

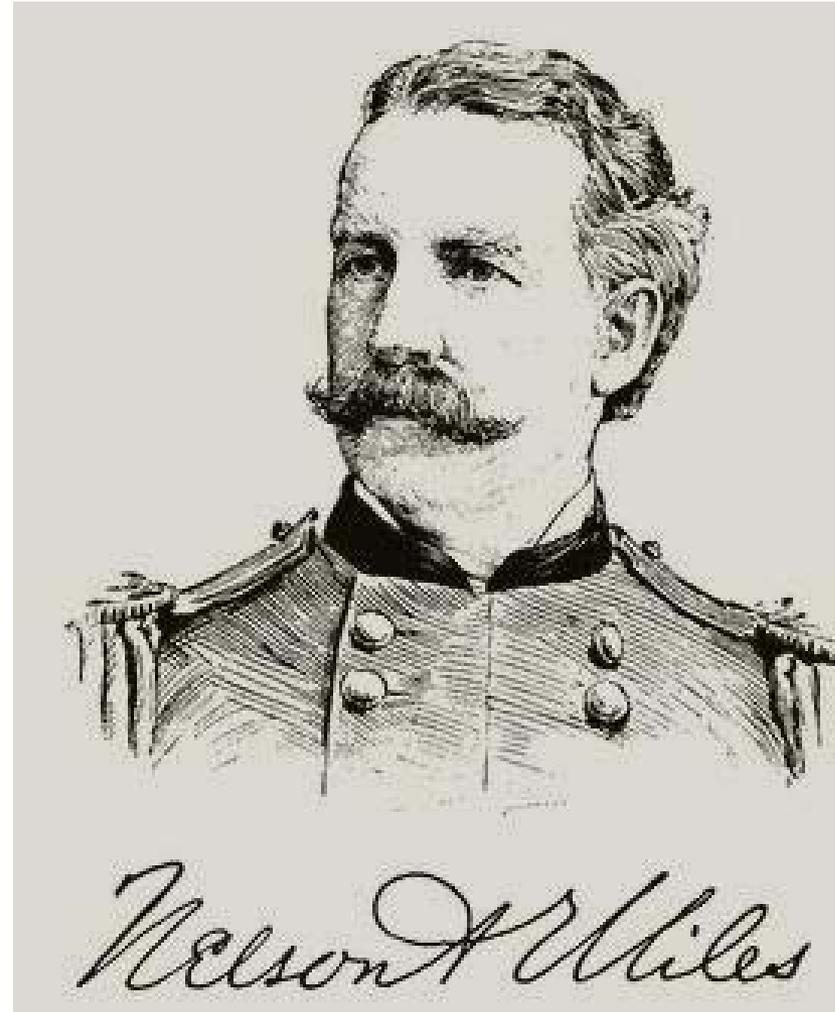
NDIA International Small Arms Symposium, Exhibition &
Firing Demo
2005



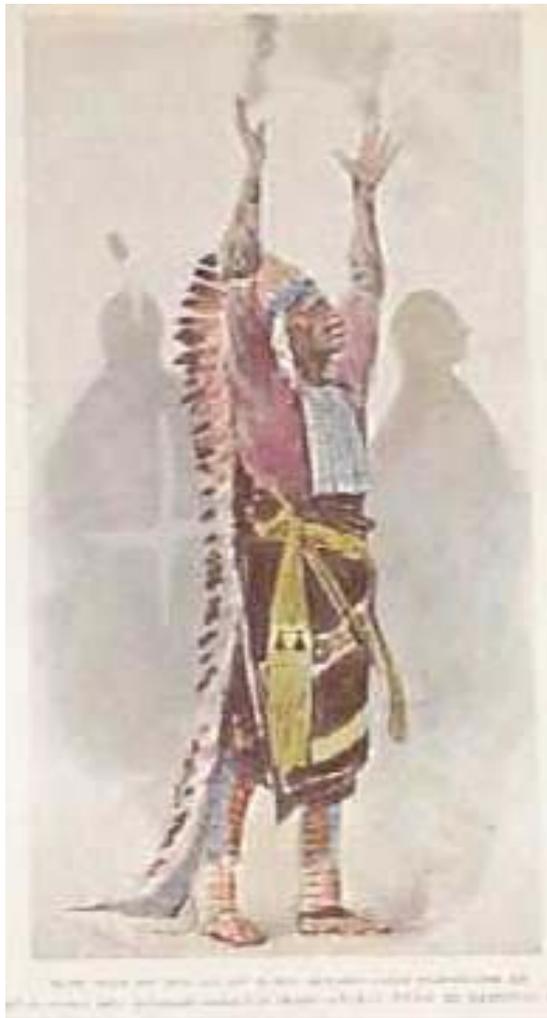
*“A Bold
Initiative:
Colonel Miles
and The Lee
Magazine Rifle
in 1879”*

By Stephen C. Small, Ph.D.

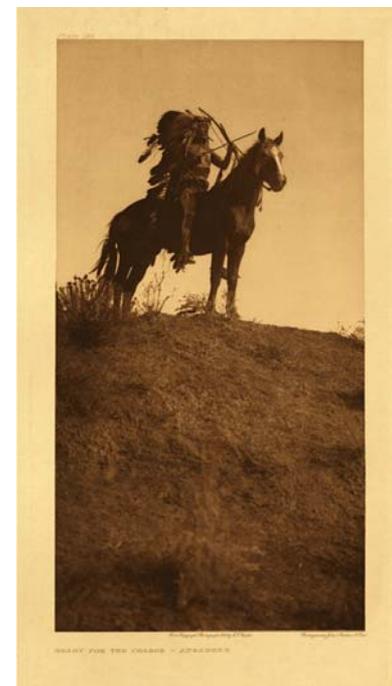
As of 1500 hrs
9 May 05



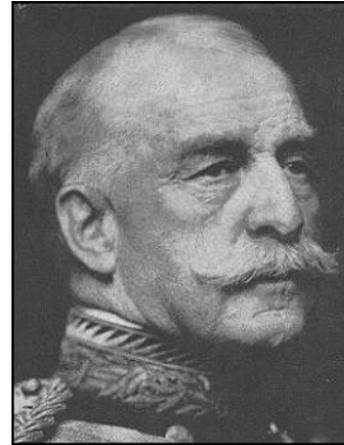
Briefing Outline



- The Life and Times of Nelson Appleton Miles
- Late 19th Century
- U.S. Army Small Arms
- Indian Small Arms
- The Fight For Lee Rifles 1879
- Postscript



Nelson Appleton Miles (1839 – 1925)



Northern Plains Campaign (1874 – 1880)



Colonel Miles Commander 5th Infantry Regiment





5th Infantry Company Grade Officers

**Captain
Mason
Carter**



**Second
Lieutenant
Oscar F.
Long**



**First Lieutenant
Henry Romeyn,
Company G**



**Captain
Snider,
Company F**



**1st
Lieutenant
Baird**

5th Infantry Artillery



12-pound Napoleon cannon
Model 1841



Three-inch Rifled Cannon



1877 – Infantryman's Full Field Equipment Load



- Springfield Rifle • 8.40 lbs.
- 60 rounds of ammunition and belt • 5.40 lbs.
- Overcoat, rain and wool blankets, extra clothes • 15.38 lbs.
- Full canteen • 3.84 lbs.
- Five rations: $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. meat & 1lbs. hardtack • 8.75 lbs.

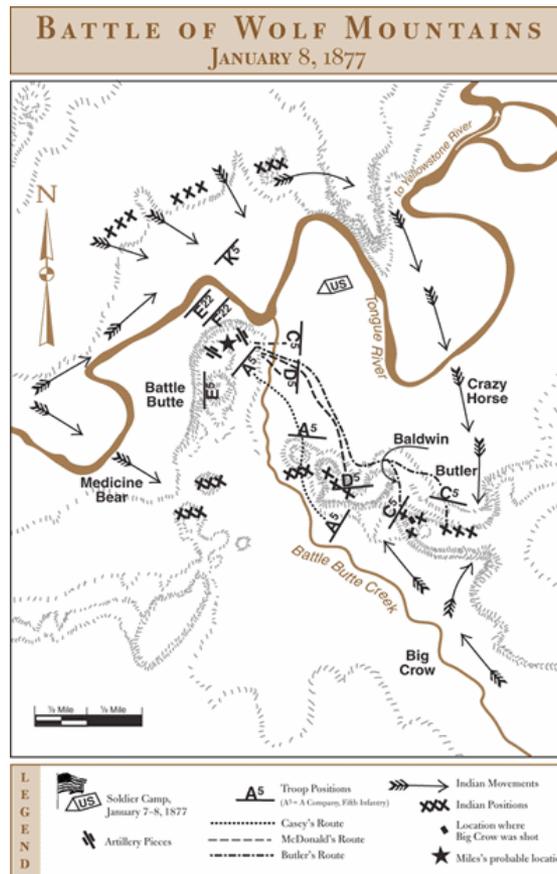
- **TOTAL** • **41.77 lbs.**



Battle of Wolf Mountains

Montana

January 8, 1877



“Miles’ Scouts”



Hump, Minneconjou Lakota



**Luther
“Yellowstone”
Kelly**



*Two Moon,
Cheyenne*

Battle of Wolf Mountains



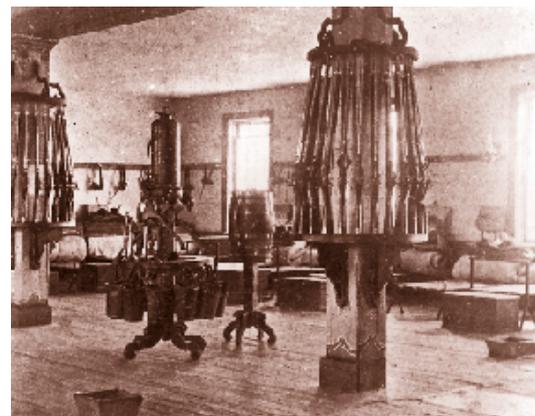
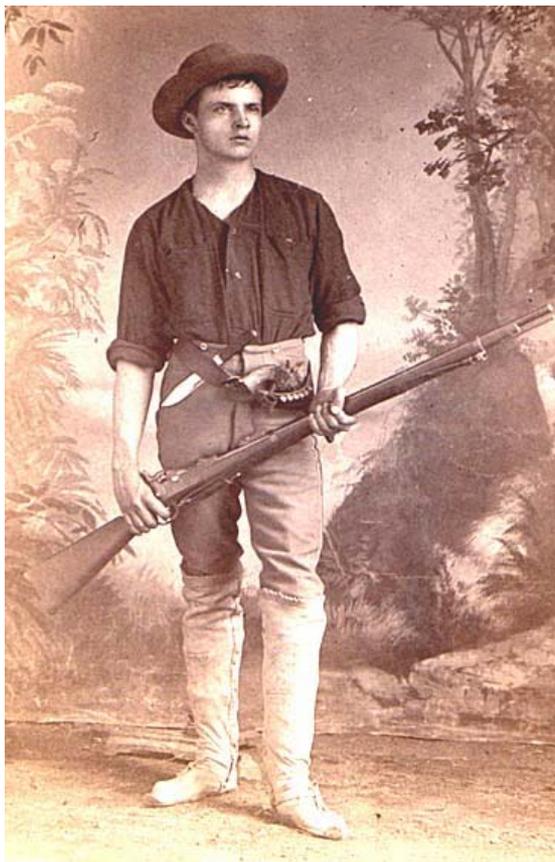
Crazy Horse Defeated



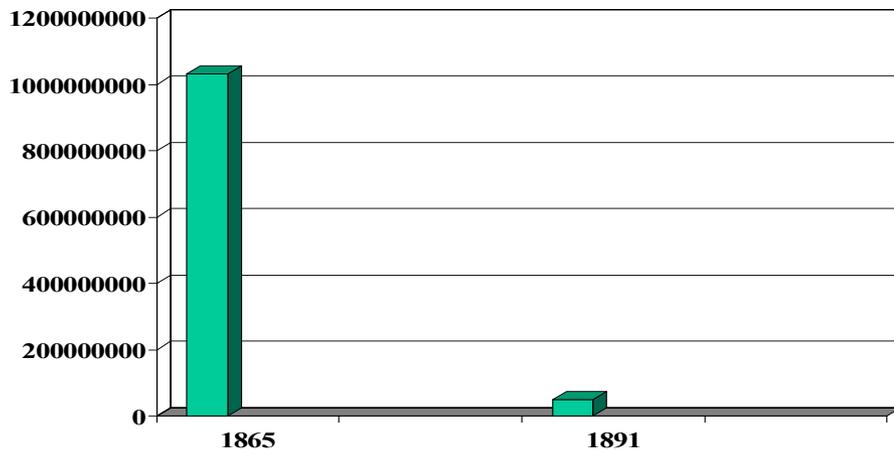
Late 19th Century U.S. Army Small Arms



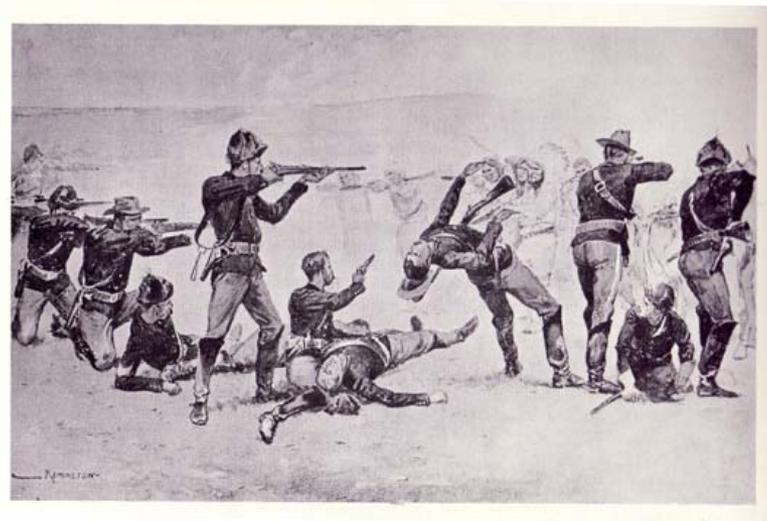
The Importance of the Service Rifle



During the years 1865 and 1891 Army Expenditures Declined from \$1,031,323,000 to \$48,720,000



95% Reduction



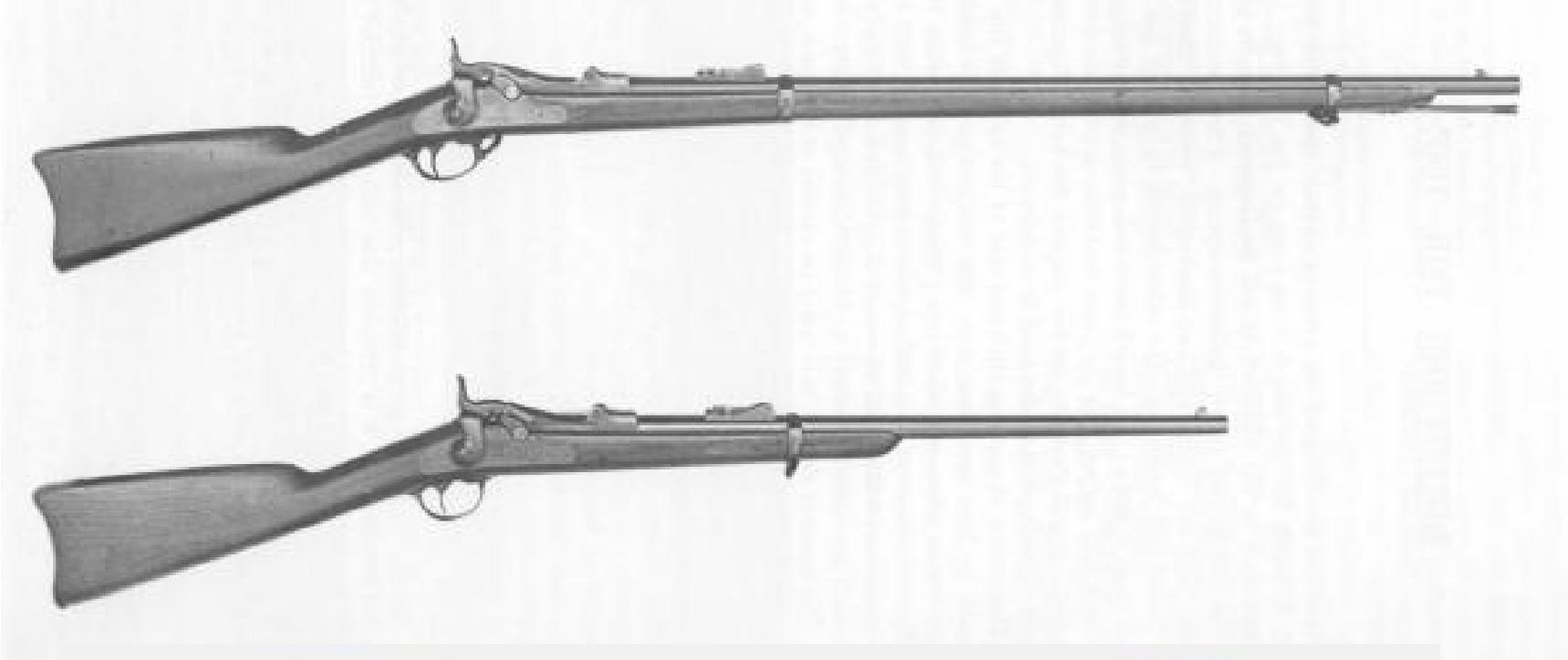
1866 Peabody Rifle



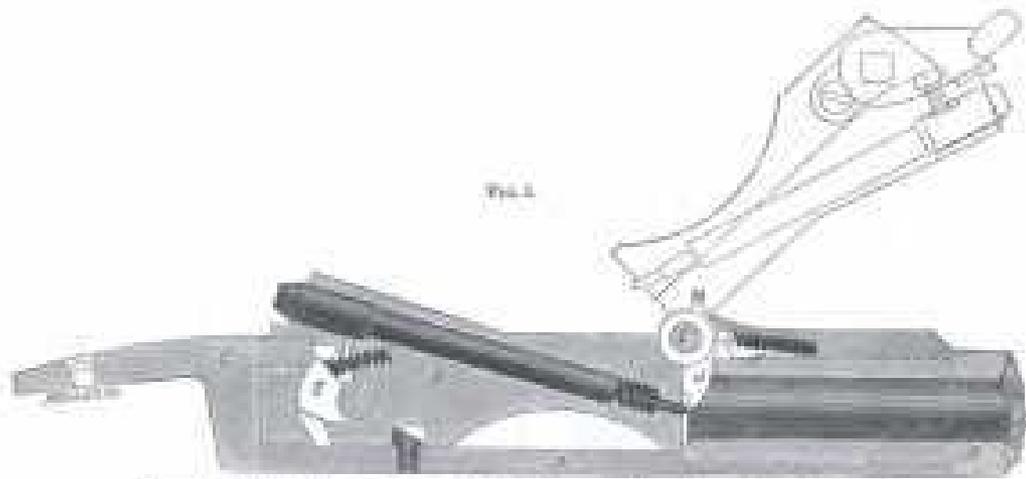
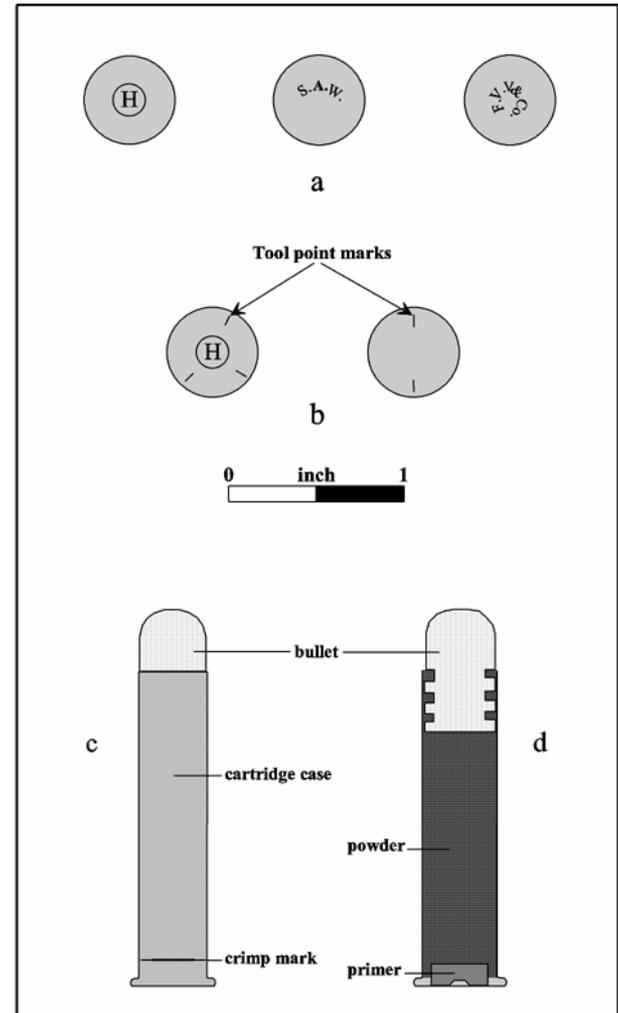
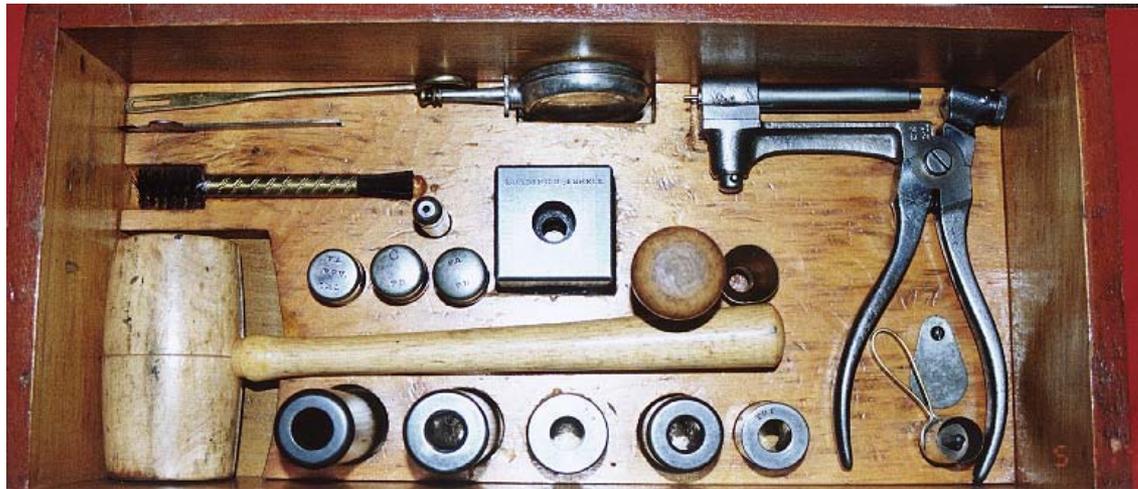
1863 Springfield Rifled Musket



The Service Rifle and Carbine 1873



45-70 Caliber



Various Models of Breech-Loading Actions, Model 1870.

Personal Defense Weapon

Model 1873 Single-Action Colt .45

- Caliber .45" 250-255 gram lead ball
- Capacity six
- Muzzle Vel 860 Muzzle
- Sights Fixed – 25 yards





Indian Small Arms



Indian Shoulder-Fired Small Arms



Spencer repeaters



Springfield Breechloaders



Sharps breechloaders



Winchester lever actions



Henry Rifles

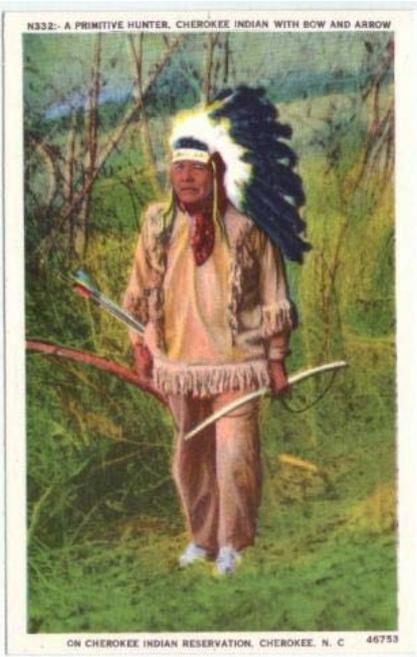


Miscellaneous muzzle-loaders



Shotguns

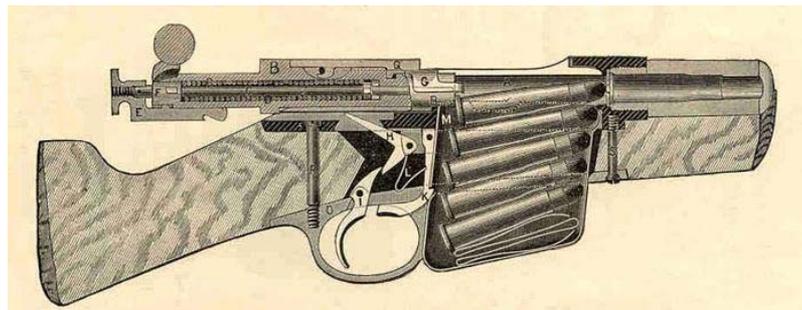
Bows and Arrows



Clubs and Axes

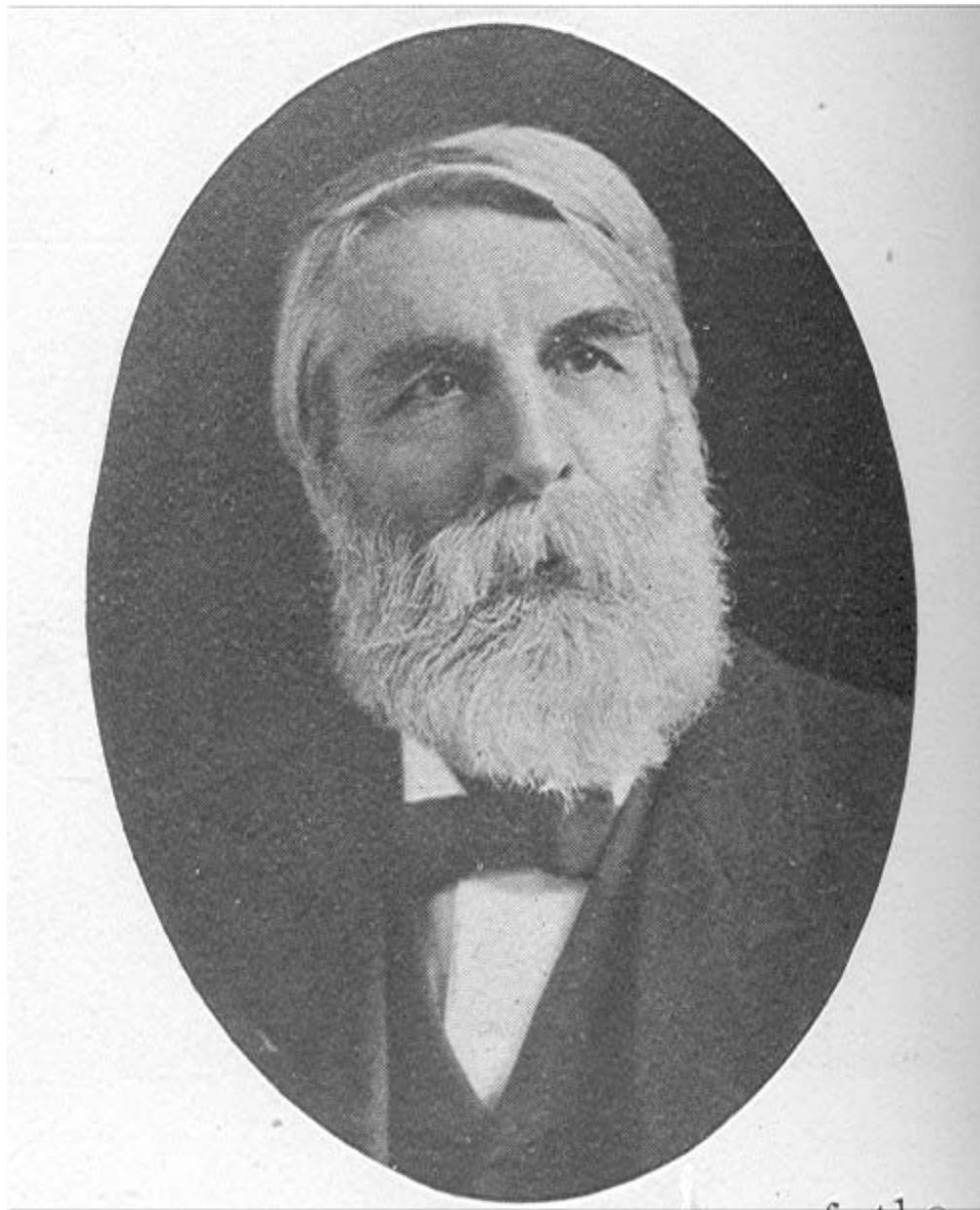


The Fight For Lee Rifles in 1879

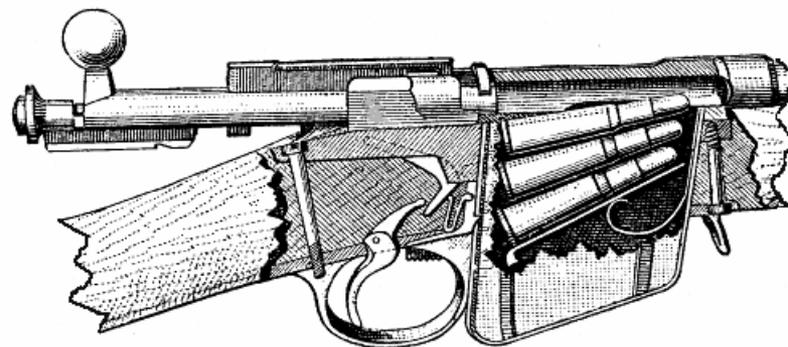


James Paris Lee

**Small Arms
Inventor**



The Model 1879 Lee Rifle



Lee's Detachable Box Magazine



➤ Magazine for
Model 1882
Remington Lee Rifle
Caliber .45/70



The Letter



The Sherman Brothers

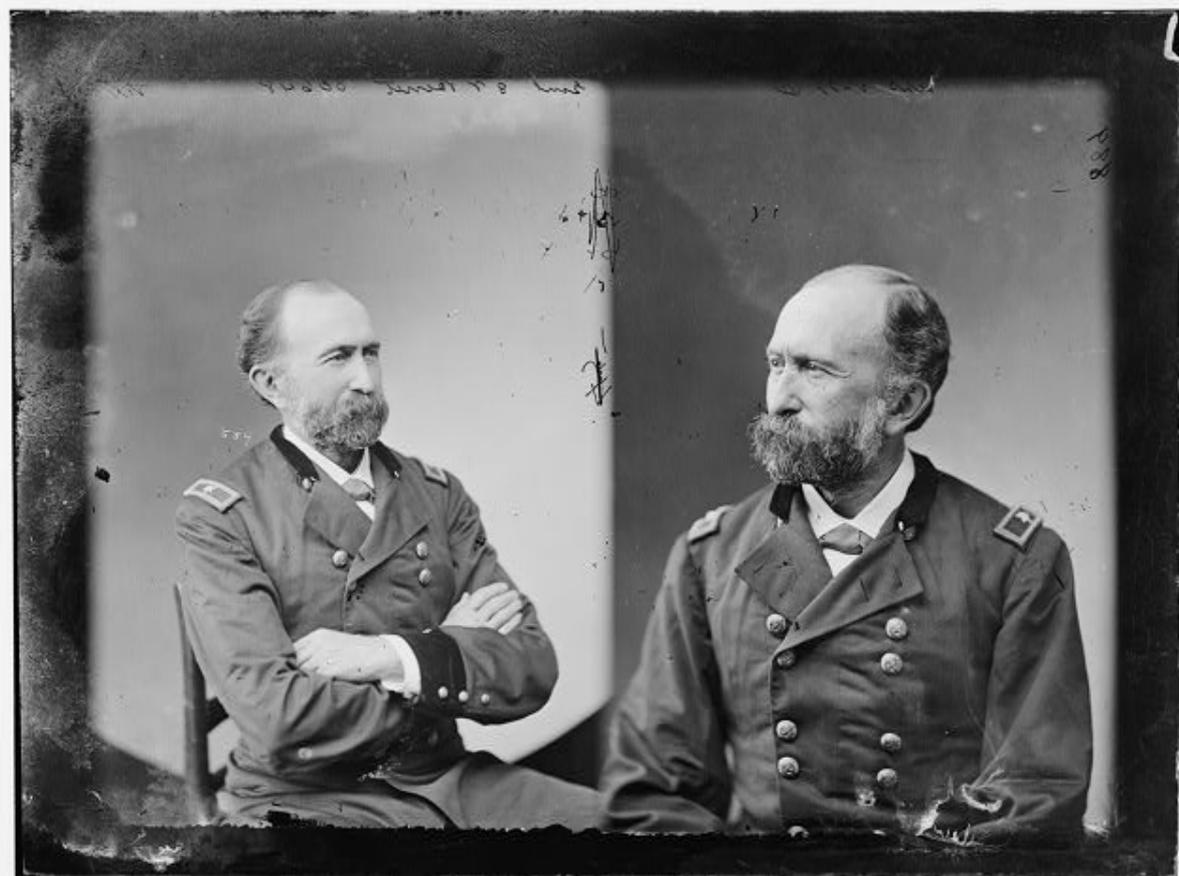


**U.S. Senator John
Sherman**



**Commanding General
William Tecumseh
Sherman**

Chief of Ordnance,
Brigadier General Stephen Vincent Benet
(June 1874 – January 1891)



Miles' Commanding Officer...



Brigadier
General
Alfred H.
Terry





George W.
McCrary
Secretary of War
(March 1877 –
December 1879)



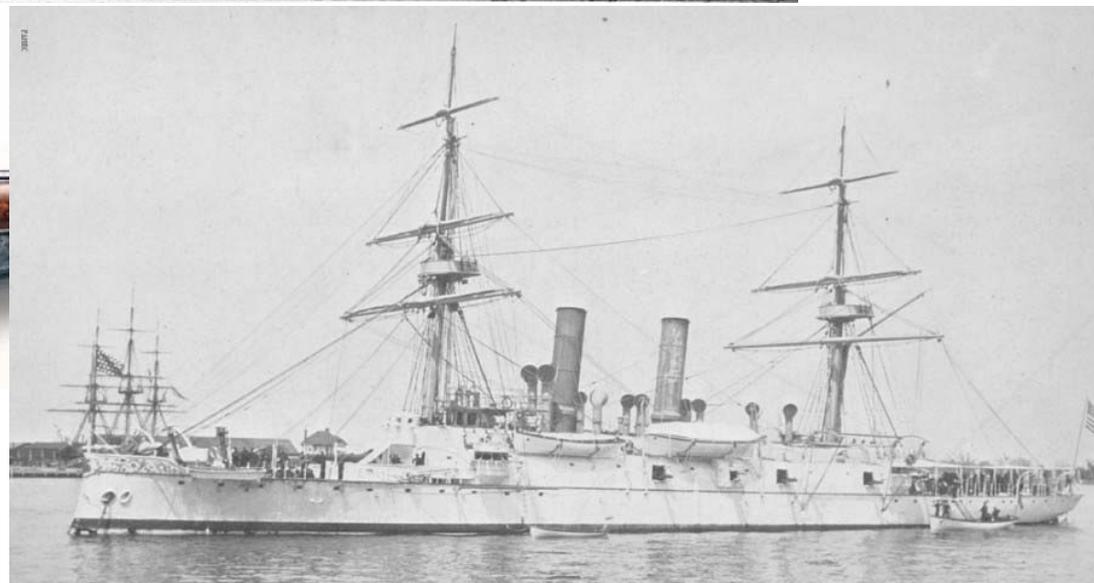
The State Army
Navy Building
Washington DC



Postscript



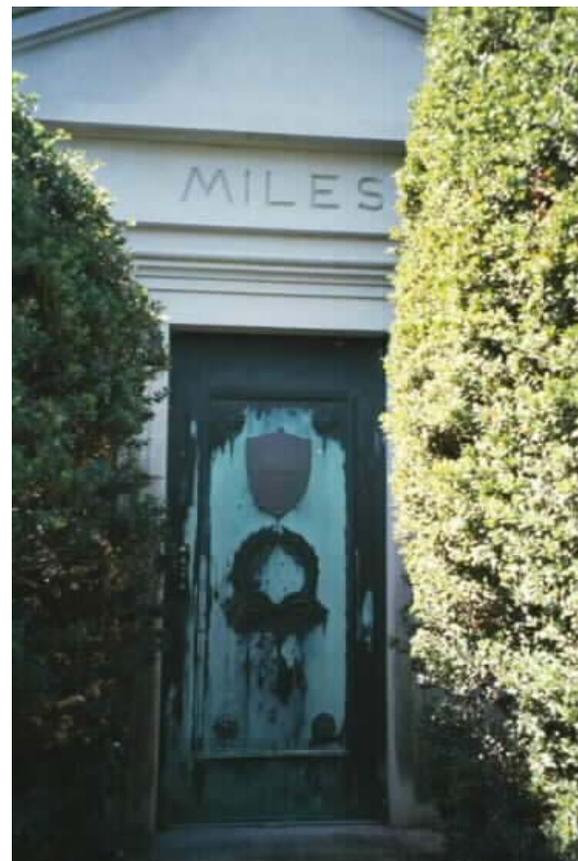
1882 - The Navy Buys Lee Rifles



Commanding General Miles



Miles Died in 1925



The Lee Rifle

- Adopted as British Service Rifle December 1888
- In various versions, the Lee rifle would successfully serve in World War I and II
- It was the fastest-cycling bolt-action ever made for military use





Questions?