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Model 1873 Special Order Carbine Serial Number 753836

I have inspected this one Winchester inside and out and find it is all original as made by Winchester.

Records show this gun was recorded as a "Carbine, half mogyeris, rifle butt." There is also the notation of "fine front sight," which is unusual.

This Carbine was shipped from the Winchester warehouse on December 30, 1887.

Twenty well round bullets, as seen here, were standard for 1873 Carbine.

The front sight, which is forged on the barrel, has a somewhat narrower sighting blade than usually seen on 1873 Carbine. This is a rare feature, and special sights on Carbine are very unusual.

On the rear barrel sight seat is a standard Carbine sight, marked "1873", with graduations from two to nine. Carbine were not usually drilled and tapped for tang sights, and this provision is not seen on the upper tang of this Carbine.

All of the markings are original and clear, including the barrel, tang and caliber marks. On this serial series the barrel and elevator have caliber markings.

Half mogyeris, as noted in the

record and seen on this gun are rare, especially on carbines. The majority of gun users preferred full magazines, which had a capacity of twelve cartridges. A rounded magazine cap was used for shorter magazines, and the cap has a projection which extends into the bottom of the barrel in this serial series.

This Carbine chambers the .44 W.C.F. Cartridge, most popularly called the ".44-40".

Among collectors today and the buyers of these 1873 models this caliber was the most popular.

Saddle rings were standard for carbines, and the ring and its retaining staple are original and unaltered.

Select straight grain walnut was used for stocking this Winchester, and it is in unusually good condition, with some of the original oiled finish remaining.

Carbines were provided with a distinctive style buttplate, and special butts are rare on the 1873. Crescent buttplates, as on number 253836 Carbine, were a special order feature for carbines. Very few carbines were provided with crescent buttplates.

On many of the Winchester records crescent buttplates were called "rifle buttplates".

A trapdoor was provided as standard for large calibers of the 1873, and an unusual three piece rod is provided. At the roping cloth

and the rod is flattened into a screwdriver form. This style rod has been observed in a few other 1873 models.

Assembly numbers were not used on Corbins in the higher serial ranges.

Much of the original blue finish remains on all of the steel and iron parts of this rare gun, and the smooth, even brown patina of age is forming on these parts.

This rare Winchester is now well over a century old and is in unusually fine condition, especially for a Corbin.

Corbins with any special feature are rarely seen; here we have a special front sight, magazine and buttplate.

Number 253836 is a rare and fine Collector's 1873, and it merits a prominent place in any collection of rare arms.

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