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John,

The piece has been in my family all of my life, and all of my uncle's. He was born in 1899. Also, in the family was an 1863 Springfield, with bayonet, which my brother still has. We always supposed them both brought back from the war, and may have been brought back by my father's maternal grandfather, Francis E. Skelly, who went into the army in 1863, at age 17. The family lived in NYC, Borough of Manhattan back then until about 1912, when they moved to Bound Brook, NJ.

I can add that my uncle told me that the piece was used to scare crows out of the garden, and was kept in the barn. I expect that is responsible for the condition of the barrel. The garden was in Bound Brook, NJ. I might add that I also received with this a US Navy Remington rolling block (I believe) bayonet, marked:

USN reverse Ames MFg. Co.
CGS Chicopee
1870

No additional history.

Thank you,

Erwin

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