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July 30, 2003

To whom It May Concern:

AN EXTREME RARITY OF THE "INDIAN WARS:" A "BUFFALO SOLDIER'S" U.S. 9TH CAVALRY SHARPS 50/70 SADDLE CARBINE SERIAL No. 91828.

Absolutely genuine and in very good condition. Used in the Civil War. Converted in 1867-68 by the U.S. Arsenal from percussion to cartridge. Correctly and boldly stamped "CO. K 9 CAV" on the breech boss and stock and good cartouche. With a uniform soft gray-brown patina.

This carbine was formerly a part of the Charles G. Worman Collection (Co-Author of "Firearms of the American West," 1866-1894) and is pictured with Serial Number in Vol. II, Page 22.

It was used by the 9th Cavalry of black soldiers in Texas in the Mid-1870's. The survival rate is extremely low; only two genuine specimens are known to the Undersigned, an antique arms dealer, and this is the only one I've seen in fifty years.

Sincerely,

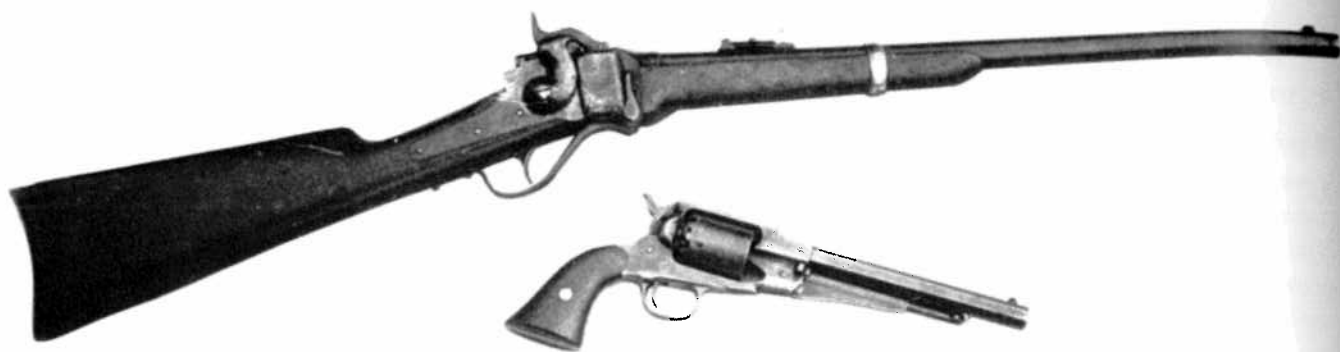
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Floyd R. Everhart". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

FLOYD R. EVERHART

July 30, 2003

Received of Mr. Tig Sogian payment full of \$11,750. for (1) Original antique U.S. Sharps 50/70 "Indian Wars" saddle corbin serial number 91828. This arm bears the genuine "Co. K 9 CAV." stampings on both the wood and metal. Pictured with serial number listed pa. 22 of "Firearms of the American West" Vol. II (1985) 1866-1894 by Louis A. Garavaglia & Charles A. Norman. It was issued to a black cavalryman of the U.S. Ninth Cavalry and used in Texas in the mid-1870s.

Floyd R. Everhart



Sharps .50-70 carbine (#91828) and .44 Remington New Model (#113680), each with Company K, Ninth Cavalry markings. Ordnance returns confirm use of these models by the Ninth Cavalry while serving in Texas in the mid-1870s.

were rim fire—with so much force that it exploded and the whole charge of powder blew out into his face. Fortunately he was wearing glasses and they saved his eyes, but the blood spurted from his face in streams. He did not have anything further to say, and left us to select our own guns. . . .³⁹

During the late 1860s Spencer rifles and carbines flooded onto the frontier, not only with the troops but also with the tide of civilian emigrants. And the role of the Spencer in the hands of soldiers was as dramatic as that of the 1866 Springfield. The most prominent engagement in which the Spencer played a decisive part occurred in 1868, when Brevet Colonel George

A. Forsyth, with Lieutenant Beecher and fifty frontiersmen, took up the trail of a large Sioux and Cheyenne war party north of Fort Wallace, Kansas. According to Forsyth:

Our equipment was simple: A blanket apiece, saddle and bridle, a lariat and picket pin, a canteen, a haversack, butcher knife, tin plate, tin cup, a Spencer repeating rifle . . . a Colt's revolver (army size) and a hundred and forty rounds of rifle and thirty rounds of pistol ammunition per man—this carried on the person.

The command also had three Springfield breechloaders and one or two Henrys, but it was the Spencer that was to prove decisive. In mid-September Forsyth's men became the hunted rather than the hunters; the Indians, led by Roman Nose and Pawnee Killer, turned on the small party, forcing it to "fort up" on a low island on the Arikara Fork of the Republican River. Only the Spencers' rapid fire broke up the Indian repeated charges, finally driving them off without the mortally wounded Roman Nose. When a relief column from the Tenth Cavalry reached the scene nine days later, the surviving scouts on the island—later named Beecher's Island—had been reduced to eating the flesh of their dead horses and pack mules, after liberally sprinkling it with gunpowder to mask the sickening flavor.⁴⁰

Later the same year Gen. Philip H. Sheridan inaugurated plans for a winter campaign against hostile Indians in what is now Oklahoma. A member of a volunteer unit recruited for this campaign, the Nineteenth Kansas Cavalry, wrote that in early November of 1868:

Close-up of regimental stamping on .44 Remington #113680. The same die seems to have been used to stamp both the Remington and the Sharps carbine.

