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Experimental Model 1895 Rifle

I have carefully examined this rare
and fine rifle, inside and out, and have
determined it is all original as made by
Warrick.

No serial number was applied to
this gun; experimental and engineering models
did not usually have serial numbers.

Under the barrel are seen various
inspections, fittings and assemblies numbers and
markings. Also found under the barrel are the
stampings "VP" and "N.S.". "V.P." signifies the
gun was "viewed - proved", indicating the
barrel and gun had been visually approved
as well as gauged and inspected and proved.

Under the foresight, on the receiver,
is seen a star. This stamping is usually found
only on very special guns. On the top rear
of the barrel is the caliber mark "30 U.S.",
indicating the rifle was chambered for the 30-40
Krag cartridge.

A sporting rear sight and square
post sight base front are provided.

Experimental M-95

The square port front sight base is a very early feature, and has been observed on guns with serial numbers below 300. A steel blade is pinned to the front sight base.

This is a very early rifle, as seen by the flat side receiver and many other features. First models of the 1895 are rare, since only the first few thousand guns were first models and relatively few have survived.

The magazine, lever and buttplate of this gun were never blued, but were left "in the white". This has been observed on some other experimental and engineering model Winchester.

A very unusual magazine is seen here; the bottom cover of the magazine swings down and forward to load. As this is done, the follower folds down and forward to the first movement. This is a novel and unique method, and it is the only Model 1895 with this feature.

This rifle is number 296 on the Winchester inventory list. A small number of experimental guns were sold by the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, and this is one of those rare guns, made without a serial number. Serial number 276 has tag number 295 and another experimental magazine, and could be consecutive to this gun, since it is one number away from this one on the inventory list.

A high degree of original finish is seen on the stock and forend, and most of the original blue is seen on the parts originally blued.

Experimented M-95

Experimented Winchester are among the greatest rarities in the entire arms collecting field.

This is a unique Winchester, and as a one-of-a-kind rarity, deserves a prominent place in any collection or museum.

Leopoldo Lopez