

EDWARD J. MEREDITH, JR., D. D. S.
240 W. PALMETTO PARK ROAD SUITE 101
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33432

1-305- TELEPHONE 395-3334

Member of:
Palm Beach Gun Collectors
Georgia Gun Collectors
N.R.A.

OCT. 31, 1982

Michael J. Winey
401 Brandy Lane
Mechanicsburg, Pa 17055

Dear Mr Winey;

This past week I had a chance to read your fine article "Relics of a Regiment - the 154th Regiment - New York State Infantry Volunteers" by yourself & Mark Dunkelmann in the N.Y. Trades Mar-Apr '82. I was much impressed - as I have a nice relic from the "Hardtack Regiment" in the form of a 1861 Colt Navy - serial # 8402 - inscribed on B.S. "Byron A Johnston
154th N.Y.S.V."

I've had the gun a number of years - coming from a deceased uncle around 1973 - and before him it was in the Munteen's Collection, Balto. Md. Capt Munteen was a Balto. Police Chief in the 30's and had a large collection of C.W. handguns. The collection was not well known - I guess the police were careful even back in the 30's & 40's. He (Munteen) was a relative to my uncle who inherited some pieces from his collection and hence - to me.

The gun is in excellent condition - almost like new inside - however, it has no finish - only brown patina. It is a civilian 1861 Colt -

I'm a C.W. handgun collector from the 60's and have over 200 pieces - including over 30 Confederate primary handguns. In recent years my interests have shifted to Confed. handguns and I've started to slowly reduce my other (non-Confederate) pieces. I have about a dozen inscribed pieces (4 Confed.) I don't know if you are interested in this revolver and I'm not real sure I want to sell it -

I have a pack of archive papers on Byron A. Johnston - He enlisted as a private July '62 - made Sgt. Sept '62, 2nd Lt. Jan 19, '63, 1st Lt. May 27 '63 - and Capt Sept 16 '64. He was in command of the Pioneer Brig. during the march to the Sea in Ga where he contracted many physical problems - later to plague him. He died March 17, 1903

Mike - if you are interested write or call me during the day 8:30-12 2 to 4:30 PM at my office No. 305-395-3334 I'm off Wed. afternoons or call me at home after 6 PM 305-395-0431

Yours sincerely,

Ted Meredith

EDWARD J. MEREDITH, JR., D. D. S.
240 W. PALMETTO PARK ROAD SUITE 101
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Nov. 16, 1982

Michael J. Winey
401 Brandy Lane
Mechanicsburg, Pa

Dear Mr. Winey;

I appreciated so much your letter of Nov 9th
and also the fine picture of Capt Byron A. Johnston.

I am sending you my copies Johnston's archive
records. Please copy them and return to me
before Dec. 4th - if possible - as I intend to show
the grouping at the Dec 4th - 5th antique arms show
in Palm Beach, Fla. The pictures are poor as
my film in the Polaroid is out-dated - thus all
the marks and greenish color. I think you
can get the idea from them what the gun looks
like.

I think I'll eventually sell the gun. From
your experience what do you think the gun
is worth? - I thought about \$2000 but I
really don't know.

I originally came from Phila. — I lived there 33 years of my life. My father's people, including my dad, came from Ashland, Pa. — so I'm a product of your country!

Your professional curator occupation sounds most interesting to me. I wish you well in your chosen work, Mike.

I've been a dentist (went to Univ. of Md) for 27 years. I practiced 2 years in the Air Force. 4 years in Harborth, Pa. and 21 years in Boca Raton.

I, too, like to go to gun shows. I belong to Palm Beach G. Coll. — Ga Gun. Coll & the NRA. Here in South Fl. we don't have the people interested in antique guns ^{as in the north,} however, on Dec 4th we are having a small Antique show in Palm B. for the first time (only 68 tables) I hope it goes over well.

Mike, if you know an interested person in my Johnston pistol let me know. I'm trying to reduce my collection to pay off my wife's hospital bills — she was in for 2 months.

Most sincerely yours,

Ted Meredith

At Home.- Lieut. Byron A. Johnston of the glorious 154th N.Y., is now in our village on a brief visit to his family.- The Lieut. passed through the fiery ordeal at Chancellorsville in gallant style, receiving only a slight wound, and now looks as hale and vigorous as ever. He says the confidence of the soldiers in "Fighting Joe Hooker" is still unabated, and that they are impatient for the order to move once more against the Rebel army under Lee.

Capt. Freeman, May 28, 1863