

HARMON C. LEONARD
REMINGTON SINGLE SHOT PISTOLS

In all probability there has been no action made for an American hand gun which has been used, re-used, sold and resold so many ways by its original manufacturer as the Remington Rolling block.



REMINGTON MODEL 1865 NAVY
REMINGTON MODEL 1865 NAVY WITH TRIGGER GUARD ADDED
REMINGTON MODEL 1867 NAVY 8 1/2" BARREL
REMINGTON MODEL 1867 NAVY 7" BARREL
REMINGTON MODEL 1871 ARMY

Knode collection.

ridge. 6358 were so altered on a government contract for the sum of \$5.00 each. This recall and alteration of the 1865 model explains their relative scarcity.

The 1871 Army Model was produced and traded to the ordance department in return the Remington Arms Co. receiving a like number of 1858 New Model Revolvers. Records indicated that 5000 each of these guns were exchanged. The revolvers were converted to cartridge and sold as the "Improved Army Revolver". A number of improvements were incorporated in the main spring, better sights added, and a crown was added to the grips to improve the handling. Like the 1867 Navy these were chambered for the 50 Caliber center kire.

The production of the 1879 Army pistol was very limited and but few specimens are known. They were made on the 1871 Army frame in 15 to 19 inch octagon barrel. An extension stock

In 1891 Remington placed on the market a target pistol. These were produced on reinents of Old Army action and made in 22, 32 and 50 caliber. Specimens are known with barrels from 8 inches in length to 15 inches. These had a characteristic, half octogan and half round barrel, improved ramp rear sights and has been made as their blade front sight. This model is relatively

A brief review of the models produced and some of their distinguishing features may help us orient them.

The first model produced was the 1865 Navy model. This was based on Leonard Geiger's patent, issued in January 27, 1863. The characteristics of the pistol are, spur trigger, rim fire, 6500 of these pistols were bought by the U.S. government. They were also sold in limited numbers to the civilian trade. Some of these, the civilian models, were produced with a trigger guard and in center fire cartridge rather than rim fire.

The specimen on display here today is serial #1, the first of this initial production. Also on display is one of the civilian models in center fire and with trigger guard added.

The second production of the Rolling Block was the 1867 Navy. In actuality it was not a production but a process of alteration in which, at the request of the government, Remington made changes in the 1865 model.

These changes were shortening the barrel, adding a trigger guard, and alter-



REMINGTON MODEL 1867 NAVY 22 CAL. TARGET MODEL
REMINGTON MODEL 1871 ARMY "PLINKER" 32 S & W CAL.
REMINGTON MODEL 1871 ARMY 22 CAL. TARGET MODEL
REMINGTON MODEL 1901 ARMY 22 CAL. TARGET MODEL

scarce and estimate of between 300 and 400 has made their total production.

The last rolling block pistol that Remington produced is the 1901 model.

The sons of Mr. H. K. White of 3 Water Street, New York tell an interesting story of the source of the action for this model. As boys they attended a government military sale with their father at which he bought 1000 Army pistols. Twenty-five of these he sold shortly thereafter to Mr. Henry Pope, the famous barrel maker. One of these pistols, owned by Wm. Roger, is on display here today. The remaining 975 of guns he sold to Mr. Marcellus Hartley, then President of the Remington Arms Co., who was related by marriage to Mr. White. These actions shortly appeared on the market as the 1901 target and plinker models.

The target pistols had checkered grips and forends, half octogon and half round ten inch barrels. They were available in 22, 32 and 44 S & W cartridges.

The plinker models were a variation of the 1901 and are among those most highly prized by Remington Collectors. In profile, they look identical to the 1871 Army, but are calibered in 22 and 32 cal. Also on display is a plinker model Navy frame.