



In Search of Samuel L. Faries Butler County, Ohio Gunsmith

By Warren Offenberger



In 1986 when my good friend and fellow Ohio longrifle collector John Hudson bought the fine rifle illustrated herein, we had many discussions about his find. The rifle was marked on the barrel in script "S L F" and was reportedly made by Samuel L. Faries who worked in Middletown, Butler Co. Ohio. At that time little was known about Faries except that he had applied for and was issued two patents in 1828 and 1829 for a self-priming percussion lock and a eight barreled percussion gun. This information was first reported by Gardner in his book "Small Arms Makers" and was picked up by Don Hutslar in 1973 and published in his "Gunsmiths of Ohio". It was then repeated again in our published series "Ohio Gunsmiths and Allied Tradesmen" by Hutslar.

When the rifle first surfaced I told John Hudson that if indeed it was an Ohio made flintlock rifle it had to be one of the finest ever produced in Old Ohio, and on a scale of 1 to 10 I would rate it a 12. Since purchasing the rifle last year I still stand by that statement.

I have extracted a few paragraphs from my previous article on Faries from our AOLRC Newsletter Vol. IX Number II August 1987 and will repeat them before we get further into my Faries research.

If one like super curly maple for stocking, excellent architecture and superb inlay and engraving details, this rifle has everything going for it. Long and slender, tapered lock boss area, a 47" tapered barrel, a beautiful patchbox and artistic well designed inlays make it a masterpiece.

One unusual detail is the forestock inlays around the barrel wedges. On the facing side, the 3 inlays have been swedged to form the shape of the head of the wedges. It's an illusion because the wedges actually insert from the opposite side. I've seen this detail a couple of times on rifles made in North Carolina but never on an Ohio piece.

As one studies this rifle, the similarities between it and two know David Morton rifles are apparent. The architecture is very similar and the inlay work and engraving are close. The inlays up the forestock are identical, the small engraving cuts above and below the patchbox hinge are the same on both the earlier Morton and Faries rifles. Also the elongated leaf inlay on the under forestock of the Faries rifle is the same shape as a smaller version on the wrist of one of the Morton pieces. The rattlesnake comb inlays appear to have been cut from the same pattern.

One could assume that there was a close connection here. David Morton was born in 1769 or 1770 and died in 1823. He worked as a gunsmith / clocksmith in West Newton, Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania. All of the information about Morton is fact and was published in the KRA Bulletin, Fall 1983. The article was authored by Charles Kaufmann.

Shortly after acquiring the Faries rifle I began to do some research on the Ohio gunsmith. My search, via the internet, led me to a direct Faries descendent in Illinois who gladly supplied me with a Faries genealogical chart to examine.

The Faries / Farris / Faris / Ferris / Phares / Pharies family came originally from Scotland, where they were armament suppliers to Mary Queen of Scots. The name Faries derives from "Ferrier", or metal worker. They later migrated to Ireland. The family has been found in several places in Ireland including County Antrim. They later migrated to America and by the early 1700's there were Faries family members living in Connecticut, Delaware and Pennsylvania. The family later produced the gentleman who invented the Ferris wheel.

Robert Faries, shoemaker and farmer was born in 1769 in the state of Delaware. He married Mary Clark on Dec. 3, 1788 in Pennsylvania and then moved to near Middletown, Butler Co., Ohio in the late 1700's where he purchased a 100 acre farm. Robert then married Hannah Lewis on Feb. 16, 1800. This union produced 8 children with Samuel L. (our gunsmith) being the first born on Jan. 28, 1801. Robert married again in 1822 to Hulda Marshall a widow. He died around 1859 in Butler Co., Ohio.

Samuel, the gunsmith, appears to have married twice. There is a marriage record in Hamilton Co., Ohio (adjoining Butler Co.) dated Nov. 14, 1824 uniting Polley Hutchinson and Samuel L. Phares. This would be about the right time frame. Hopefully my search for an obituary of Samuel Faries will be successful and may confirm this marriage. The first marriage produced 6 children; Parmelia, Henry, Hannah, Sophia, Mary and Marish.

On Aug. 17, 1841 Samuel L. Faries marries Sarah Stine. Sarah is listed in the 1860 census, age 54, living in Middletown.

When and where Samuel Faries learned the gunsmithing trade may never be known. The architecture and workmanship all point to Westmoreland Co., Pa. Whether he was connected in any way to David Morton is pure speculation on my part. I do note that one Sarah Faries married Robert Hartley in Westmoreland Co., Pa in the late 1700's. They are buried in the Sewickley Presbyterian church grave yard just outside of West Newton, Pa., the same grave yard where David Morton is buried.

The other possibility to whom Samuel Faries worked with and learned his trade may well be Andrew Dunseth, gunsmith, who came from Pittsburgh, Pa. to Hamilton Co. Ohio prior to 1800. Dunseth and George Sutton were still partners in the gunsmithing business in Pittsburgh in 1797. Dunseth was advertising for apprentices in the "Western Spy and Hamilton Gazette" from 1800 to 1820. I have only seen two Ohio made Dunseth rifles and both were flintlocks.

Whether Faries traveled to Pennsylvania at a young age or stayed in Ohio to begin his career as a gunsmith, he was taught well and was working at his craft in Ohio prior to 1820.

My search for Faries led me to the Butler County Ohio Records Center. Discovered there was an estate package that produced the evidence that Samuel L. Faries was indeed our elusive gunsmith. The estate records, containing 48 pages, confirm that he died on May 9, 1844 at Middletown, Ohio and his widow, Sarah, being illiterate, appointed Hugh Alexander to be the administrator of the estate.

Faries died intestate and the administrators sale was held on Saturday June 22, 1844, consisting of 1 set gunsmith tools, blacksmith tools, bellows and forge, anvils, 20 riffling rods (short), riffling rods (long) screw plate and dies, drill bow and drills, brass and steel, grindstone and frame, 1 pair bellows and frame, misc. gunsmith tools, writing desk, work bench with vices, steam box and bending bench, numerous parts and castings for making ploughs.

Unfortunately, as with many old gunsmiths, the sale brought less than the amount of money owed the creditors. There are many written documents submitted to the administrator for debts charged to Faries. Apparently Samuel was severely ill for sometime prior to his death. Doctor Hydeman presented a bill for house calls and medicine in the amount of \$13.87. A. Noble had a bill for rent of a frame house for 12 months at \$2.00 per month,

Administrator's Sale.

THE goods and chattels of Samuel L. Farris, dec'd., will be sold at his late residence in Middletown, Butler county, on Saturday, June 22d, consisting of the following property, viz:—One set Gunsmith tools, 2 set Blacksmith tools, bellows and anvil nearly new; ploughs, a quantity of stuff dressed for ploughs. Also, a number of castings for ploughs, five plough patterns complete, the most improved in use in the State. Other articles too tedious to enumerate. Terms made known on the day of sale.

HUGH ALEXANDER
Middletown

total \$24.00. Thomas Wilson, Middletown cabinet maker sent a bill for the coffin in the amount of \$15.00. The administrator charged the estate \$47.25 for 21 days travel going to and from Michigan to sell 160 acres on the Michigan / Toledo Strip that Faries owned.

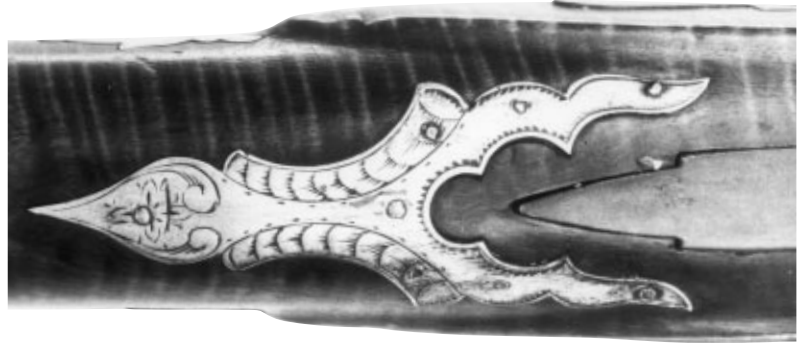
Widow Faries was entitled to retain 1 bible, 2 family pictures, 1 testament, 1 Constitution of the United States, 1 arithmetic book, 1 Religious Debates, 1 Course Lecture on Universalism, 1 History Constitution of Man, 1 English Grammar, 1 Dictionary, 3 Readers, 1 Geography, 1 Spelling Book, the wearing apparel of the family and deceased, the clothing and ornaments of the widow, 3 beds, 3 bed steads, 1 dutch oven, 1 tea kettle, 1 skillet, 1 small pot, 1 table and 6 chairs, 6 knives and forks, 6 plates, 6 tea cups and saucers, 1 sugar dish, 1 milk pot, 1 tea pot and 6 silver spoons, 5 split bottom chairs, 1 stand, 1 desk, 2 chests, 1 looking glass, 1 cupboard, 1 barrel, 1 churn, 1 lot of bacon.

The court was also petitioned by the administrator to a lot "one hundred and twenty eight dollars and seventy five cents for the support of the widow and children for 12 months", a sad ending for the family of the talented gunsmith.

Now that we have the major part of the Samuel L. Faries story, maybe more rifles will turn up with the script signature "S. L. F". As of now only two rifles by Faries are known to exist. He was a very good gunsmith. His architectural style, wood to metal fit, engraving and attention to detail rank him among the best at his trade in old Ohio.

Note: I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge certain individuals who helped me unravel the Faries story. Thanks to: Larry Bryner for the Faries patent information, The Butler Co. Records Center for their help with the Faries estate package, to Robert F. Walbridge, Decatur, Illinois for the Faries genealogical chart; to Jim Whisker for the photography; Charles Kaufmann for his research on David Morton; to Richard Rosenberger for his continued support; to Ernest Thode, Marietta Genealogical Center for his valuable assistance; and a special thank you to Kathryn Hudson who has entrusted me to be the "temporary custodian" of the fine Samuel L. Faries rifle.





Eight views of the Samuel L. Faries rifle including the Script "S L F" barrel signature.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL L. FARRIES, OF MIDDLETOWN, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN GUNS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent dated October 10, 1829.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL L. FARRIES, of the town of Middletown, in the county of Butler and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Making Guns to be named and called the "Eight-Barreled Percussion Gun," to be applied as well to cannon as small-arms; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the construction and operation of the said improvement in guns as invented and improved by me—that is to say:

Figure I represents a view of a cannon, exclusive of the lock, and the parts marked A A A being one connected piece and cast together, of any desirable size or caliber; the aperture or opening between the side bars, A A, to be such as to admit the part B B, composing the eight short barrels, to be placed in horizontally between the two lower bars and the two upper bars, the axles or gudgeons E E to be cast in connection with the long barrel, in such proportion as that the weight of the long barrel from E E may be about one-third of the weight of the whole piece in connection; the extreme butt A, being cast also in connection with the main piece, to be of sufficient substance to receive a large screw, C, to force up the follower F against the end of one of the short barrels, so that the fore end of the opposite barrel may be closely and firmly kept to the hinder end of the long barrel when fixed; and when a fire takes place, then give the screw one turn, and by means of a slider placed across the two under bars and the two upper bars the eight short barrels will recede a little, when one other of the barrels may be turned in and fire as before; the eight barrels B B to be cast in one piece by a pattern and each bored out directly toward the center, as deep as to e e e e, which are the touch-holes. The center D is a strong screw-head, and which passes directly downward to the slider aforesaid, (Marked G in Fig. II.)

Fig. II presents a side view of the cannon, to which is appended a lock, the cock to be placed on the inside of the side piece, and the mainspring tumbler, dog, and dog-spring are

placed on the out or right-hand side of the side piece or bar, as aforesaid. The point or fore end of the cock is perforated, or has a suitable hole therein, and to strike over a percussion-cap.

Fig. III represents a rifle or small-arm, being a side view; E E, the long barrel, which may be of any suitable length and bore to suit the maker. The frame or open piece, (marked A A A A,) in which the eight barrels revolve and to which the lock is appended, should be of brass, and cast with a sufficient opening at the fore end to receive the barrel E E, and to be fastened by screws, as at A, and at the opposite side, the breech of the rifle to be connected to the brass frame at c by means of a strong screw to pass through the butt of the brass frame at A, so that when screwed up to its place it will move forward the follower F against the end of one of the eight short barrels, and will firmly confine the whole until it be fired, when the great breech-screw will be turned half-round, and then turn in one other of the eight barrels until the whole be fired.

The lock is formed on the same plan and principle as is the lock for which I heretofore obtained a patent, a finished model of which is lodged in the Patent Office, with this difference only: In this the cock stands on the left of the lock, and the point or fore end of the cock is perforated so as to strike over a percussion-cap, as directed for the cannon lock in Fig. II.

The short barrels, for either great or small arms, should be but little more than sufficiently long to receive the cartridge or load. The ends of the short barrels, as well of the cannon as of the small-arms, should be dressed curved, comporting with a circle described from the center D, Fig. I, and the hinder end of the long barrel and the inside of the follower F to be curved dressed suitable thereto.

September 12, 1829.

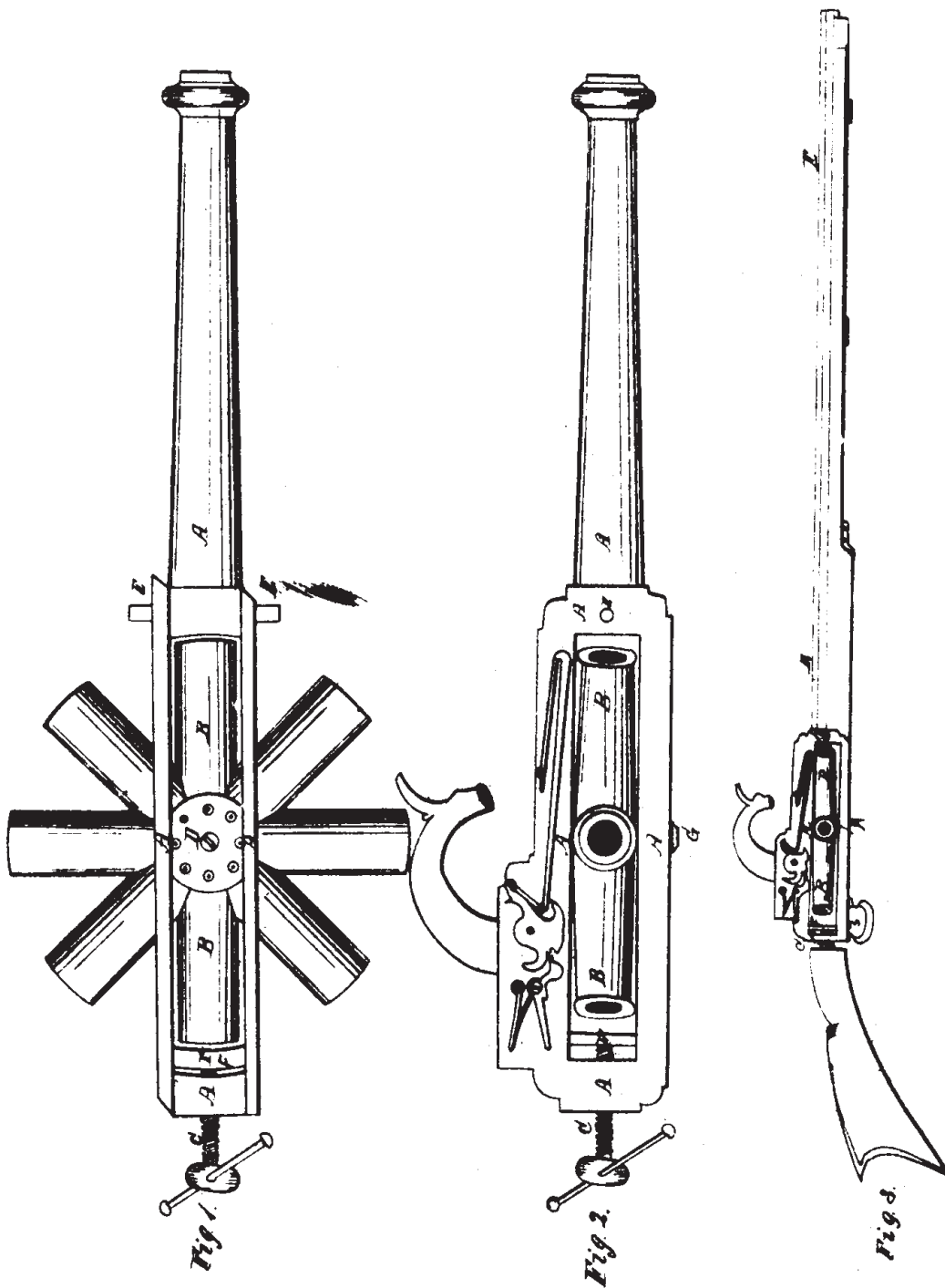
SAMUEL L. FARRIES.

Witnesses:

JAMES HEATON,
Z. BROWN.

S. I. FARIES.
Machine Gun.

Patented Oct. 10, 1829.



Samuel L. Faries 1829 patent for multi-barrel firearm using his 1828 patent for self-priming percussion lock.



UNITED WE STAND! One Gunmaker's Patriotic Celebration

By Jeff Jaeger



Curt Johnson, author of *Gunmakers of Illinois*, discovered the rifle in the early 1980's at Friendship, Indiana. It was during the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association shooting competition, that a collector brought the gun to commercial row for "show and tell." Curt recognized the folk-art value of the unique piece and took several photographs to keep in his files with the owner's name and address.

About twenty years later in the winter of 2001 the gun turned up again. This time it was at the author's kitchen table in northeast Iowa. The rifle owner had lost his job and decided it was time to pass the antique on to an appreciative new caretaker. The author's name was given to him as a possible prospect by a couple of veteran collectors. The owner and author made contact and agreed to meet that Saturday. After a pleasant lunch, they discussed the rifle's value and settled on a price. The transaction went smoothly and both parties were happy.

For months the author admired the gun's unique carving, inlays, and barrel inscription, but he didn't understand the gunmaker's supposed patriotic message until now, after September 11, 2001. His collecting associates have referred to the gun as the "snake rifle" for obvious reasons. But of the dozens of historians, collectors, and/or dealers who have handled the gun in person, no one has eluded to the primary patriotic theme so thoughtfully arranged by the gunmaker, Jacob Coble, during the post – Civil War and Centennial Celebration Eras.

The first eye-popping symbol is the relief-carved rattlesnake (figure 1). This is no ordinary snake and it was not carved in the stock because it was Coble's favorite woodland animal. The snake's body has multiple individual segments, but together they make up one strong

entity capable of a deadly counter attack. It is the gunmaker's plea for the people of the States to come together as one nation after a bitter civil war that nearly ripped this country in two. The symbolism is reminiscent of America's pre-revolutionary mindset and flags depicting serpents and the slogans "Join or Die" and "Don't Tread On Me" (figures 2 & 3).

The rattler is coiled and striking with his straight, arrow-shaped tongue (figure 1). The straight arrow was chosen over a forked tongue possibly because it reminds onlookers of the descriptive slang, "he's a straight shooter", or "his shot was straight as an arrow". The arrow better represented a no-nonsense attitude and military might evolving from a new, united, post-Civil War nation.

Another patriotic message is inscribed on a large silver inlay just forward of the engraved, brass capbox (see figure 4). The American flag flies above the Latin phrase, "E Pluribus Unum" meaning "from many, one". Again Coble is urging the North and South to unite after a devastating war like the original colonies united to defeat the British. Admirers of the rifle can almost hear him declare, "United We Stand"!

Finally, one turns to the inscribed barrel (see figure 5). Serial number "No. 65" may not be coincidence. "65" was the year the Civil War ended. Like much of the patriotic art created after September 11, 2001, the author believes that the slogan "No. 65 Forest Pride" represented an effort to urge people to unite after 1865 much like the colonies did after the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Strong feelings of nationalism were abundant – not unlike what this country experienced after the recent terrorist attacks. "No 65 Forest Pride" is the gun's thoughtfully chosen, historically significant serial number and name.

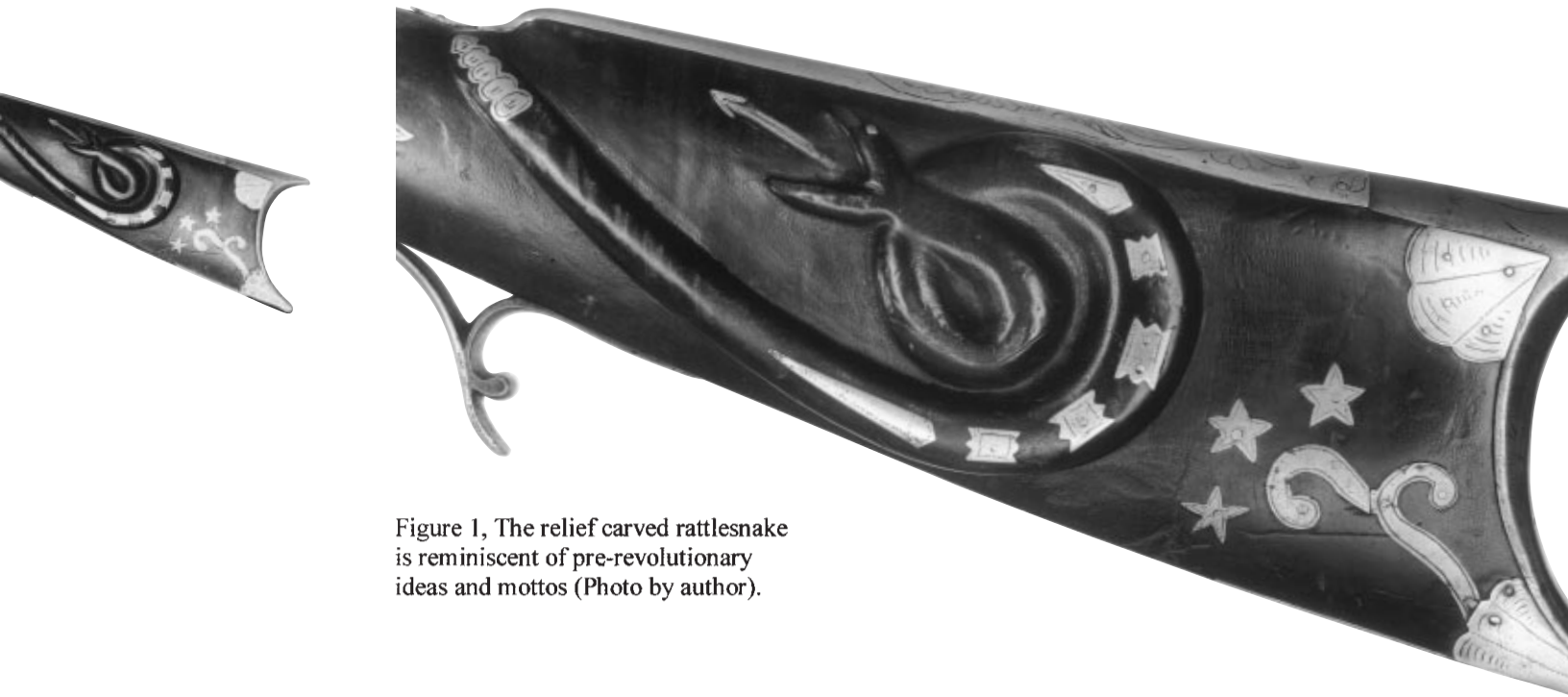


Figure 1, The relief carved rattlesnake is reminiscent of pre-revolutionary ideas and mottos (Photo by author).



Figures 2 and 3, The rattlesnake was a favorite emblem of Americans even before the Revolution: individually the rattles cannot be heard, but united they can be heard by all; it does not attach unless provoked; and it is deadly to step on (Taken from the website www.usflag.org).



Coble was a Union man. He was born in Ashland County, Ohio in 1837. Where he received his training is still unclear. His father was Abraham Coble, but neither man appeared in the Indiana census in 1850. An Abraham Coble does appear in Hocking County, Ohio in 1850. Jacob would have been 13 year old – about the age an apprenticeship began. Did he learn his trade by an Ohio gunsmith in Hocking County? It is highly possible that his teacher of the gunsmith trade was Peter Kane, (1816 – 1898) who worked in Hocking County, Ohio. Several Kane rifles with the “swirl” cheekpiece are known. The Indiana census shows us the Jacob had moved to Elkhart County, Indiana by 1860. He was aged 23 and living with his parents at the time. He did spend almost all of his adult life making and repairing guns in Elkhart County, Indiana.

An owner of another Coble rifle and a friend of the author once interviewed a county historian who knew of Jacob Coble. In the interview some interesting comments were recorded.

- 1) Jacob Coble built 100 rifles for the 1876 Centennial Celebration. The guns were all “registered” at the Elkhart County Courthouse.
- 2) Coble had a liquor problem and had to go to the County Poor Farm before he died. The County purchased his tombstone.
- 3) A fine, walnut, corner cupboard exists in Elkhart County that was made by Jacob Coble.

Coble died in 1916 at the Elkhart County Home.

Artistic interpretation is conjecture and opinion, and the author wishes to thank the reader for the latitude in this arena.

Sources Cited: Elkhart County, Indiana Census 1850-1880; Muzzle Blast: May, 1996, Jacob Coble, Indiana Gunmaker, by Curt Johnson, pp. 40, 41; The United States Flag (website), Section I, The Evolution of the Flag; Ohio Census Index, 1850; Personal correspondence from an Elkhart County friend and gun collector.

The author wishes to thank Curt Johnson, Jack

Vye, and Shelby Gallien for their continuing inspiration and coaching.

About the Author: Jeff Jaeger is a researcher, photographer, and collector of antique, Indiana-made longrifles. He continues his effort of producing a book on the subject of Indiana Gunmakers in the 1800's, and hopes to finish the project within a few years. Anyone with biographical information or photographs of Jacob Coble or other Indiana gunmakers is urged to contact him via e-mail at jaeger@cfu.net.

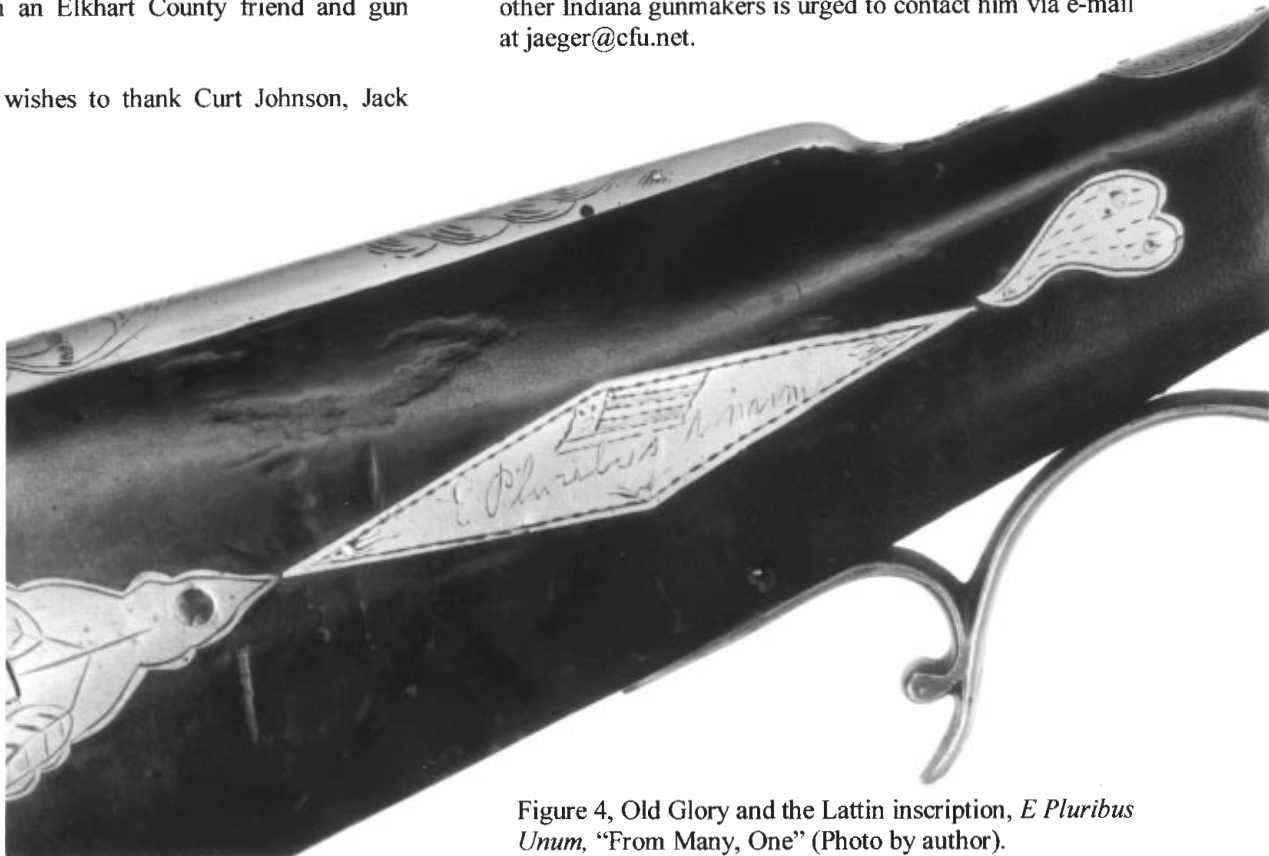


Figure 4, Old Glory and the Latin inscription, *E Pluribus Unum*, "From Many, One" (Photo by author).



Figures 5, Coble Maker South West Ind (Photo by author)

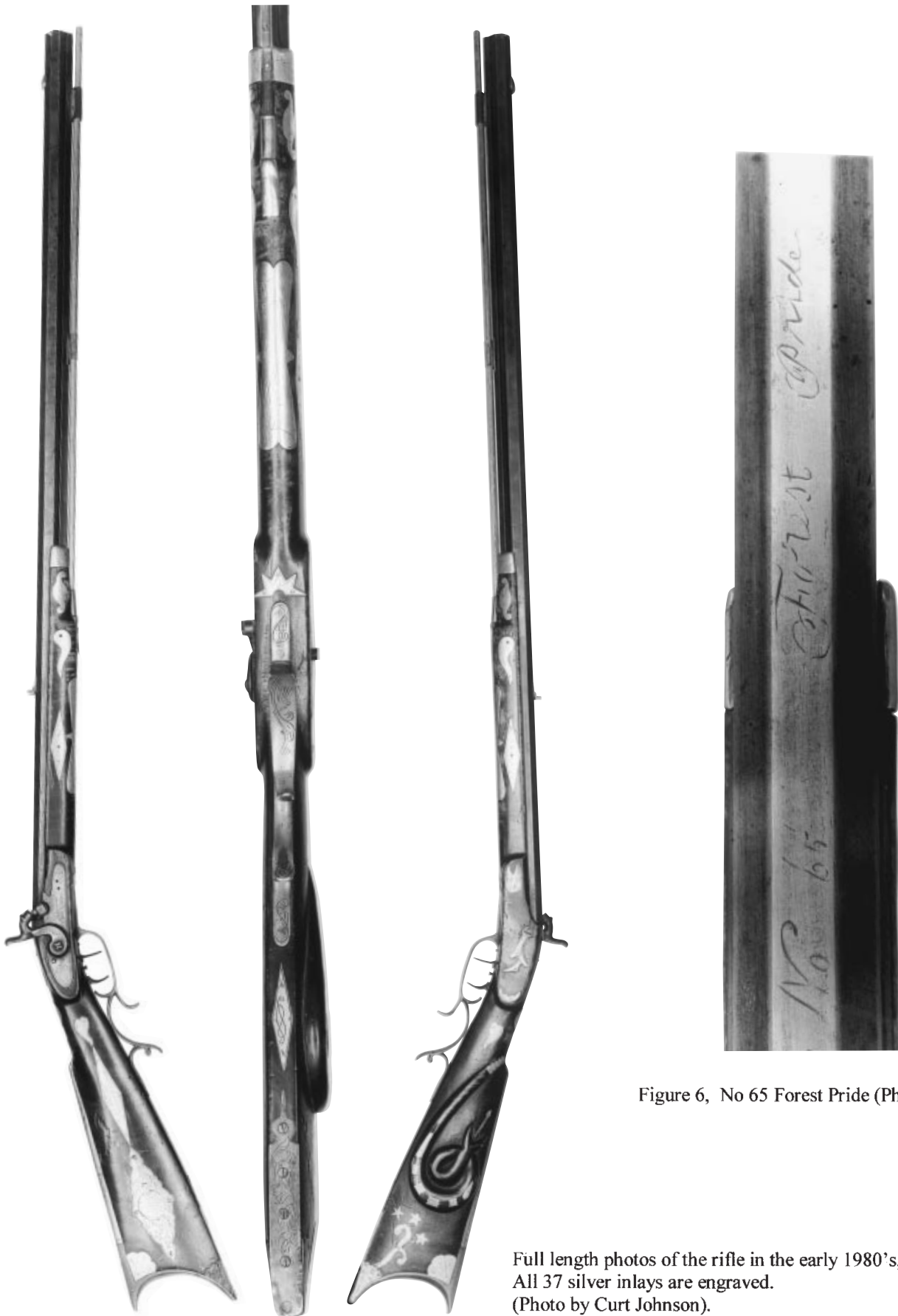


Figure 6, No 65 Forest Pride (Photo by author)

Full length photos of the rifle in the early 1980's,
All 37 silver inlays are engraved.
(Photo by Curt Johnson).



Thomas & Joel Sigler Brother gunsmiths of Putnam County, Ohio



Compiled by Tom McCullough

Thomas & Joel Sigler were brother gunsmiths of Liberty Twp., Putnam County, Ohio. They migrated to Putnam County from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania in 1837 with their parents Jacob and Mary Abigail (Stoneroad) Sigler. Jacob and Mary had 9 children: Sarah, Lewis, David, Joanna, Joel, Thomas, Hannah, Valentine, & Rebecca. Their father Jacob Sigler (1797-1846) was the son of John Sigler (1753-1836) and grandson of George Sigler Sr. (?-1790). The earliest known record of George Sigler Sr. was in Lancaster Co., Pa., where his son John was born in 1753. George arrived in this country on Sept. 25, 1751 in Philadelphia, aboard the ship Phoenix. Tradition says that George married Elizabeth Terrault on shipboard.

The Sigler family is German and this is borne out by the name given to George Sigler Sr.'s farm, Germanicus, and by the early signature of George in German script "Gorg Ziegler". In 1775 George Sigler Sr. and his family migrated to the head of Long Meadow Run in Derry Twp., Cumberland Co., Pa. - now Decatur Twp., Mifflin Co., Pa. George & Elizabeth had six sons: John, George, Henry, Jacob, Adam, & Samuel. Five of these sons had a son go west: Jacob (son of John) moved to Putnam Co., Ohio in 1837, Jacob (son of George Jr.) to Crawford Co, Ohio in 1841, Daniel (son of Henry) to Ashland Co., Ohio in 1833, Adam V (son of Adam) to Lake City, Minn., and William (son of Samuel) to Wyandot Co., Ohio in 1845.

Jacob Sigler was a farmer in Liberty Twp., Putnam County and like many of the early settlers of Northwestern Ohio had knowledge of woodworking and blacksmithing. This knowledge was handed down to his children Joel and Thomas. Joel was a cabinet maker and blacksmith by occupation, but also worked in the gun shop of his brother Thomas. Thomas was a gunsmith by occupation and supplemented his income by farming.

Thomas Sigler:

Thomas Sigler was born in Mifflin Co., Pennsylvania on December 2nd, 1829. The earliest record as a gunsmith was found in the 1850 US Census. Thomas (age 21) was working as a gunsmith on the family farm in Liberty Twp. The household consisted of his widowed mother Mary Abigail (50), and siblings David (25), Hannah (18), and Valentine (15). The next record of Thomas as a gunsmith, was in the Ohio Business Directory of 1853 & 1859.

On Feb. 7th, 1866, Thomas Sigler married Mary Kring Pendleton in Findlay, Ohio. Mary was born in

Franklin County, Ohio on July 15, 1837. Mary had four children from a previous marriage: Alvina, Henrietta, Mary Eva, and Lydia.

Thomas (age 38) is listed as a gunsmith in the 1870 US Census and the household consisted of his wife Mary (32) and children Alvina (13) and Mary E. (9). In the 1880 US Census, Thomas (age 50) is listed as a farmer, with wife Mary (41), daughter Lydia (17), and Frank (10).

Thomas lived in the village of West Leipsic, which is adjacent to the village of Leipsic. West Leipsic lies in Liberty Township, and Leipsic is within Van Buren Township. West Leipsic's first name was Leipsic, when it was founded by John W. Peckenpaugh in 1850. Mr. Peckenpaugh was believed to have chosen the name to perpetuate the name of Leipzig, Germany. West Leipsic and Leipsic could have been one town, but West Leipsic wanted it's own town council. This is why there are now two separate towns.

Thomas was one of the very few gunsmiths in Putnam County who worked primarily as a gunsmith. He worked at his trade from 1850 to about 1895. His rifles are typically plain half stock rifles with back action percussion locks. He's rifles can be identified by their unique scroll cheek piece and straight comb stock. On Jan. 10, 1905, Thomas Sigler died after a long illness. Funeral was held at the U.B. Church on Jan. 13th. He was buried at the Christ Cemetery (now part of Sugar Ridge Cemetery) east of Leipsic, Ohio on State Route 613.

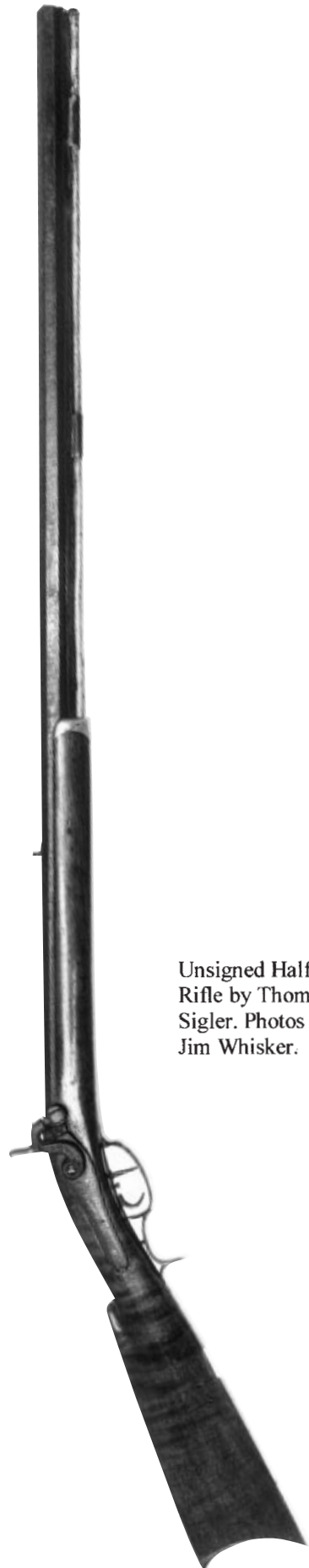
I have located two Thomas Sigler rifles:

Half stock percussion rifle with curly maple stock. Brass hardware with back action lock. Unique scroll cheek piece. Set trigger. The brass cap box has an iron lid. The barrel pin escutcheon's are rectangular shaped silver. Barrel is 36 caliber with the name - T Sigler engraved on top flat of barrel (This rifle is pictured on page 142 in Volume 4 - Ohio Gunsmiths & Allied Tradesmen by Donald A. Hutslar).

Half stock percussion rifle with curly maple stock. Brass hardware with back action lock. Unique scroll cheek piece. Set triggers. No patchbox or cap box. Barrel is 15/16" x 38" long in 36 caliber. Barrel is not signed.

Joel Sigler:

Joel sigler was born in Mifflin Co., Pennsylvania



Unsigned Halfstock
Rifle by Thomas
Sigler. Photos by
Jim Whisker.

on August 9, 1827. The earliest record of Joel as a gunsmith was found in the 1860 & 1864 Gazetteers. Joel was working in the shop of his brother Thomas. Joel was listed as a cabinet maker in the 1850 and 1860 US Census and as a blacksmith in the 1870 and 1880 US Census. Joel's knowledge of wood working and blacksmithing was an asset to his brothers gun shop. Joel was utilized for both gun repairs and gun building.

Joel Sigler married Mary J. Keel on Sept. 25, 1849. Mary, daughter of John and Rosanna (Seiford) Keel, was born in Stark County, Ohio on May 8, 1829. Joel and Mary Sigler had ten children: John T., Sarah A., William N., Samuel E., Jacob L., George W., Charles H., Laura L., Emma F., and Mary A. Joel died on March 5th, 1902 and was laid to rest in the Old Center / South Center Cemetery, 4 miles northwest Leipsic, Ohio on Road 10.

I have been unable to locate any Joel Sigler rifles.

Reference's:

1880 History of Putnam County, Ohio

Family Tree of John (1753 – 1836) and Jane) Osborn) (1751-1833) Sigler.

Family Tree history found in Genealogy Dept. at Putnam County Library in Ottawa, Ohio

Muzzle Blasts

Jan. 1945 issue

Article: Ohio Gunsmiths – 1853 by William E. Gay

Pages 6 & 7

The Sigler Family of Mifflin County, Penna.

By Raymond Martin Bell

Washington and Jefferson College

Washington, Pennsylvania

1958



Signed halfstock rifle
By Thomas Sigler.
Photos by Jim Whisker