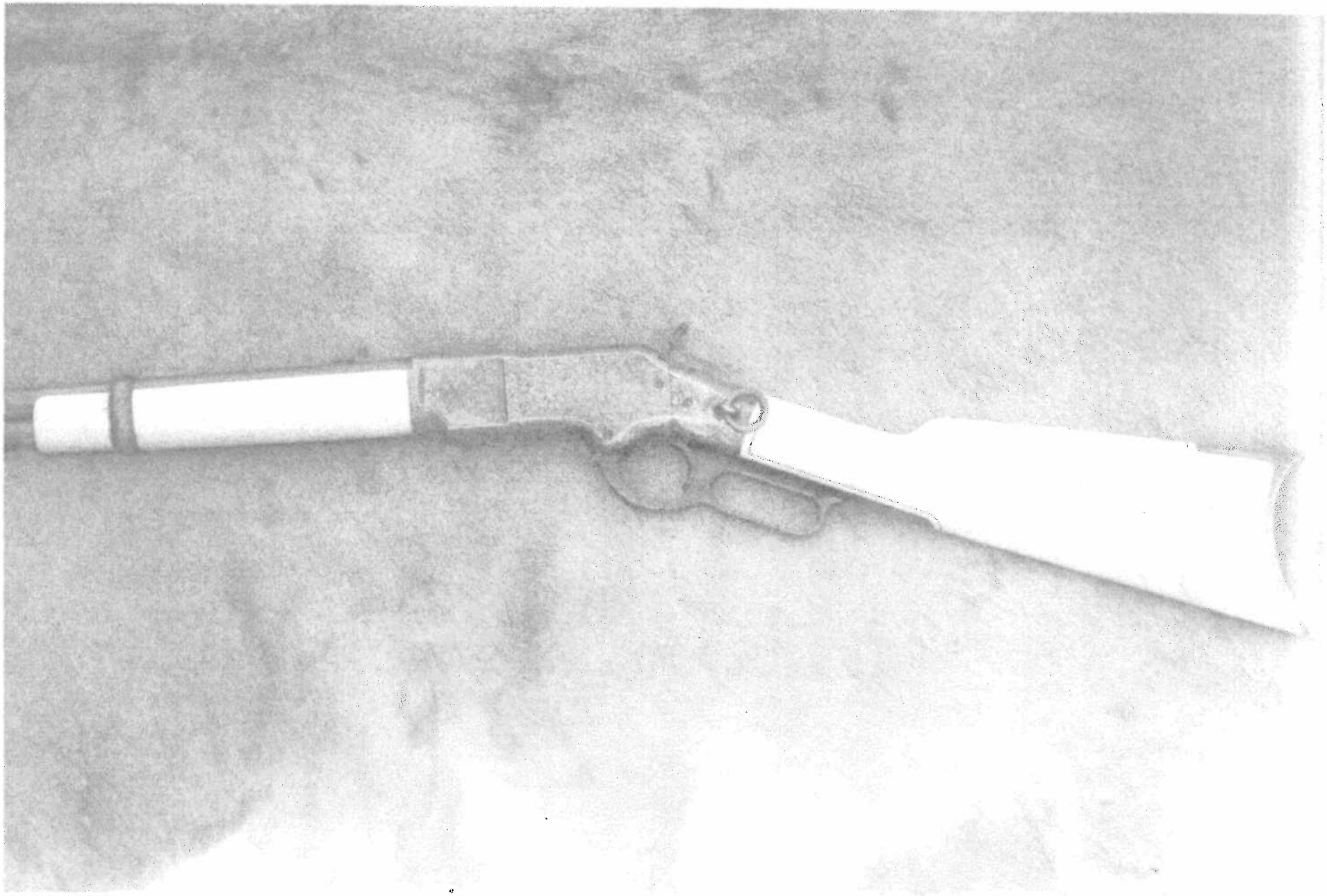


WINCHESTER

AN AMERICAN LEGEND

by R. L. WILSON



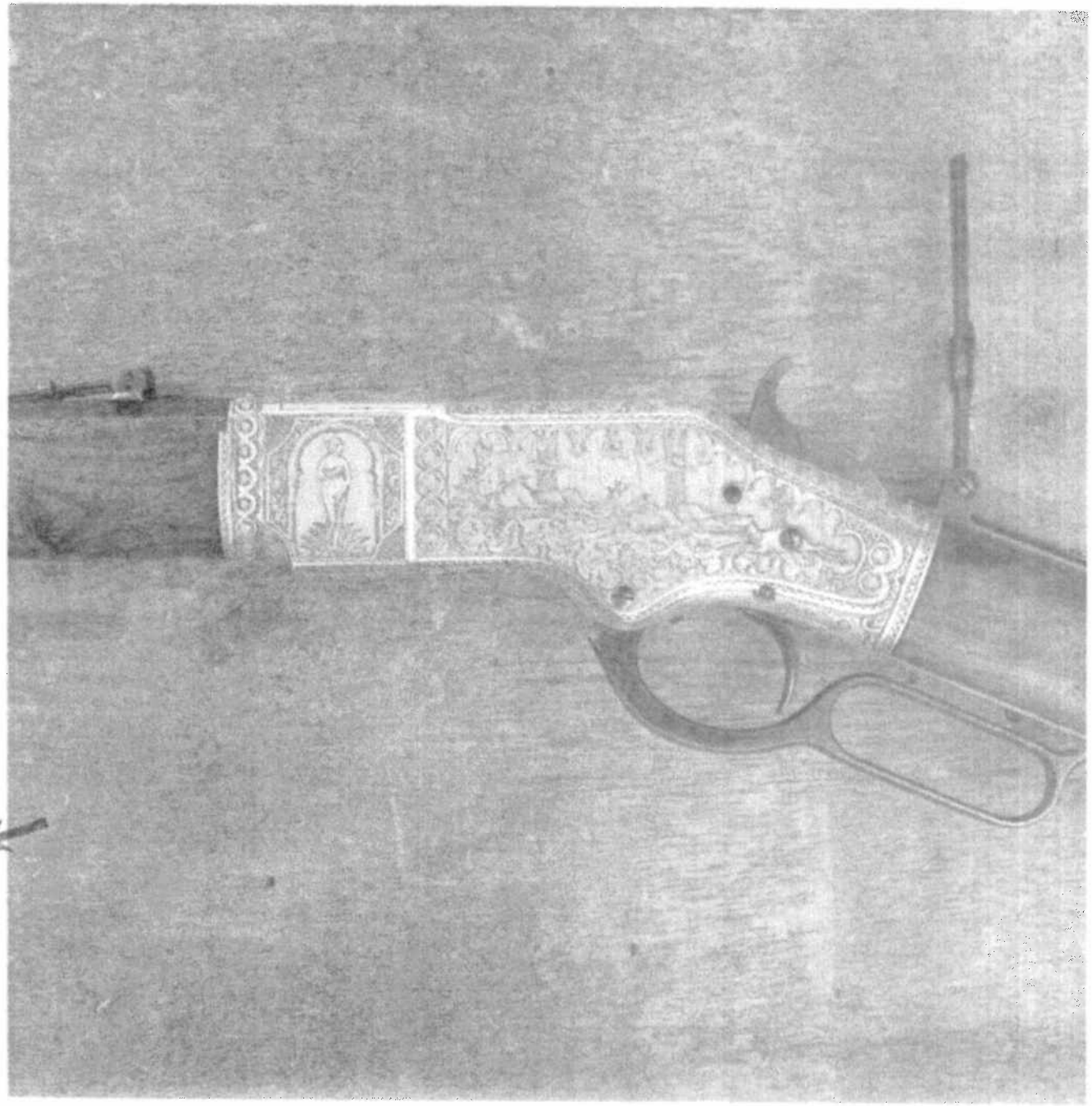


R. L. Wilson, Winchester: An American Legend, 1991

...rt of this trapper's 1866 carbine has Indian-style tack ...tions. Contemporary photograph by J. F. Rowe of Por-... Prairie, Manitoba, Canada.

...the private arms collection of Mexican President Porfirio ... Model 1866 number 21921 boasts a Mexican eagle carved ...d on the ivory stock. Ivory-stocked longarms rank high in ...n firearms rarities. So rare is the Díaz carbine that it is ...n to collectors as *the* ivory stocked Winchester.

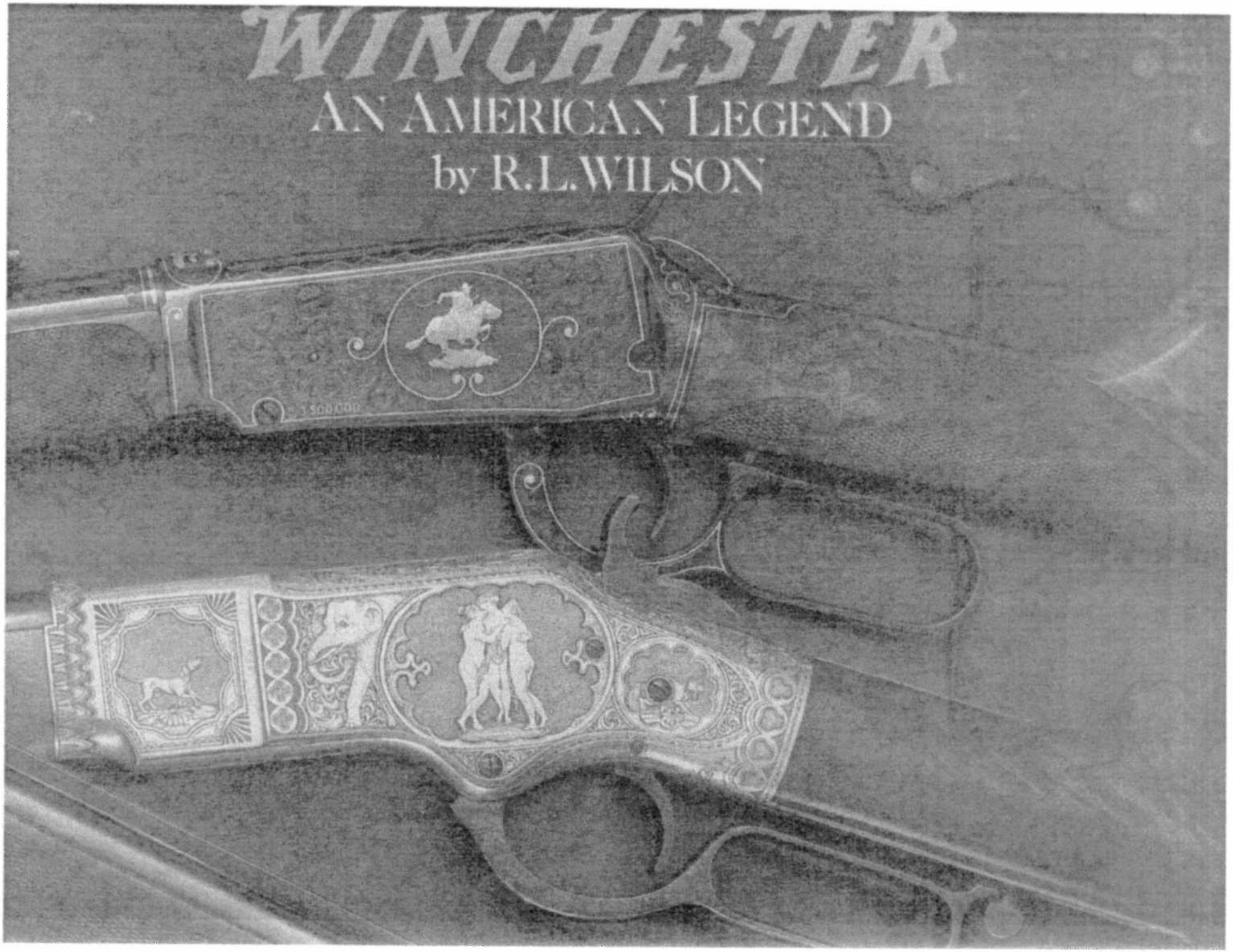
...al Victorian decorative motifs with running deer and a ...le nude grace this C. F. Ulrich–engraved show gun. ...s were seldom decorated on the Model 1866, and the ...ck and silver band inlays on this specimen are added ...tions of exclusivity.



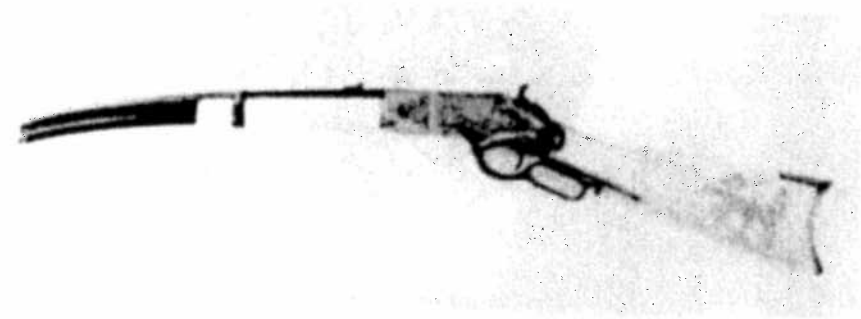
WINCHESTER

AN AMERICAN LEGEND

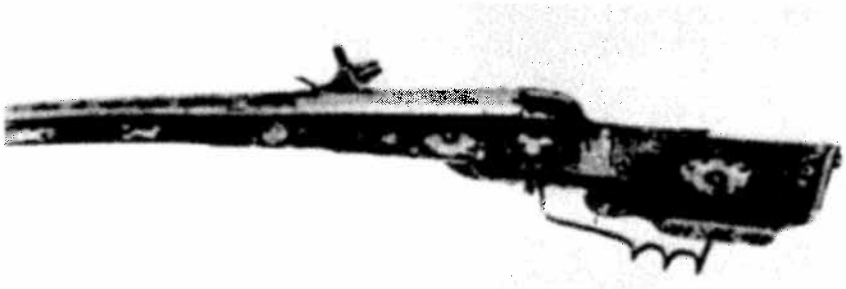
by R. L. WILSON



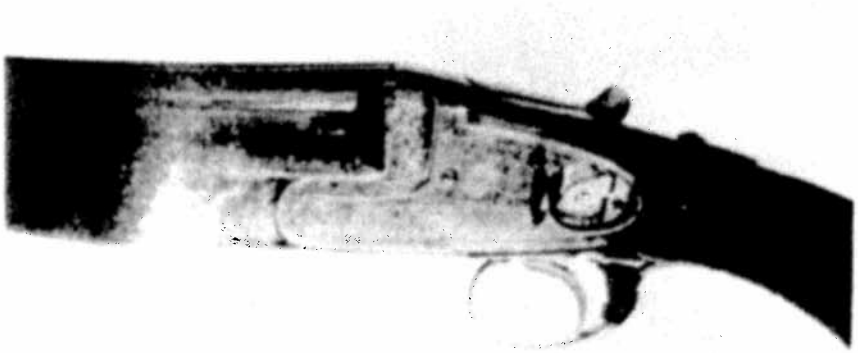
One of a pair of Silesian flintlock holster pistols, *circa* 1680, 19in
London £2,200($3,960). 18.V.76



An ivory-stocked Winchester model 1866 lever-action carbine, *circa* 1869, barrel 20in
Los Angeles $30,000(£16,666). 7.III.76. From the collection of Walter B. Ford III. Formerly in the collections of William Locke and Richard Mellon

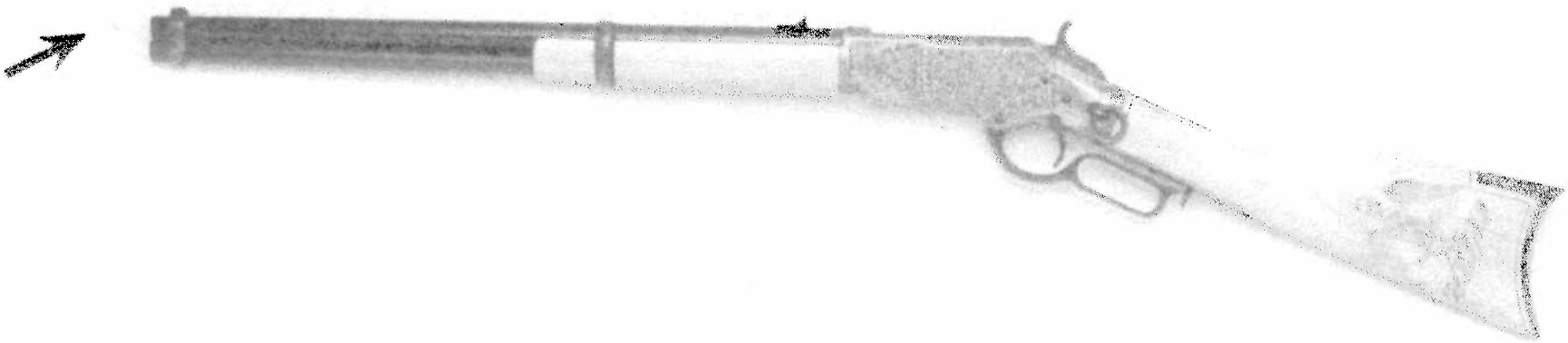


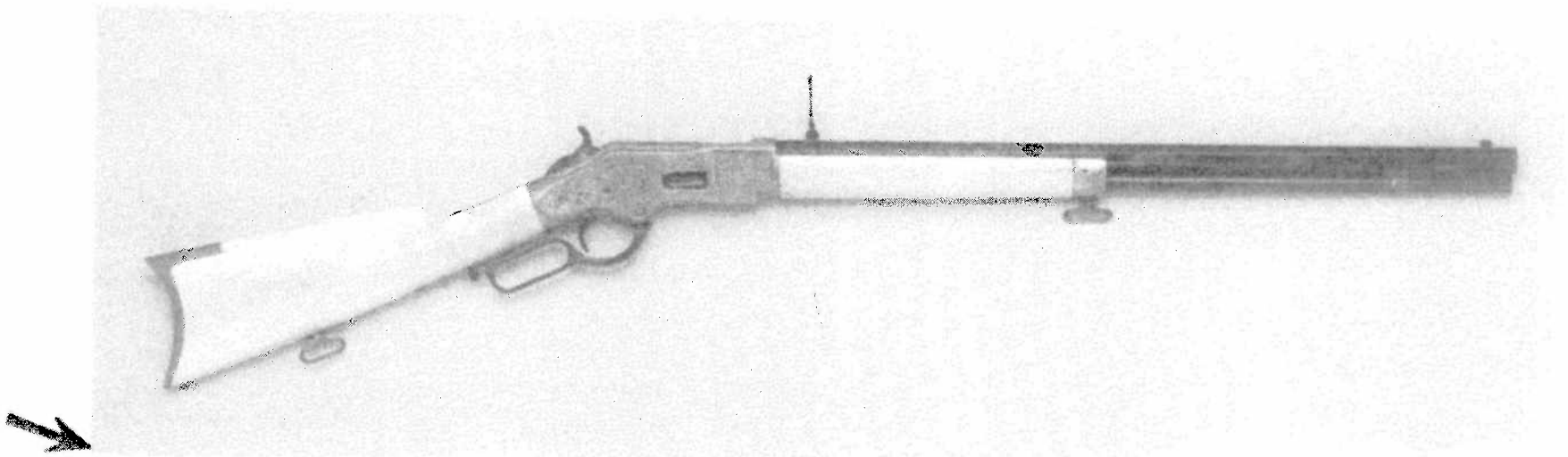
A German wheel-lock hunting rifle, *circa* 1600, 45½in
London £2,574($5,148). 14.X.75



One of a pair of 12-bore double-barrelled over and under sporting guns by Westley Richards, serial nos. 18235/18236, length 45⅛in
London £5,600($10,080). 15.VI.76

From Sotheby's Annual Report of Sales
W. Buhl Ford III





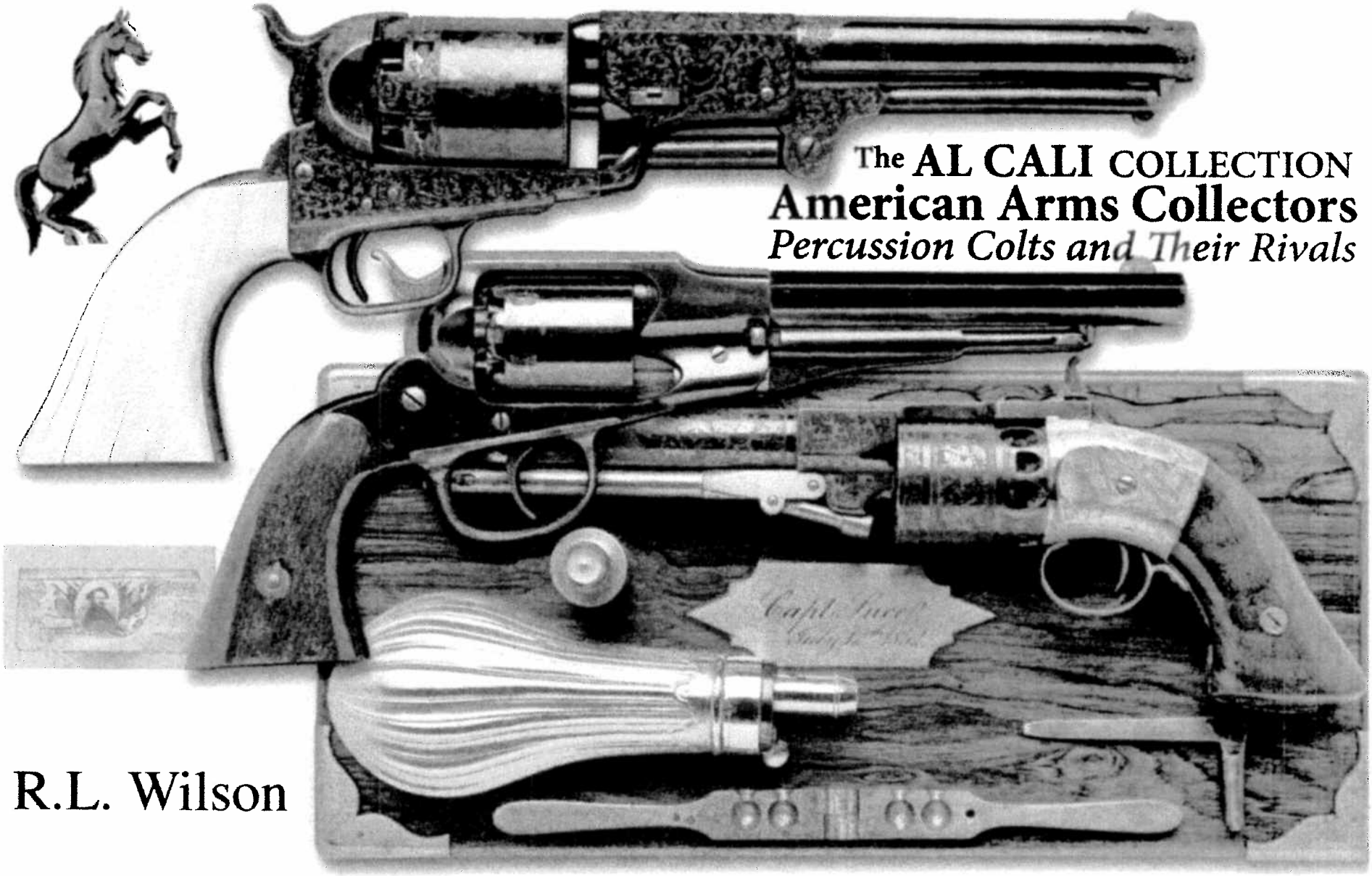
The Porfirio Díaz ivory-stock Model 1866, no. 21921, with Mexican eagle carved in butt; engraving attributed to Nimschke shop. A classic in American antique arms.

Only recently discovered, ivory-stock Model 1866 rifle, no. 83904, engraved by Nimschke on frame and hammer; built for client south of the border. J.A.P. on right side of frame, initials of Juan Antonio Pezet, president of Peru. Gold-plated hammer (rare engraved), frame, and lever; blued barrel and tube, remaining parts silver-plated. Carving on left side of stock polished off; appears to have been initials.

Model 1866, serial no. 103675, a signed work of C. F. Ulrich, has no less than ten sculpted game scenes, barrel inscription GREGORIO ROZAS PHILADA PA SEPT 1876, gold-plated frame, buttplate, and forend, and was probably displayed by the factory at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. Rare C. F. Ulrich business card, silver-plaque inlaid John Ulrich engraving handle, engraving tools, and rare copy of Ormsby's book on banknote engraving, inscribed by author to Colonel Samuel Colt.

R. I. Wilson Stand Co. ... 1995

Mrs. John B. Solley surrounded by treasures from her husband's distinguished collection. She holds a Piraube flintlock pistol, presently in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, on the couch the cased pair of Lt. Colonel George A. Custer Smith & Wesson No. 2 revolvers, along with the cased William H. Seward pair of Texas Paterson Colt revolvers, the shotgun Annie Oakley's finest L.C. Smith, her signature gold inlaid on triggerguard. At bottom right, the cased Walker Colt, next a pair of gold and silver inlaid Remington Model 1866 Rolling Block pistols, presented by the factory to King Alfonso XII of Spain, deluxe shoulder-stocked Colt Model 1851 Navy and Model 1855 Pocket gift from Colonel Colt to H.A.G. Pomeroy, in brassbound rosewood case. At left, the Van Syckel Colt Second Model Dragoon custom cased set, with Serial No. 1 Pre-Paterson Colt revolver with bayonet on barrel lug. The Winchester in foreground the "Ivory Stock" Model 1866, attributed to ownership by Porfirio Diaz. Solley was able to put together his amazing collection in a period of about five years.

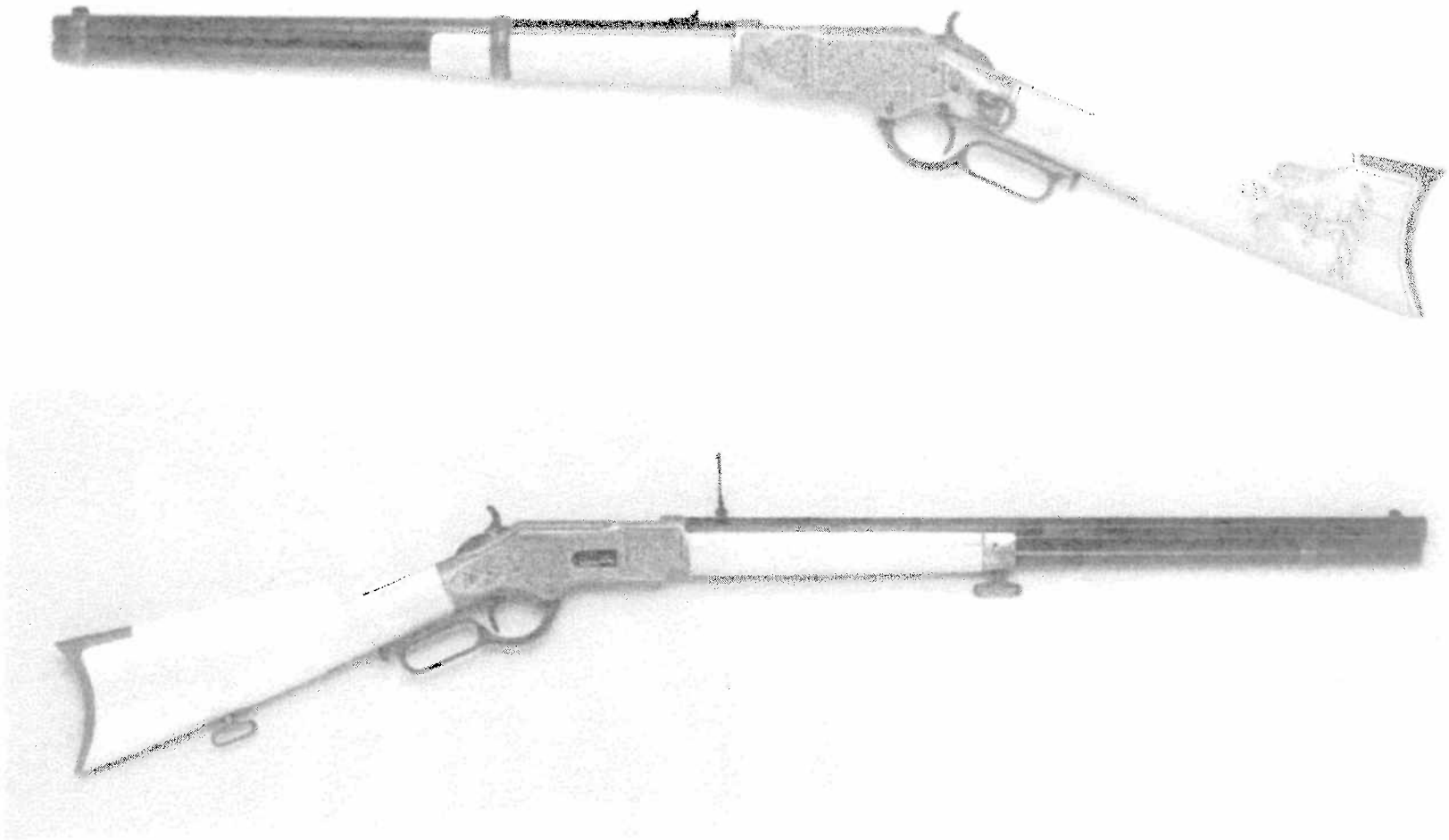


The AL CALI COLLECTION
American Arms Collectors
Percussion Colts and Their Rivals

R.L. Wilson

2009

American Arms Collectors
Percussion Colts and Their Rivals
THE AL CALI COLLECTION
R.L. Wilson
American Arms Collectors
Percussion Colts and Their Rivals
The AL CALI COLLECTION
by R.L. Wilson



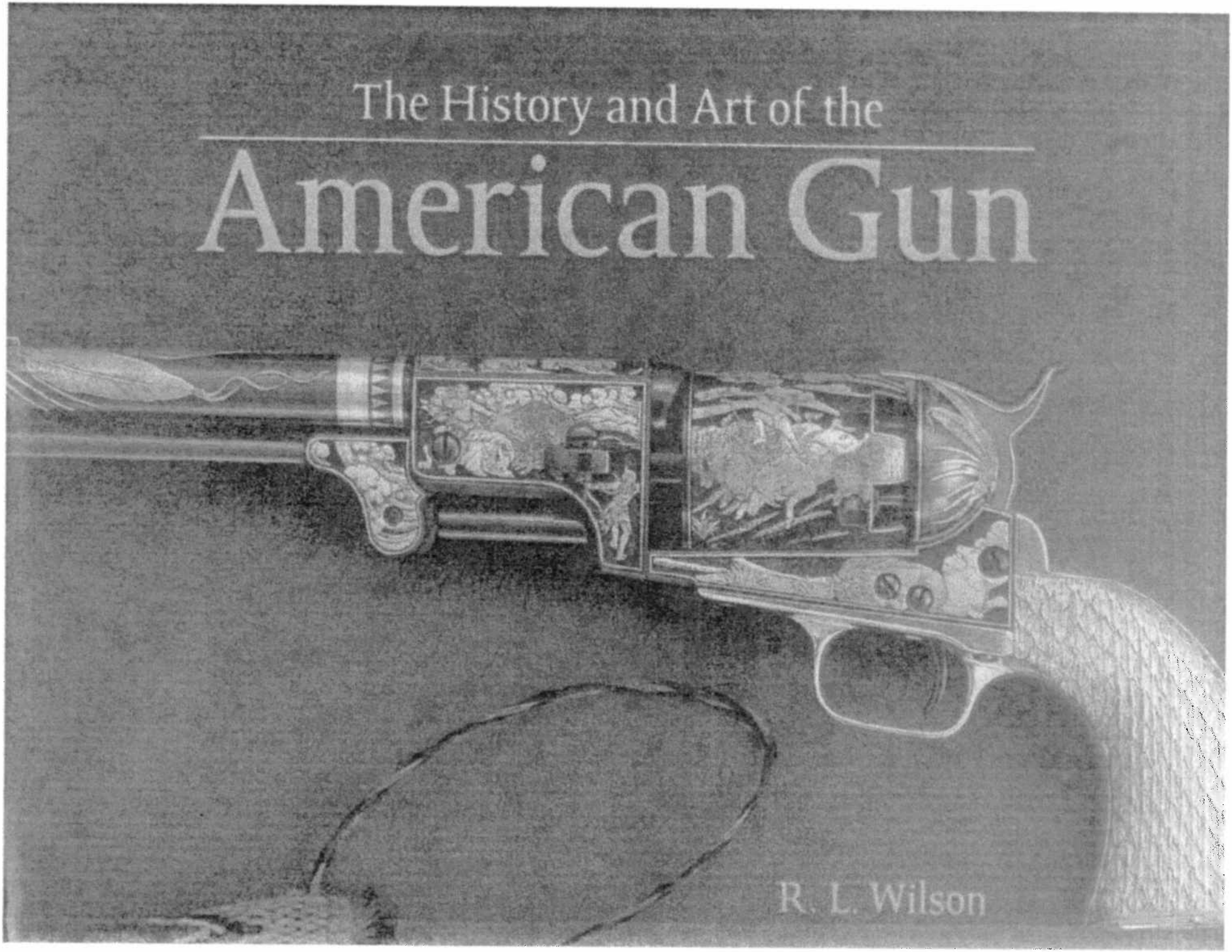
The Porfirio Diaz ivory-stock Model 1866, no. 21921, with Mexican eagle carved in butt; engraving attributed to Nimschke shop. A classic in American antique arms.

Only recently discovered, ivory-stock Model 1866 rifle, no. 83904, engraved by Nimschke on frame and hammer; built for client south of the border, J.A.P. on right side of frame, initials of Juan Antonio Pezet, president of Peru. Gold-plated hammer (rare engraved), frame, and lever; blued barrel and tube, remaining parts silver-plated. Carving on left side of stock polished off; appears to have been initials.

Model 1866, serial no. 103675, a signed work of C. F. Ulrich, has no less than ten sculpted game scenes, barrel inscription GREGORIO ROZAS PHILADA PA SEPT 1876, gold-plated frame, buttplate, and forend, and was probably displayed by the factory at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. Rare C. F. Ulrich business card, silver-plaque inlaid John Ulrich engraving handle, engraving tools, and rare copy of Ormsby's book on banknote engraving, inscribed by author to Colonel Samuel Colt.

R.L. Wilson The History and Art of the American Gun 2015.

The History and Art of the American Gun



R. L. Wilson

U.S.A.

February 2nd 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

I became aware of the Ivory Stocked Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, serial no. 21921, when I first saw it in the *Antique Arms Annual*. It was Love at First Sight. The *Annual* was published in 1971 by the Texas Gun Collectors Association. I was and continue to be a Life Member. At that time the Ivory Stocked Carbine was in the Richard Prosser Mellon Collection, and was pictured in an advertisement in the *Annual* of Herb Glass.

The Ivory Stocked Winchester was then known as "The Emperor Maximilian Carbine." Maximilian was the Emperor of Mexico, having been appointed to that position by the French Emperor Napoleon III. Maximilian's reign was relatively brief, and he was executed June 19, 1867.

I often thought of acquiring the Ivory Stocked Winchester for my personal arms collection. At that point I already had fine examples of a Winchester Model 1873, "One of One Thousand," (serial no. 7280). Also my collection had a Winchester Model 1876, "One of One Hundred" (serial no. 818). Plus some very fine Colts and Bowie Knives.

Following the death of Lilly Pharmaceutical heir John B. Solley III, in 1978, I had the opportunity a few months later

to purchase the Ivory Stocked Winchester from the Solley estate. To say the least - I was elated!

I learned that the previous owners were Mexican President Porfirio Diaz - a keen arms collector, and other gun collector devotees - William M. Locke, Richard Prosser Mellon, and W. Buhl Ford III, Buhl was a great grandson of Henry Ford and enjoyed particularly guns of the West, and great and historic Colts and Winchesters, and pieces by other coveted makers.

On the other hand, John B. Solley III wanted to acquire the "creme de la creme," and sought both history and outstanding condition. Like Bill Locke, Dick Mellon and Buhl Ford - all of these gentlemen regarded the Ivory Stock as one of the greatest of all American firearms treasures - worthy of the finest historical or art museum, anywhere on earth.

A short time later, a gentleman hearing of my having acquired the Ivory Stock, sent me - out of the blue - the exact copy of the Parke-Bernet Auction Catalog of April 21 and 22, 1944, which had been used by William M. Locke at the sale. Next to the listing of the Ivory Stocked Winchester 1866 were hand-written notations by William M. Locke, the successful bidder at $425.00. His notes noted that the carbine was assumed to be of English manufacture - evidently since the barrel said "King's Patent." Even then the leading American arms collector,

Locke felt very fortunate to have bought this immensely rare and beautiful work of art and history, for such a reasonable sum.

Months later, I had the good fortune to be talking to my friend Herb Houze. He informed me that photographs of the Carbine were in The Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Mr. Walter Douglas (instrumental in building the railroads in Mexico) purchased the collection of President Diaz, from his heirs. The Ivory Stocked Winchester 1866 was one of the guns in that distinguished collection.

Douglas gave or sold a number of the guns to James W. Flanagan, an associate, who in turn consigned several pieces to Parke-Bernet Galleries in New York City. The Ivory Stocked Winchester 1866 Carbine, serial number 21921, was in that group.

Over the years I displayed the Carbine at various arms collector shows. It was always a pleasure for me to see the interest club members and the public showed in seeing the Carbine. I have always felt the Carbine belonged first to the Emperor Maximilian, and then made its way into the hands of the keen collector and shooter, Porfirio Diaz.

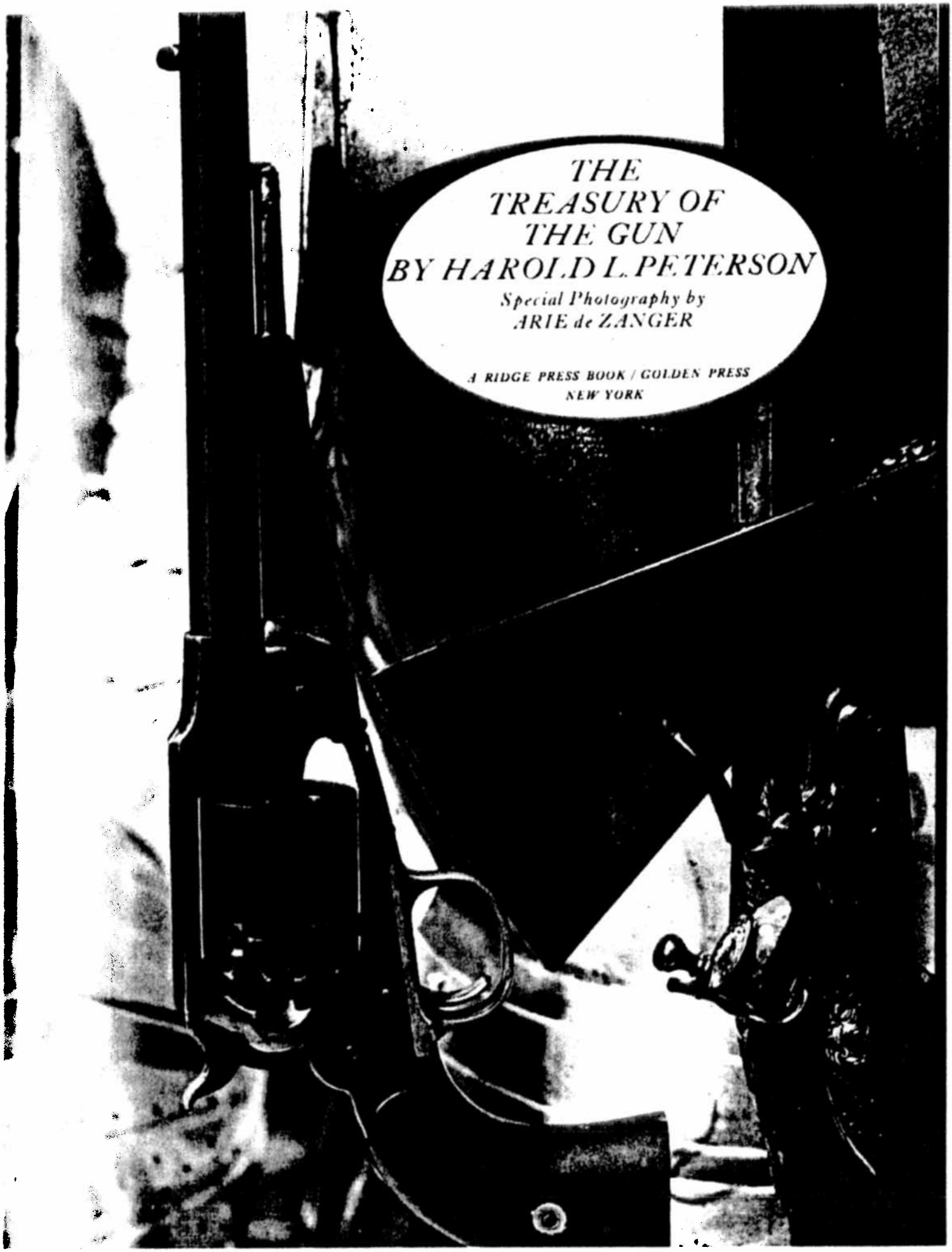
Eventually I sold the Ivory Stocked Winchester Model 1866 Carbine, no. 21921 to Steve Noyes, of North

Chatham, Mass. He had many collecting interests and also greatly admired the Carbine for years - as had I.

This extraordinary artifact of Mexican and U.S. history is a national treasure, and I now wish that I'd never sold it.

Congratulations to whoever is the successful bidder in the forthcoming sale. Whatever the cost - The Ivory Stock *is worth every penny*.

Scanned copy of original signed copy
of the portrait photo of Mrs. John B. Solley III
and selections from her husband's unique arms
collection.

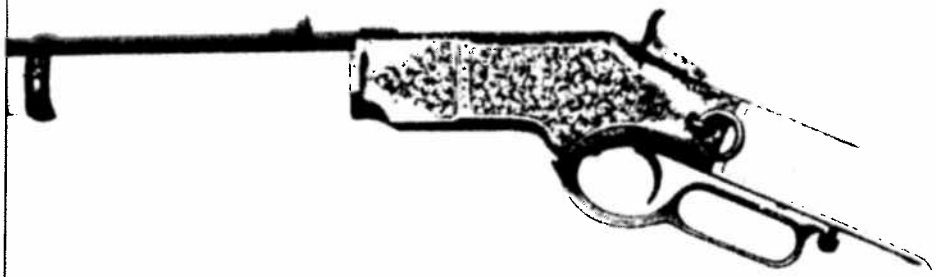


THE TREASURY OF THE GUN

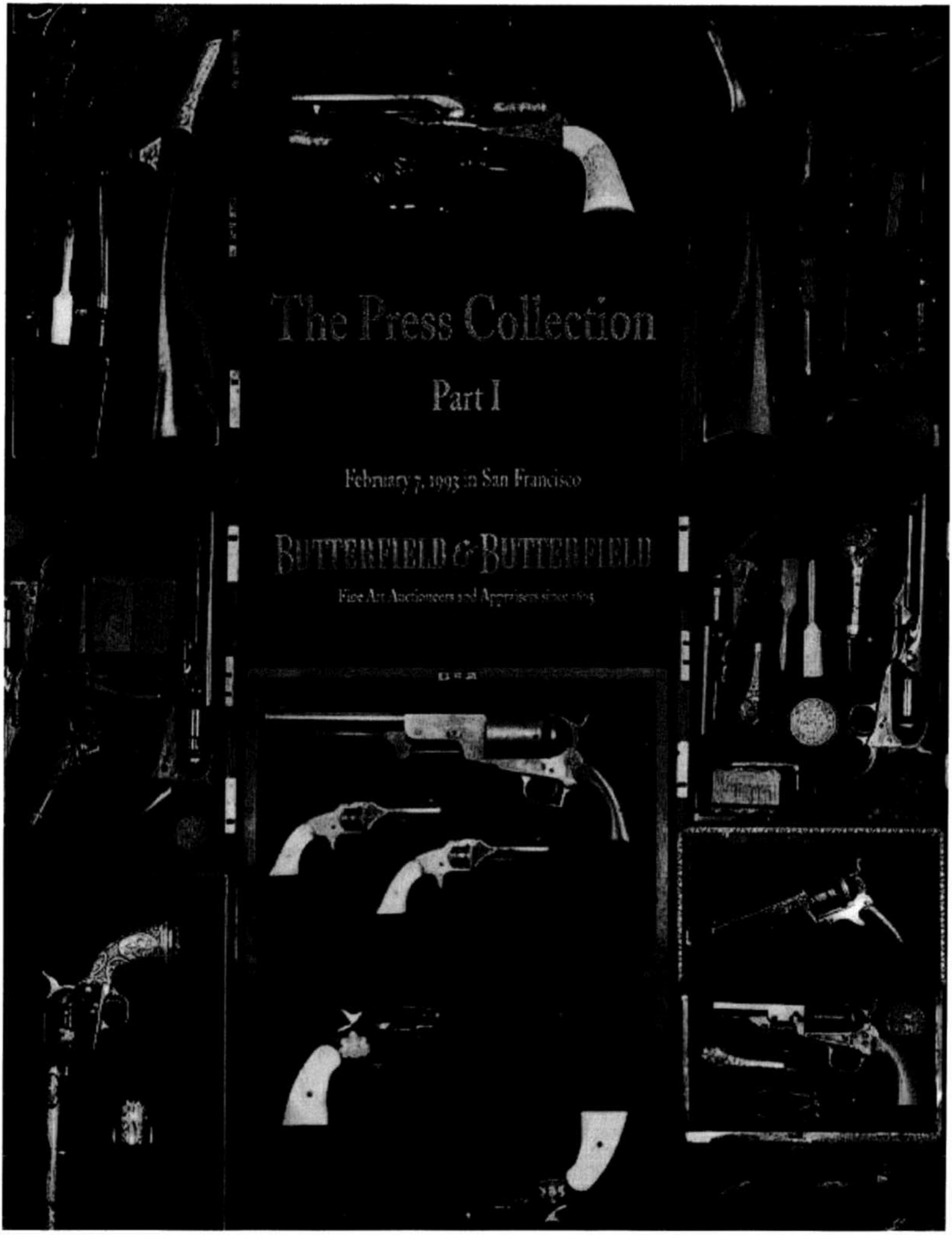
BY HAROLD L. PETERSON

Special Photography by
ARIE de ZANGER

A RIDGE PRESS BOOK / GOLDEN PRESS
NEW YORK



Ornate Henry rifle (above) with engraved, silver-plated frame and carved ivory stock was made for Emperor Maximilian of Mexico. The cattlemen in Frederic Remington's "Fight for the Water Hole" (below) are firing Winchester rifles.



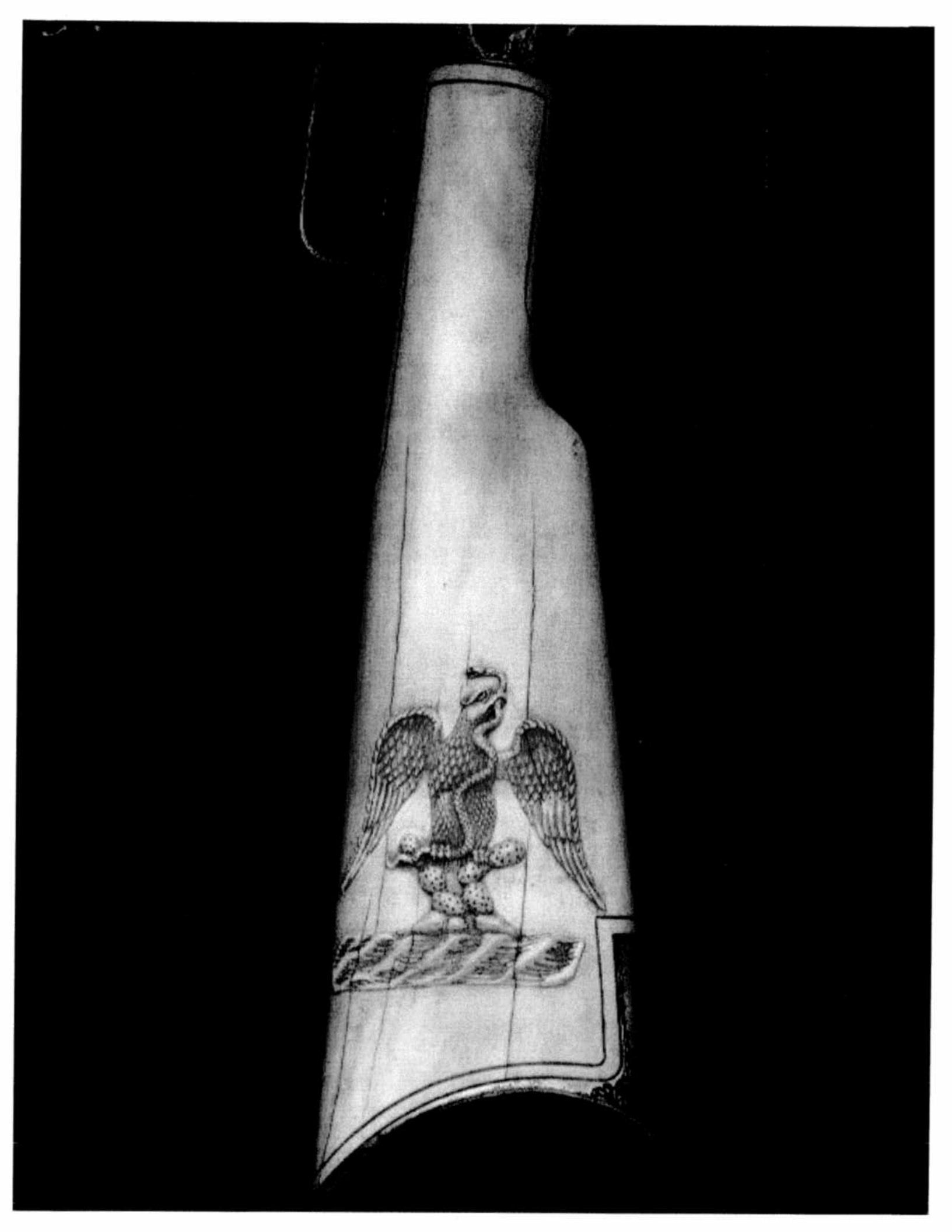
The Press Collection

Part I

February 7, 1993 in San Francisco

BUTTERFIELD & BUTTERFIELD

Fine Art Auctioneers and Appraisers since 1865



P R E S E N T E

Yesterday with support staff Museography MNH showcase opened to review the Winchester rifle inventory number 10-235555, with the inscription: NEW HAVER CT, General MIÑON, AL EXMO SR MIRAMON GRAL. As a result I note the following:

Piece acquired by purchase: May 1934, after consulting.
Cost: $ 200.00 pesos.
Responsible: Antonio Cortés, Collection of Arms, National Museum of Archaeology, History and Ethnography.

The part corresponding to the characteristics of the marked seasonality:
Number: 46002 (1870)
Other brands: Ivory loss which can read inside: "CVA"
Cylinder head: 35cm. With circle to mark owner and Fund reserve.
Save Mount and charging handle
Metal box engraved with foliations, original tone traces of gilding.
Hammer
Rise
Loading window
Canyon: 49 cm
Double clamp: the first recorded design with foliations, the second smooth function with focus.
tubular magazine
Total length: 104 cm.

Nothing else at the moment, Yours faithfully.

From: Salvador Rueda [mailto:salvadorrueda@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 7:20 PM
To: Wes Dillon
Cc: thalia montes; erandi rubio
Subject: FW: Thalía Montes Recinas. Por Winchester

Estimado Señor Wes Dillon:
Adjunto le envío a Usted los datos de la carabina Winchester que resguarda este Museo Nacional de Historia. La ficha fue elaborada por la historiadora Thalía Montes, curadora de tecnología y armas de este Museo. Como verá, tiene el número que Usted estaba buscando. Por favor, indíqueme Usted si necesita alguna otra información.
Le mando un cordial saludo
SRueda

Date: Tue, 16 Feb 2016 21:44:59 +0000
From: tarecinas@yahoo.com.mx
To: salvadorrueda@hotmail.com; salvador_rueda@inah.gob.mx; erandi_rubio@inah.gob.mx
Subject: Thalía Montes Recinas. Por Winchester

Salvador:
Envío reporte de Carabina Winchester 10-235555.
Saludos

Thalía Montes Recinas
Área de Investigación
Museo Nacional de Historia. Castillo de Chapultepec
Tel. 4040 5236

Wes Dillon

From: Salvador Rueda <salvadorrueda@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 7:20 PM
To: Wes Dillon
Cc: thalia montes; erandi rubio
Subject: FW: Thalía Montes Recinas. Por Winchester
Attachments: Carabina 10-235555. Revisión física TMR.docx

Estimado Señor Wes Dillon:
Adjunto le envío a Usted los datos de la carabina Winchester que resguarda este Museo Nacional de Historia. La ficha fue elaborada por la historiadora Thalía Montes, curadora de tecnología y armas de este Museo. Como verá, tiene el número que Usted estaba buscando. Por favor, indíqueme Usted si necesita alguna otra información.
Le mando un cordial saludo
SRueda

Date: Tue, 16 Feb 2016 21:44:59 +0000
From: tarecinas@yahoo.com.mx
To: salvadorrueda@hotmail.com; salvador_rueda@inah.gob.mx; erandi_rubio@inah.gob.mx
Subject: Thalía Montes Recinas. Por Winchester

Salvador:
Envío reporte de Carabina Winchester 10-235555.
Saludos

Thalía Montes Recinas
Área de Investigación
Museo Nacional de Historia. Castillo de Chapultepec
Tel. 4040 5236

Museo Nacional de Historia. Castillo de Chapultepec
16 de febrero de 2016

Área de Investigación
Curaduría de Tecnología y Armas

Hist. Salvador Rueda Smithers
Director del Museo Nacional de Historia
P R E S E N T E

El día de ayer con apoyo del personal de Museografía del MNH se abrió vitrina para revisar la carabina Winchester número de inventario 10-235555, con la inscripción: *NEW HAVER CT, EL GRAL MIÑON, AL EXMO SR GRAL MIRAMON*. Como resultado señalo lo siguiente:

Pieza adquirida por compra en: mayo de 1934, previo dictamen.
Costo: $200.00 pesos.
Responsable: Antonio Cortés, Colección de Armas, Museo Nacional de Arqueología, Historia y Etnografía.

La pieza corresponde con las características de la temporalidad señalada:
Número: 46002
Otras marcas: con pérdida de marfil la cual permite leer en interior: "CVA"
Culata: 35cm. Con circulo para marcar propietario y Caja de reserva.
Guarda monte y palanca de carga
Caja de metal, grabado con foliaciones, tono original restos de dorado.
Martillo
Alza
Ventana de carga
Cañón: 49 cm
Doble abrazadera: la primera grabada con diseño de foliaciones, la segunda lisa con la función de mira.
Cargador tubular
Longitud total: 104 cm.

Sin más por el momento, reciba un cordial saludo.

Thalía M. R.

Thalía Montes Recinas
Profesor-Investigador T-A

Reverso Translation in English

National museum of History. Chapultepec's castle on February 16, 2016

Area of Investigation(Research)
Guardianship of Technology and Weapon

Hist. Salvador Rueda Smithers
The director of the National Museum of History
P R And S And N T And

Yesterday with support of Museografía's personnel of the MNH opened showcase(store window) itself to check the carbine Winchester number of inventory 10-235555, with the inscription: NEW HAVER CT, THE GRAL RURAL POLICEMAN, TO THE EXMO MR. GRAL MIRAMON. As result I indicate the following thing:

Piece acquired by purchase in: May, 1934, previous opinion.
Cost: 200.00 $ weight.
Person in charge: Antonio Cortés, Collection of Weapon, National Museum of Archaeology, History