

EDWARD J. MEREDITH, JR., D. D. S.
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BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33432
TELEPHONE 395-3334

Jan 4, 1982

Michael J. Winey
401 Brandy Lane
Mechanicsburg Pa

Dear Mike:

I appreciated your sending the Johnston materials back so promptly. I was able to show the pistol and records (+ photo) at the last Palm Beach Antique Gun show in Dec. It created quite some interest -

I recently took a few more color shots of the gun which I'm sending to you. At least you can see the inscription. The gun appears in the photo to be blue - Actually it is a plum brown.

I have not sold the pistol yet - I would like to have the gun go to someone such as you or Mark Dunkelmann - who has a worthwhile interest in its history.

I'd be willing to sell the gun for \$1500
- I hate to see nice pieces like this just get
hung on a hook in a closet.

Mike, if you are interested I'd even go
\$1400 - with payments spread out over the
year. I hope I'm not putting too much
pressure on you - I guess I ^{just} feel strongly
about the subject and I appreciated
your ^{honest} reply and sending the pic ^{of Johnston} etc.

Think it over Mike - I'll keep
the gun til I hear from you - if it
takes til next summer.

My great grandfather was named
Joseph Southam. He served in the 93rd
Pa. He was wounded on July 2nd 1863 - Hit
with a minnie in the little finger at Gettysburg

My dad tells of looking at his deformed
finger. He died in 1915 in a fire (from
his pipe!) I have his records - quite
interesting. ^{He lived around Ashland, Pa} I love this stuff -

Have a good & prosperous New Year
Mike.

Very sincerely yours,

Ied Meredith

P.S. I used to live (33 years) in
Lansdowne, Pa.

401 Brandy Lane
Mechanicsburg, PA
12 January 1983

Edward J. Meredith, Jr., D.D.S.
240 W. Palmetto Park Road Suite 101
Boca Raton, FL 33432

Dear Dr. Meredith,

Thank you very much for the nice color photos of Byron Johnston's pistol. These are quite clear and certainly shows that it is a very nice weapon. Thank you too for your kind offer to sell the pistol to me on an installment plan. I believe your price of \$1,400.00 is fair and in line with similar pieces being offered these days. However, I am still not in a position to be able to purchase the pistol, much as I would like to have it. You see, for eleven months of the year I pay tuition to a Christian Day School for my two children in the amount of \$148.32 per month. With my mortgage payments, trying to keep two cars going and the other regular monthly bills, that leaves almost nothing for a hobby. Then there are the unforeseen things that come up like \$300.00 to cap a broken tooth (you can relate to that one) and I still owe my dentist \$25.00! I just do not have a salary which could make payments of \$120.00 per month on a pistol. You mentioned that you do not want it to seem like you are putting too much pressure upon me and I can tell you that you are not because I know my financial limitations and responsibilities.

I am afraid I can speak for Mark Dunkelman also. He has just recently gotten a job after being out of work for three years. His wife taught school to support them but now she has a baby and Mark is not making that much in Commercial art to buy the pistol either. I had mentioned it to him after you had contacted me and told him if he was interested to make you an offer. His reply was that it was out of the question.

So Dr. Meredith, you are dealing with two young men who just do not have what it takes. As a matter of fact, I am taking some things to a Civil War show on Saturday in hopes of selling something the proceeds of which I hope to use to pay some bills!

Information is still coming in. We recently heard from a lady in California who has the diaries (she sent us copies) and shoulder straps (she sent us photos) of Sgt. Major Alex Bird, and a fellow in New York who does relic hunting sent us photos of a stencil of Albert Goulding of Co. F that he found in the winter 1862/1863 camp of the 154th at Stafford Court House. It is interesting how this stuff is still around.

Again, thank you very much for your reasonable offer on the pistol.

Sincerely yours,

Ed J. Meredith