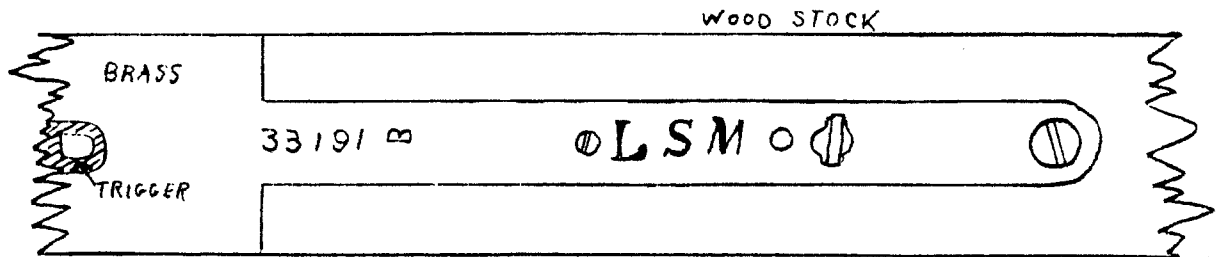


ENFIELD



WINCHESTER 66 MUSKET

# The Story Of . . .

BY

NEILL G. CARPENTER

# LSM

If you owners of old guns have ever wondered at the stampings or markings on some of your antique weapons, you will know how I felt when I obtained an 1866 Winchester Musket with the letters "L S M" stamped on the lower tang. The friend from whom I obtained the gun in a swap deal had no idea what the initials meant, but as we both lived in Louisiana, we both surmised that the "L" could stand for Louisiana and the "S M" could stand for State Militia. However as we had no Louisiana State Militia, we realized that the initials could stand for almost anything even to a man's name.

Even though the markings had cost me a few bucks extra no effort was made to investigate the meanings of the stamping until I had obtained another gun with the identical markings. This new gun was a Barnett made Enfield muzzle loading musket and as can be seen from the sketch the imprints are again on the lower brass tang.

Not long after I obtained the Enfield I was encouraged in the belief that my two old weapons were indeed Louisiana State Militia issue by an article that appeared in the January 1958 issue of the American Arms Collector. In writing of Confederate weapons the author, William A. Albaugh III said: "It is thought that all Barnett arms made in 1861 are Confederate, while those made thereafter went North. Rifles stamped "LSM". on the trigger guard are believed to be Louisiana State Militia weapons, hence Confederate." No mention was made in his article concerning the Winchester 66 muskets so marked.

For me "believing" that "LSM" meant Louisiana State Militia was not enough, so while visiting my son in college at LSU I set out to prove that there actually was a Louisiana State Militia, that they were issued these arms and if possible that they were marked "LSM".

Many hours were spent reading old records and newspapers in the Libraries and Archives at Baton Rouge. Many books and documents were found concerning the period of history in which these guns were used, and I found it very interesting historically, but as this is a gun story I will try to leave out much of the history and stay with the actual quotes about the weapons and their use.

After the Civil War was over, the Confederate States had its terrible Reconstruction days. Back in this period when a war was over the defeated nations really suffered, as there was no Marshall plan in those days. Instead of lending a hand to help our enemy recover as we did with Japan, the Union moved in its military forces, made harsh and unfair laws and deliberately tried to keep the South from recovering. Federal held Louisiana was the first Con-

federate territory subjected to "reconstruction" as in 1862, General Butler in New Orleans freed slaves and enlisted them in the Federal regiments. Until 1877, a period of 12 years after the war ended, Louisiana was overrun by radical politicians, carpet baggers, ignorant freed slaves and rascally Southerners, as the majority of the residents were not permitted to vote or hold office.

The Louisiana State Militia was a respected branch of the Louisiana armed forces during the Civil War, but during the reconstruction period, the controlled and corrupt state Legislature reorganized the Militia so that the disfranchised southerners could not serve, so as a result the soldiers were mostly freed slaves. As this force was used in this period to enforce the harsh laws it was very unpopular with the people of Louisiana.

The Louisiana State Militia was armed with both the Enfield Rifle and the newer repeating Winchester Model 1866 musket as I found in The Adjutant's Report for 1870 (Louisiana Archives, LSU Library La355L93) that the Monroe Louisiana State Militia was "well armed with breech loading Winchesters and Enfield Muskets." Another military force active during this period was the Metropolitan Police of New Orleans. This force was headed by competent white Generals but the troops were mostly rascally southerners, carpet baggers and freed slaves. The

"Times Picayune" of June 30 1874 says:

On that day there was to have been, and, in as far as is known, will take place, a grand parade of colored militia, who have all been furnished with the finest kind of arms and ammunition by the State Government. They have been also in the past furnished with ball-cartridges, or at least had them at their armories in easy reach.

Early in 1874, because of the bad reputation and publicity it had received, The Louisiana State Militia was again reorganized and had its name changed to the Louisiana National Guard, in an effort to attract more men to join.

As the law-enforcing and law-making authorities were against the southern property owner and the ex-confederate soldier, about the only thing left for the respected citizens to do was to join some sort of secret vigilante society and fight back the best way they could. In most southern states the Ku Klux Klan was formed for this purpose, but in Louisiana another sort of Society was started early and grew rapidly, and was generally called the "White Leagues." It is believed that the first such organization started in May 1867 in St. Mary Parish by Judge Alcibiade de-Blanc, who later traveled widely over the state organizing other groups, some of which were called the "Knights of the White Camellia". In New Orleans the "White League" came into existence

in July 1874 and many active companies were organized. In contrast to the Louisiana State Militia and the Metropolitan Police, the White Leaguers were secretly armed with whatever weapon they could get their hands on, the majority of which were muzzle loading shot guns.

To combat the radical politicians and the well armed militia, the White Leagues began to try to find better arms and to hold secret drills. You readers who are interested in history would enjoy reading of the election held Nov. 4 1872 where both candidates for governor claimed the election. In fact two inaugurations were held in the capitol, New Orleans, on Jan. 14 1873, the Republicans inaugurated Kellogg with his colored Lt. Gov. while the Democrats inaugurated their candidate McEnery. A few of the merchants of New Orleans attempted to buy surplus Prussian Muskets for the White League, but a large consignment was seized by the Metropolitan Police. When the next large shipment was scheduled to be unloaded from the ship Mississippi, the White League came out in force and decided to fight rather than have this shipment seized.

The White League troops assembled with arms at various places and near the levee at the foot of Canal St. near a place called Liberty Place, where the ship was docked on Sept. 14 1874. A

(Please Turn To Page 30)

# HERITAGE FIREARMS CO.

## WESTPORT, CONN.

### OPENED ITS DOORS MARCH 1st

OFFERING THE FINEST IN ANTIQUE ARMS Including a Full Selection of Guns, Edged Weapons and Military Accoutrements.

SOMETHING FOR ALL COLLECTORS FROM A PIN FIRE TO A PATERSON

Our present stock covers the fields of COLTS - REMINGTONS - WINCHESTERS - SHARPS - MARTIAL ARMS - KENTUCKIES - BOWIE KNIVES - DERRINGERS - SWORDS - CANNONS - FINE EUROPEAN FIREARMS and a VARIED ASSORTMENT OF POWDER FLASKS, MOLDS AND ACCESSORIES.

RARER PIECES INCLUDE — A Colt Paterson — A One of One Thousand Winchester — A Naval Gatling Gun — An Engraved Single Shot Sharps Pistol.

WE ARE: 1 hour and 20 minutes drive on parkways from New York City; 20 minutes drive from Norm Flayderman in Greenwich; ¾ mile from exit 42 on the Merritt Parkway; 1½ miles from exit 17 on the Connecticut Turnpike.

You are Invited to Visit our Store which is located at  
74 CHURCH LANE (next to Sherwood Square),  
WESTPORT, CONN.

Open 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. daily (closed Sunday & Monday).  
Open evenings by appointment

Also convenient to excellent train or bus connections from  
New York City. Plenty of Free Parking Space.

# THE STORY OF . . . LSM

(Continued From Page 15)

detachment of Police attempted to disperse the group near the Levee and the "Battle of Liberty Place" took place. The White League completely routed the Police and captured two cannons and a quantity of other arms including Winchester 66 Muskets. A portion of the story is published in the "New Orleans Bulletin" Supplement of Sept. 22 1874, entitled "The Revolution" as follows:

At this moment the Metropolitans opened fire on the Crowd on Canal Street with one of their pieces. This was the signal for the citizens party. In one instant the sharp crack of the Winchesters, the deadly "bang" of the Remingtons, of Company E on the right and the death-dealing shot gun was heard.

And from the "New Orleans Bulletin":

The flight was most disgraceful, the men throwing down their guns, pulling off their hats and coats, and some of them actually jumping into the river to avoid the deadly missiles which by that time were decidedly numerous. In the fight the citizens captured two Napoleon guns and one Gatling gun, with ammunition, besides some 75 to 100 stand of Winchester Rifles.

While the "New Orleans Times" gave this account of the fight:

At 1:35 a body of one hundred and sixty men, armed with Winchester rifles and muskets, under the command of Colonel LeGardeur, marched up Camp Street from Canal, attended by a very numerous concourse of curious people — almost instantly the Metropolitans opened fire with the Winchester rifles which was instantaneously responded to by the White-Leaguers.

The victory of the White League was short lived, the Federal troops moved in and restored Gov. Kellogg as governor on Sept. 19 1874. One of Gov. Kellogg's first acts was the distribution of the following proclamation:

### STOLEN STATE ARMS — PROCLAMATION OF REWARD, STATE OF LOUISIANA EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

New Orleans, Oct. 31 1874.

The following-described arms, the property of the State of Louisiana, have been taken from the custody of the legally-constituted authorities of the State and are retained in the possession of unauthorized persons: Two mountain-howitzers, caliber 4.62, model of 1861, weight 220 pounds, marked T.H.R. on the face. Three hundred and one Winchester rifles, made for bayonet-attachment, numbers ranging between 31,120 and 34,163, marked L.S.M. on butt-plates.

Six hundred and twenty-four Springfield breech-loading rifles, model of 1870, caliber .50 marked L.N.G. on butt-plates. Ninety-three Spencer carbines, caliber .50, marked L.N.G. Notice is hereby given that the State of Louisiana will pay a reward of \$50.00 each for the recovery of the two howitzers, and \$100.00 additional for such evidence as shall lead to the conviction of the person or persons illegally retaining possession of them; also a reward of \$10.00 for the recovery of the above-described rifles and carbines, and \$25.00 additional for such evidence as shall lead to the conviction of any person illegally retaining possession of any of the said weapons.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the State hereunto attached, this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States the ninety-ninth.

William P. Kellogg.

In 1874 the La. Adjutant Generals Report showed the purchase by the Louisiana National Guard of 2 - 1" Gatling guns, 2 - 12lb. Howitzers, 800 Breechloading Springfields and 100 Spencer Carbines from the War Dept. Again in 1887 in the La. Adjutant General's Report, General Pierce reports to General Beauregard that Capt. E. S. Taylor of the Opelousas National Guard during the Sugar Cane Strike had 45 cal. Springfields and Winchesters.

After finding all these references in

## FIFTH ANNUAL NATIONAL

# Bagnell Dam Gun Show

Guns, Coins, Cartridges, Indian Relics, Historical Items, Western Things, Edged Weapons

at LAKE OZARK, MO. — School of the Osage Auditorium

One of the Best Shows, Centrally located in the U. S., on the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks

FOUR BIG DAYS — Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

● JUNE 13, 14, 15, 16, 1963 ●

★ The growth of our show requires that we provide a separate room for coin collectors. When making reservations, let us know what the majority of your display will consist of so that we may place you to our best mutual advantage.

TABLE RENT FOR 4 DAYS, \$10.00;

Payable in advance

Make Table Reservations with C. T. "Curley" Williams, Lake Ozark, Mo. Show Managers: "Curley" Williams and Bob Clark Sponsored by Lake Ozark Lions Club.

BUY - SELL - SWAP - TRADE - - ANTIQUE - MODERN

Make this your Spring Vacation — Spend a Week —

Start making plans now!

ATTEND OUR SHOW THEN ON TO ATLANTA TO THE NATIONAL GUN REPORT SHOW THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND JUNE 21-22-23

CASH PRIZES will be awarded for best specialized displays — \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10, \$5.

## REMINGTON COLLECTORS HELP!

Am starting to collect information on Remington D.A. and S.A. Belt Model handguns. Send a postcard for the form to be filled out. Will send the form with a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your convenience. This is to encourage all owners of Belt Models to participate. Just requesting a little of your time men, for the betterment of present and future gun collecting and collectors. Please cooperate. Send post card for the form to:

G. ROBERT LYLES

C/O SUPREME CONCRETE BLOCK CO.

P.O. BOX 478

HAGERSTOWN,

MD.

**"GLORIFY"** **LIN SPEED**  
**Now!** **Real OIL STOCK FINISH**  
 DIRECTIONS: Wipe on, rub in, remove excess finish.  
 Apply to metal of GI, then smooth with hand.  
 After dry, rub in more GLORIFY each 2nd day to avoid rust. Wash with soap and water.  
 CAUTION: Do not use on painted or plated surfaces.  
 Contents: Sufficient to finish 100 sq. ft. of metal.  
 Sold in most oil, petroleum stores, etc.

**GUN-STOCKS** easily, quickly

At your Sporting Goods Dealer, or send \$1.50 to mfr. GEO. BROTHERS, GRT. BARRINGTON, MASS.

the Louisiana records and old newspapers concerning these weapons marked "LSM", I am firmly convinced that from now on we can know that the LSM means Louisiana State Militia and that the weapons so marked were Confederate.

My Winchester 66 Musket, complete with bayonet is numbered 33,191 and could therefore be one of the ones captured by the White League and advertised by Gov. Kellogg. However the "LSM" is stamped on the tang instead of the butt plate as mentioned in the proclamation. Perhaps some muskets will be found with the markings on their butts, but it is my opinion that the proclamation information was in error. The Enfield musket also is mark-

ed on the tang as mentioned in the Albaugh article.

Very few people have ever heard of the Battle of Liberty Place but historically it was of more importance than the Battle of New Orleans after the war of 1812. The Battle of New Orleans, fought after the war was over, where only 13 Americans lost their lives, served only to help elect Andrew Jackson

president. The Sept. 14, 1874 Battle of Liberty Place, however, took the lives of 53 or more Americans and the publicity after the battle helped to change the opinion of the people of the United States and as a result brought the end of the corrupt reconstruction era in the South.

# 5000 FIREARMS BARGAINS

Are you a gun trader? Gun collector? Or are you just plain interested in guns? If you are, you'll profit from reading the bargain-filled columns of SHOTGUN NEWS, now published twice each month. It's the leading publication for the sale, purchase and trade of firearms and accessories of all types. SHOTGUN NEWS has aided thousands of gun enthusiasts locate firearms, both modern and antique — rifles, shotguns, pistols, revolvers, scopes, mounts . . . all at money-saving prices. The money you save on the purchase of any one of the more than 5,000 listings twice a month more than pays your subscription cost. You can't afford to be without this unique publication.

**Free trial offer!**  
**Money Back Guarantee.**

As a special introductory offer, we'll send you the next issue of SHOTGUN NEWS free of charge with your one year subscription. That means you get 25 big issues. What's more, if you're not completely satisfied, just tell us. We'll immediately refund your money in full and you can keep the issues you already have. Fair enough? You bet! Fill in the coupon below and mail it today!

**THE SHOTGUN NEWS GR**  
Columbus, Nebraska

Yes, send me the next issue of SHOTGUN NEWS FREE and start my subscription for one year. \$3 enclosed—to be refunded if I'm not completely satisfied.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_

## GENUINE MAUSER SHORT RIFLE



**\$9.50** includes 100 rds. ammo

These are the '93 original short rifles and not cut down or sporterized guns. Nor are they the tiny little carbines or brush gun. 7MM caliber with 22" barrel — just the right length for a high powered rifle. Ammo for rifle is never hard to find.

To get this ridiculously low price I had to buy a heck of a lot more than I need so I can't select for anyone. I'm selling these guns and cartridges at decorator prices. At such prices I can't check them as to their safety. I simply take them out of their overseas cases and ship them to you.

Use them as decorators or have them checked by a competent gunsmith before shooting.

I believe you'll agree that a GENUINE MAUSER action alone is worth more than I ask for the rifle plus 100 rounds of ammo. It's yours for just \$9.50.

For the quantity buyer I'm darn near giving them away at only \$135 per case of thirty (30). No ammo included in this low, low case price.

**DON'T EXPECT THESE MAUSERS TO LAST LONG AT THESE PRICES. DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED \*\*\* ORDER YOURS TODAY.**

All items shipped FOB Selma, Ala. Alabama res. add 3% Sales Tax. If you haven't already done so, send in your \$1 for the illustrated catalog.

**WALTER H. CRAIG** 413 LAUDERDALE  
SELMA, ALABAMA

# ANTIQUÉ GUN SHOW

## APRIL 27 - 28, 1963

Sponsored By

**CHISHOLM TRAIL ANTIQUE  
GUN ASSOCIATION**

At FRONTIERLAND  
13,000 W. Hiway 54, Wichita

- 200 TABLES.
- TABLE RENT—\$6.00 for Two Days. \$10.00 for Coin Tables.
- ALL RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY MAIL.
- WIN AN AWARD FOR THE BEST PISTOL; LONGARM OR GENERAL GUN COLLECTION.

WRITE OR CALL —

Gun Show Secretary  
**DOC BARTON**

6301 E. Parkview

WICHITA, KANSAS

Phone SH 4-2277

### — BOOKS ON THE LONGRIFLE —

Dillin — THE KENTUCKY RIFLE ..... \$12.50

Kindig — THOUGHTS ON THE KENTUCKY  
RIFLE IN ITS GOLDEN AGE ..... \$27.00

GEORGE SHUMWAY, Publisher

R.D. 7 - YORK, PENNA.