



**ARMORY AND OFFICE,**

*Hartford, Conn.*

August 9, 2016  
1177

*No* To Whom It May Concern

*Bought Of*

**THE SHARPS RIFLE COMPANY.**

Dear Sir:

Sharps rifle serial #160068 has been located in the original records of the Sharps Rifle Company. It is listed in Order Book No. 5 as a Model 1874 Sporting Rifle and was invoiced at the Bridgeport factory on April 7, 1877 to B. Kittredge & Co., gun dealers and wholesalers of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The rifle is further described in the record as being .45 caliber, using the 2 & 7/8 inch shell, with a 30 inch full octagon barrel, single trigger, open sights and oil-finished stocks. The weight was listed as 11 & 1/2 pounds. The price was \$38 less 20 + 10%.

The order to the Kittredge firm on this date consisted of thirty Model 1874 Sporting Rifles, configured all identical to the above description and ordered to weigh between 11 and 12 pounds. No ammunition or accessories were included in the order. The net total of the order, including three shipping crates, came to \$824.55.

B. Kittredge & Co. did a large wholesale gun business in the Mid-West and Trans-Mississippi West. Sharps Sporting Rifles shipped to Kittredge, particularly those in heavier weights, are considered by many collectors to be Western guns with possible usage in the Texas and Northern Buffalo Hunts.

Trusting this information to be of value, I remain,

Yours very truly,

*Richard Labowskie*

Richard J. Labowskie, MD