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1 INTRODUCTION TO PART 2

This Collector Note is presented in three parts as the original file was too large and became increasingly difficult to edit. [PART 1](#) covers the background explanation together with the chronology from the Late-Georgian period (c.1790 - c.1830) through to the Mid-Victorian period (c.1860 – c.1880). This [PART 2](#) covers the **Late-Victorian & Early 20th Century period (c.1880 – c.1920) through to the Post-World War 1 period (1920s and 1930s)**, and [PART 3](#) concludes with sundry "Odds & Ends".

2 LATE-VICTORIAN & EARLY 20TH CENTURY, C.1880 – C.1920

2.1 General introduction

As previously emphasised [PART 1](#), when formulating a [chronology](#) for sportsmen's knives based on when a particular style of sportsman's knife was prominent - in terms of its evident popularity with the buying public, there is no clear distinction in time that indicates when one period finished and another started; change was both gradual and incremental and were applied differently by individual manufactures. Certainly, when a new pattern became popular, other manufacturers would produce their own version and over time some such items would be recognised as a 'town pattern' that facilitated the mass production of commonly used components by specialist sub-contractors.

This is particularly evident regarding the change from the mid-Victorian period to the late-Victorian period - as it is also perhaps the time when sportsmen's knives were at the height of their popularity. Therefore, 1880 is suggested as an [approximate](#) date for the start of a period of significant change in the evolution of the British Sportsmen's knives. The 'reference dates' that underpin the chronology are mainly sourced from the cutlery trade and sales catalogues that are referenced throughout this section, and also from actual dates that are related to a specific item or event.

The primary source for establishing the starting point for the time frame for this period is the frequently mentioned "Army & Navy Cooperative Stores Limited" (A & N C.S.L.) **1883** sales catalogue – see [Appendix 1](#). It is important to emphasise that the A & N C.S.L. was established in 1871 and therefore it can be assumed that there are previous catalogues for the mid to late-1870s. Consequently, the knives referenced in this section as examples of a particular style of sportsmen's knife are known to have been available at that time (i.e. **1883**) but it cannot be assumed that this is the date when they were first available – as they may have been featured in earlier catalogues starting from 1871. Also, the A & N C.S.L. catalogues, (being sales catalogues, not trade catalogues) do not feature a comprehensive range of the items offered for sale but rather offer items that were deemed to be potentially attractive to their members (i.e. service personal and their friends). Therefore, such catalogues do not reflect a universal approach to what is available but rather reflect what is potentially attractive to their selected segment of the market. The trade catalogues and sales catalogues that are extensively referenced in this "Late- Victorian, Edwardian & early 20th century" Section are:

- A&NCSL catalogues 1883, 1904 and 1907
- T. Turner 1902 catalogue

4. CONCLUDING COMMENTS

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

6. UPDATES, ELABORATIONS & CORRECTIONS

AUTHOR

APPENDIX 1. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM "ARMY & NAVY COOPERATIVE STORES LIMITED SALES CATALOGUE" DATED 1883

APPENDIX 2. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM GEORGE WOSTENHOLM & SONS TRADE CATALOGUE

APPENDIX 3. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM THOMAS TURNER & CO. 1902 TRADE CATALOGUE

APPENDIX 4. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS CUTLERS TRADE CATALOGUE (ASSUMED DATED CIRCA 1912)

APPENDIX 5. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM THOMAS TURNER & CO. 1925 TRADE CATALOGUE

ENDNOTES

- J. Rodgers c.1912 catalogue
- Gamages 1913 catalogue
- J. NOWILL & SONS "MILITARY CUTLERY" March 1916
- T. Turner 1925 catalogue
- and rough copies of parts of the George Butler & Co. 1928 catalogue.

Chronology, in terms of the dating of knives, is generally imprecise; it is sometimes possible to discern a year when a style of knife first appeared in trade catalogues, but as knives were held in inventory for many years by manufacturers, in reality it is only possible to distinguish a date-range for any particular pattern, and many examples of this are provided in the following section and subsections of this Collector Note. The only exception to this is when a specific knife is inscribed with a date, and all such examples are particularly useful in assisting with the confirmation of a date range.

Typology, however, is a little more distinctive, as perceived stylistic trends that were evident in the late 1870 and early 1880s were confirmed by the 1890s and early 1900s. Consequently, typology is the primary basis for the examination of sportsmen's knives in what appears to be the final phase in the evolution of the British Sportsman's knife, and hopefully chronology provides a useful framework within which the typology evolves.

Due to the popularity of sportsmen's knives over this period there was a great variety of styles available, which ensured that the on-going development of this typology, that was formulated during the study of sportsmen's knives in the early and mid-Victorian periods, became an even more complicated task in this later period.

In an attempt to provide some clarity to the topological base, this PART 2 section of the Collector Note adopts a hierarchical approach which starts with the two main distinctions that were adopted in the study of the earlier periods, being: "Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives" and "Single-ended Sportsmen's knives", to which a further distinction relevant to this period was added, being: "All-metal Sportsmen's Knives". Below this primary level there are in each case further distinctions of which "horseman's" and "non-horseman's" are the obvious ones, together with other distinctive styles such as "Hunter" and "Champagne pattern" styles of sportsmen's knives. There is then a further level of distinction which relates to specific physical characteristics that were common in sportsmen's knives in this period. Consequently, the layout of this section is as follows:

2. LATE-VICTORIAN, EDWARDIAN & EARLY 20TH CENTURY, C.1880 – C.1920

- 2.1 General introduction
- 2.2 Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives
 - 2.2.1 Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'non-horseman' style
 - 2.2.2 Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'horseman' style
 - 1.2.2.1 *Large-sized horseman's pattern*
 - 1.2.2.2 *Medium-sized horseman's pattern*
 - 2.2.3 Double-ended 'Hunter' style Sportsmen's Knives
- 2.3 Single-ended Sportsmen's knives
 - 2.3.1 Single-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'horseman' style.
 - 1.3.1.1 *The hinged bolster type*
 - 1.3.1.2 *The tab hinge type*
 - 2.3.2 Single-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'non-horseman' style.
- 2.4 All-metal Sportsmen's Knives
 - 2.4.1 Small all-metal 'champagne pattern' sportsmen's knives

2.4.2 Medium-sized all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives

1.4.2.1 Double-ended version

2.4.2.2 Single ended version

2.4.3 Medium-sized all-metal 'non-horsemen' style sportsmen's knives

3 POST-WORLD WAR 1, THE 1920s AND 1930s

This “**Late-Victorian, Edwardian & early 20th century, c.1880 – c.1920**” period was a time of both standardisation and innovation, with designs becoming progressively more utilitarian (*designed to be useful or practical rather than attractive*). Importantly, the emphasis here is on ‘progression’ in terms of gradual or incremental change, with trends that are evident in the mid-Victorian period being applied more obviously and comprehensively in the late-Victorian period. Also, all these styles were generally produced in parallel throughout this period, rather one style being substituted by another. There is however ample evidence that some styles declined in popularity earlier than others.

There are some general trends that are evident in this period:

- Knives became smaller; by the 1890s sportsmen's knives with a closed length of 6 inches (15.4cm) were rare, and less than 5 inches (12.3cm) had become the norm.
- Embellishments such as decorative diagonal grooves and file-work on knife backs – especially on the exposed backs of tools on the topside, became less common.
- Lock-back main blades became increasingly rare, and almost non-existent on smaller-sized sportsmen's knives (both horsemen and non-horsemen).

2.2 Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives

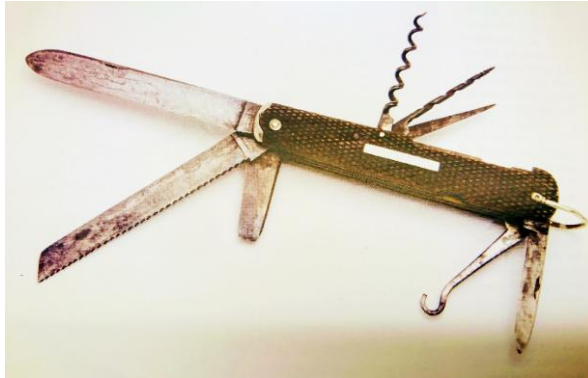
This group of sportsmen's knives typically consists of examples that feature a main spear point blade and at least one or more blades (normally a sawblade and stubby file/wire cutter/turnscrew), with two blades opening from the opposite end that commonly consisted of a button hook and a pen blade, although there was great variation in such provision. The tools on the topside are almost universally a triangular borer, a drill and a corkscrew. Three backsprings appear to be the norm however two backspring versions are also common. Also, embellishments such as diagonal (and sometimes parallel) grooves on the exposed tang surfaces of tools on the topside of knives that were common in the mid-Victorian years - are uncommon. Another feature of mid-Victorian period that appears to have been far more common in the late-Victorian period was the inclusion of nickel silver 'shoulders' in lieu of bolsters. There may be minor variations of these features, however a high degree of standardisation is increasingly apparent during the late-Victorian – early 20th century period.

2.2.1 Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'non-horseman' style

It appears that most double-ended Sportsmen's Knives are of the 'non-horseman' style, with the 'horseman' sector of the market appearing to favour the **single-ended sportsman's knife** – see page [29 here](#), and increasingly during this period '**medium sized all-metal horsemen's knives**' were popular – especially in wartime, - see page [46 here](#). '**Double-ended sportsmen's knives**' that feature a single main spear blade at one end are detailed separately under the heading “**Double-ended Hunter-style Sportsmen's knives**” - see page [18 here](#).

The following two knives show the continuation of the mid-Victorian period demand for large sportsmen's knives (non-horseman's style), but with an increased emphasis on utilitarian patterns (i.e. “*designed to be useful or practical rather than attractive*”) and on

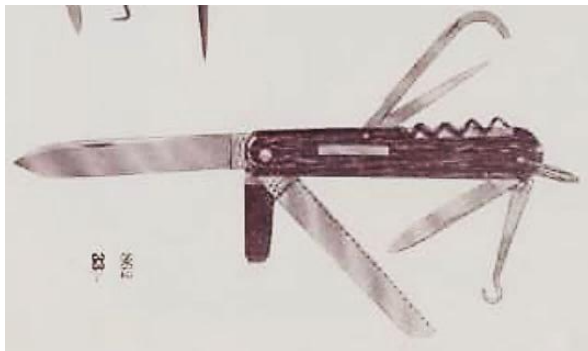
standardisation aimed at efficiency in production. The A&N C.S.L. 1883 trade catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#)) does include examples of double-ended Sportsmen's Knives, but they are either horsemen's patterns or Hunter-style Sportsmen's patterns. The 1907 A&N C.S.L. continues with this approach but does display one "Stag Sports Knife" similar to the two following knives, but with a slightly different array of blades and tools – including a tin opener that became a common tool in medium-sized all-metal sportsmen's knives marketed as a private purchase knife for military personnel (see section 2.4.2 [here](#)).



A reference date-range is noted in Flook's London Knife Book entry for "Henrig & Co." (pages 76 and 77). Flook states that the company "*Operated for only about 15 years from 1890 to circa 1905 ...*" and provides a photo of a knife marked "HENRIG & Co. 26 COVENTRY ST" (see photo opposite) which appears to be identical to the "J. HAIGH" knife

detailed on this page below.

A similar illustration has been provided to me by well-known USA based "F-S dealer" and



authority on Wilkinson brand knives Roy Shadbolt. He advised that the illustration is copied from a circa 1910 "General Catalogue and Price List" (page 199). The knife appears to be identical to the HENRIG knife except that it is a horseman's version – the drill tool having been replaced by a hoof pick that folds into the frame.

Roy's website has some interesting

articles on knives and collecting and is available at <https://www.fsknife.com/>



Maker: not known. The mark side tangs of all five blades on the underside are stamped "J. HAIGH" and the pile sides are stamped "95 LORD STREET LIVERPOOL". The knife has a closed length of 6 inches (15.3cm), stag horn scales, brass liner - with the middle two being milled, together nickel silver shoulders, pins, shield, and shackle. The shield is engraved "GEORGE GIBB". It is

assumed that "J. HAIGH" is a Liverpool based retailer and that the knife was most likely made in Sheffield – as was the common practice at the time. An indication as to the possible maker is a logo stamped on the main spear blade consisting of five (music) lines over stamped with a treble clef and a sharp – the "sharp" being similar to the "double sharp" used by George Ibberson & Co. Ltd.

The next knife is almost identical to the HAIGH knife and is clearly stamped with a variety of Wilkinson stamps and in appearance it is in mint unused/unmarked condition – characterised by an ultra-high polish on all exposed steel surfaces of the blades, tools, and springs. It does however have two features which suggest that it may in fact be a factory recondition job. Specifically, the tang on the main spear blade has significant scratches that

appear to have been polished over, the outer surfaces of the back springs exposed on the topside show evidence of pitting that has been polished over and also their edges are no longer sharp – a common outcome of excessive buffing, the long tweezer is highly polished (buffed), ditto with what should be a long pick but now has a length of 1 inch and appear to be a remnant of a tweezer rather than a pick. Also, the shackle appears modern when compared to that on the HAIGH Knife.



Maker: “WILKINSON LONDON & SHEFFIELD” is stamped on the mark side tangs of all five blades on the underside, the pile side tangs are stamped with the two trade mark logos: “BEST SWORD STEEL” and “W” over a crown. The knife has a closed length of 6 inches (15.3cm), stag horn scales, brass liner - with the middle

two being milled, together nickel silver shoulders, pins, shield, and shackle, although the shackle could also be stainless steel. Interestingly, this knife does have diagonal and parallel grooves on the exposed tang surfaces of tools on the topside which may indicate that this Wilkinson knife was (originally) of an earlier date than the Haigh knife.

The following knife is a two-backspring version of the preceding WILKINSON knife.



Maker: “[logo] MAPPIN BROS SHEFFIELD” is stamped on the mark side tangs of all three blades. The knife has a closed length of 6 inches (15.3cm), stag horn scales, brass liners (with the middle liner being milled), together with nickel silver shoulders, pins, shield, and shackle. A near identical knife made by Abram

Brooksbank, but with a closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.5cm), is shown [here](#) and on page 8 following.



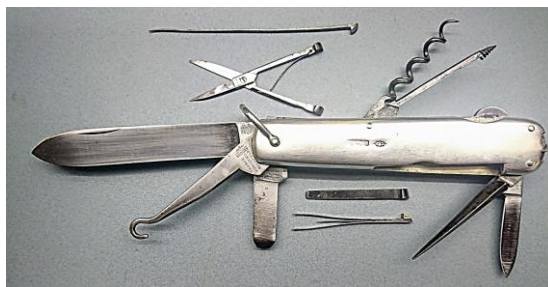
This Mappin Brothers advert. noted by [Paul Stamp](#) is copied from the “FIELD” journal dated 30 May 1891 and appears to be identical to the above knife. The text states “SPORTING KNIFE containing two blades, saw, corkscrew, leather borer, picker & tweezers”.

Newspaper image © The British Library Board. All rights reserved. With thanks to The British Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk).¹



A similar four-blade knife by Lockwood Brothers was included in the Michaan's 2006 Auction catalogue, having a closed length of 6 ¼ inches.

The following is an interesting knife but difficult to date; initially I assumed 'mid-Victorian' based on embellishments such as the decoration applied to the central backspring that incorporates the tab-lock device for the main spear blade, and also the extravagant 3/16 inch (5cm) thick sterling silver slab scales. The hallmark stamps on the sterling silver scales however indicate a date of **1905**.



Maker: "THOMAS TURNER & Co. SHEFFIELD" with "[logo] ENCORE" adjacent at right angle, is stamped on the mark side tangs of the main spear blade, the button hook, and the stubby turn screw; the pen blade is stamped "ENCORE OIL JOINTS SHEFFIELD". The knife has a closed length of 5 5/8 inches (14.3cm), sterling silver scales, nickel silver liners and shackle. The blades/tools on the underside are: spear blade, button hook, triangular reamer, and pen blade. The topside has a grooved corkscrew and a gimlet. The slide-out tools are: scissor, tweezer (with lancet), heavy file, and long pick. In addition to the diagonal grooving on the exposed surface of the tangs on the topside tools, there is also incised patterns along the length of the central backspring – as shown above. Both sterling silver slab scales have what I assume to be Sheffield hallmarks showing a date of 1905. It is probable that this is a one-off product as the largest sportsman's knife in the T. Turner 1902 catalogue is 4 ¾ inches in length. A start date for the range of these large "double-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'non-horseman' style" (and probably the horseman's version also) has not been determined however circa **mid-1880s** will suffice, and an end date of immediately prior to the start of WW1 can be assumed.

The second style of knives in this **double-ended Sportsmen's Knives - 'non-horseman' style** group have an obvious connection back to the 'medium sized' sportsmen's knives of the mid-Victorian period by reference to the two knives detailed on pages 37 and 38 of PART 1 of this Collector Note, which exhibit much finer embellishments compared to the more standardised knives of the late-Victorian period, even though the closed length of knives from both periods is consistently maintained at 4 ½ inches (11.4cm), although knives with a smaller closed length are also noted.

The first two knives exhibit characteristics of both periods although the move to standard patterns is evident. The two knives also assist in establishing a reference date frame for these medium-sized "double-ended Sportsmen's Knives ('non-horseman' style)".

The first knife is an illustration in Flook's London Knife Book (page 103 Plate 99) which exhibits most of the features that would be attractive to an angler/sportsman in the mid

to late-Victorian period. Its inclusion in this late-Victorian period is primarily based on the **1886** date inscribed on the shield.

The maker is "LUND CORNHILL" which Flook notes is stamped on the "*ricasso*" (i.e. tang). Flook also notes that at various times in their long history the company is described as a "cutler" along with other manufacturing activities. It is doubtful that this knife was made at one of their London addresses and is more likely to be a Sheffield made piece. Flook



describes the knife in the following terms: "*A multi-blade folder with finely chequered horn scales, brass liners and file work to the back springs. The knife has 10 blades along with scissors, tweezers, probe and fly-tying pliers.*" It is difficult to discern the "10 blades" from the photo, but if correct, and having regard to the "*file work to the back springs*", if it wasn't for the 1886 date the knife would have been in the mid-Victorian period. An alternative (and possible) scenario is that the date range

for this pattern is c.1870s to c.1880s. The closed length of this knife is not known but is assumed to be 4 ½ inches.

The second knife exhibits some characteristics of the mid-Victorian period but also reflects the trend to standardisation. Flook provides evidence that the knife would date from **1885** – see details following.



Maker: probably "PRIEST & Co." as stamped on the mark side tangs of all blades, and "514 OXFORD ST." on the pile side tangs. Flook's London Knife Book (page 138) notes that "*Although remaining in Oxford St. in 1885 they moved to 514.*" Flook also notes that "*Their directory entries in the last 10 years or so of their existence read 'cutlery manufacturers, razor makers:*

silver medal 1885, gold medal 1888'.". Another possibility is that the knife was made in Sheffield under contract to Priest. The knife has a closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.5cm) buffalo horn scales, brass liners (with the inner two being milled), nickel silver shoulders (at both ends of the handle), pins, shield, and shackle. The shield is inscribed "A. C. Nicholson". There are two details that reflect cutlery practices that were more common in the previous mid-Victorian period, being: the nickel silver shoulders at both ends which requires that the slide out tools are neatly housed within the shoulders, the backs of the tangs of the tools on the topside are embellished with diagonal and parallel grooves – although not nearly as fine as on the similar "**Mappin & Webb**" and "**Young Edinb.**" knives shown on the previous pages [37](#) and [38](#) of [PART 1](#) of this Collector Note.

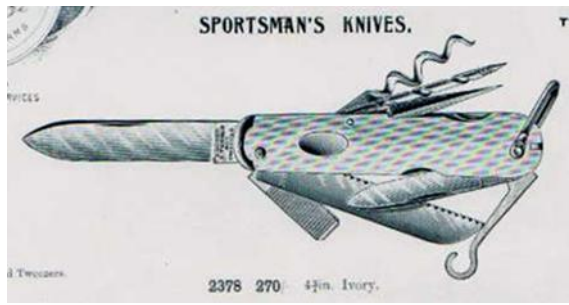


illustration copied from the Thomas Turner & Co. trade catalogue dated 1902 (see [Appendix 3](#)).



Maker: "THOMAS TURNER & Co. SHEFFIELD" with "ENCORE" logo at right-angle, stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade; the stubby wire cutter/turn screw is similarly marked. The tang of the saw blade is stamped "THOMAS TURNER & Co. SHEFFIELD", the pen blade tang is stamped "ENCORE OIL THE JOINTS", and

the button hook tang is stamped "TURNER & Co. CUTLERS TO HIS MAJESTY". The knife has a closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.5cm) ivory scales, brass liners (with the inner two being milled), nickel silver shoulders, pins, shield, and shackle.

The following four knives are stylistically identical to the Thomas Turner knife – apart from the stag horn scales, with some minor differences in detail as noted.



Maker: "W. MORTON & SONS SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tang and the Morton logo stamped on the pile side tang of all blades.



Maker: "C. BARRETT & Co. 158 STRAND" stamped on the mark side tang and "SHEFFIELD MADE" stamped on the pile side tang of all blades.



Maker: probably Mappin & Webb. The main spear blade is stamped on the tang "M. DYSON SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" and is probably a replacement. The saw blade, button hook and stubby file are stamped with the "M TRUSTWORTHY" logo and "MAPPIN & WEBB SHEFFIELD".



Maker: "WRAGGS HARWOOD St. SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tangs of all blades. This is a two-backspring pattern so the tools absent from the standard array are the saw on the underside and the drill on the topside. the tangs of the two tools on the topside are embellished with diagonal grooves.

The final knife in this group continues with the two-backspring style, but with other features common to the group although there are some other differences in detail as noted.



Maker: "ABRAM BROOKSBANK SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tangs of all three blades, with the company cannon trade mark and "DEFIANCE" stamped on the pile side. The knife has a closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.5cm), chequered horn scales,

brass liners, and nickel silver pins, shield, shoulders and shackle. Tweedale notes that the firm became "& Co." in the 1880s although this is not reflected in the tang stamps (which is not in itself an accurate indicator of a firm's legal status as company stamps were not regularly updated). A significant variation from the standardisation trend is that this knife only has three blades on the underside (one of which is a pen blade) whereas the Wraggs knife shown immediately above more closely follows the three-backspring standard. This knife could date from the 1890s however the absence of a button hook suggests a later date – even the 1920s.

The following group of five knives all exhibit the characteristics of medium-sized "**double-ended Sportsmen's Knives ('non-horseman' style)**" but for various reasons don't conform with the late-Victorian era standardized groups detailed above. The second and third knives for examples could easily be dated as mid-Victorian however documentary evidence places them in the late-Victorian period. It is conceivable that they could also date back to that earlier period.

With an average closed length of approximately 3 ¾ inches (9.6cm) the only significant difference between the following knife and the Thomas Turner knife on the preceding page [7](#) is its smaller size, and in that regard, it also has a connection with the knives in the next group starting at the bottom of page [10](#) following.



Maker: "COLQUHOUN & CADMAN SHEFFIELD" is stamped on mark side tangs of the stubby turnscrew and the saw blade; their pile side tangs are stamped with the scroll trademark and "GO – AHEAD" underneath. None of the other blades or tools are stamped. The knife has a closed length of 3 ½ inches (9.4cm) ivory scales, brass liners, nickel silver shoulders, pins, shield, and

shackle. Tweedale notes that Colquhoun & Cadman was acquired by Thomas Ellin & Co. Ltd in 1907, however this pattern is not shown in later Thomas Ellin trade catalogues so it can be safely assumed that this knife dates prior to 1907 which is consistent with the assumed date for the Thomas Turner knife mentioned above.



Maker: "WINGFIELD & ROBOTHAM SHEFFIELD" with the 'harp and crown' trade mark adjacent (which was granted in 1885) are stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade. The tangs of the stubby turnscrew and the button

hook are stamped "ALEXR. CLARK MANUF. Co. SHEFFIELD", and the tang of the pen blade is stamped "SHEFFIELD OIL THE JOINTS". It is not known why the knife has such a mixed parentage, or who exactly was the maker. To complicate matters further, Tweedale (page 676) notes that the Wingfield & Robotham business was bankrupt in 1898 and that the "*business was bought by Thos. Turner*". The knife differs from the 'standard' medium-sized

“double-ended Sportsmen’s Knives (‘non-horseman’ style)” due to its different arrangement of blades and tools, in particular the absence of a sawblade. The exposed surfaces of the corkscrew and drill on the topside are also embellished with diagonal grooving which was more common in the mid-Victorian period. The knife has a closed length of 3 7/8 inches (9.8cm) ivory scales, brass liners, nickel silver shoulders, pins, and engraved shield.



The adjacent illustration is copied from the Thomas Turner & Co. 1902 trade catalogue (see [Appendix 3](#)) and knife shown appears to be identical to the Wingfield & Robotham knife, noting that

the catalogue also offers this pattern 2255 with an “ivory” option, which suggests that Thos. Turner was most likely the maker. Tweeddale’s Directory entry for “The Alexander Clark Company Ltd.” Notes that the company was founded in the early 1890s and was active in the manufacture of a broad range of cutlery and related products through to the 1930s. There is however no indication of a link with either Wingfield & Robotham or Thomas Turner. Based on the knowledge that the ‘harp and crown’ trade mark was granted in 1885, and that it an almost identical knife is illustrated in the Thomas Turner 1902 catalogue, it is probable that this knife dates from the c.1890s to the c.1900s.



Maker: “JOSEPH HAYWOOD & Co. [kettle mark] SHEFFIELD” stamped on the mark side tangs of all the blades on the underside except for the button hook which has “ENCORE OIL THE JOINTS” – which is a Thomas Turner trade mark. This can probably be explained by the

comment in Tweeddale’s Directory (page 306) that in 1902 Haywood’s “... marks, goodwill, and stock of electro-plate and premium sportsman’s knives were offered for sale”, and that one of the joint purchasers was Thomas Turner and Co. The agreement between the joint purchasers was that Turner’s would continue the pocket knife department. This knife is certainly a “premium sportsman’s knife”, it has a closed length of 4 1/8 inches (10.5cm), fine pearl scales (the only knife with pearl scales in this Collector Note), brass liners (with the inner two being milled), nickel silver bolsters, pins, and shield. It’s safe to assume that this pattern was in Haywood’s inventory well prior to 1902 however its simple style lack of embellishment suggest late-Victorian rather than mid-Victorian, so a probable date range for this knife style is c.1890s to c.1900s, and the knife itself dates c.1902 – c.1914 on the assumption that Thomas Turner continued to use the Haywood brand until the start of WW1.



Maker: “SOUTHERN & RICHARDSON SHEFFIELD” is stamped on the mark side tang of the manicure blade; all other blades/tools are unmarked. The knife has a closed length of 3 3/4 inches (9.5cm), three backsprings, ivory scales, milled brass liners, and nickel silver pins and shield. It is a very well-constructed knife with a

fine quality ‘fit and finish’. It has a very unusual arrangement of blades and tools; a single main spear blade folding out from the front end, the slide out tools are also located at the

front end, and both the corkscrew and triangular reamer on the topside fold-out facing forward – I don't recall seeing this in any other sportsman's knife in the Collector Note. As with the "Joseph Haywood" knife immediately above, a probable date range for this knife style is c.1890s to c1900s.



The knife has a closed length of 3 ½ inches, stag horn scales, brass liners, and nickel silver bolsters, pins, and shield.

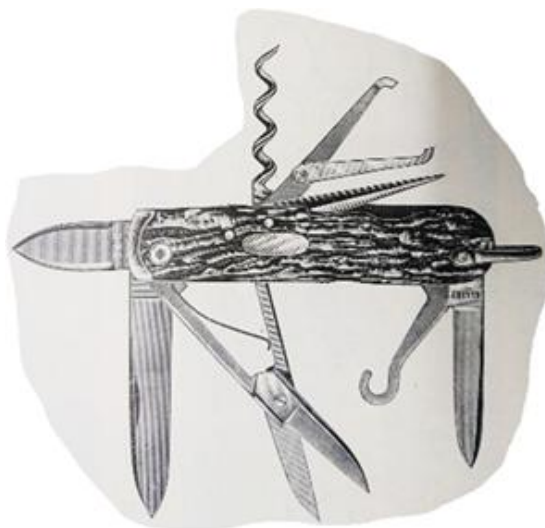
Maker: "[logo] ENCORE T. TURNER & Co. SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang of the stubby file/turn screw and button hook. The pen blade is stamped "ENCORE OIL JOINTS SHEFFIELD". The main spear is unmarked. The knife has a



pattern 3183 with chequered buffalo, stag, and ivory" options.

The adjacent illustration is copied from the Thomas Turner & Co. 1902 trade catalogue (see [Appendix 3](#)) and knife shown appears to be identical to the knife picture above - which has a stubby file/turn screw in lieu of the champagne wire cutter tool shown in the illustration. It is noted that the catalogue offers this

The following group of four knives can be regarded as a sub-set of the small-sized "double-ended Sportsmen's Knives ('non-horseman' style)" detailed above; the distinguishing feature being that they are fitted with the standard 'English' tin opener. By the late 1880s a tin opening 'blade' (of which there were three or four different styles) was included in some multi-blade sportsmen's knives that were manufactured by various Cutlery companies in Sheffield, and it is surmised that such knives were aimed at the 'private purchase' market for military personal serving in the First and Second Boer Wars. This is



elaborated in more detail in the companion Collector Note "**British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives**". In addition, the first two knives featured have a style of cartridge extractor - the design of which was registered prior to 1883 - which was the last year in which the old 'diamond' style stamp was used for design registration. This suggests that such knives could have been in commercial production for the mid-1880s.

early 1900's. If this is correct it suggests that this style of knife was still in production well after the end of the Boer War in 1901.

The adjacent illustration is copied from the "Joseph Elliot & Sons" undated trade catalogue but assumed to date from the

The following knife is stamped "HARRODS BROMPTON Rd. S. W." but appears to have been made in Sheffield by George Ibberson & Co.; it is identical to the knife in the adjacent illustration.



is a well-known London retailer, it is safe to assume that this knife was made in Sheffield by George Ibberson & Co. under contract for Harrods Ltd.



Maker: "DOBIE GLASGOW" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade. The main blade is also stamped "KLOSSKUT" on the pile side tang. The similarity with the Harrods knife in terms of construction detail suggests that it may also have been manufactured in Sheffield by George Ibberson & Co.

This is also a high-quality knife with a closed length of 3 5/8 inches (9.2cm), ivory scales, milled brass liners, a main blade and pen blade, scissors, button hook, tin-opener, triangular awl, screwdriver, and

cartridge extractor; the slide-out tweezers and picker are missing.



Maker: "G. IBBERSON & Co. SHEFFIELD ENG." Is stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade and possibly also on the pen blade. The main blade is also stamped with the George Ibberson & Co. violin mark and "SHEFFIELD MADE" on the pile side tang. The tin opener and the stubby turnscrew are stamped "G. IBBERSON & Co." This knife is of identical construction to the Harrods knife, except for the absence of the cartridge extractor and the scissors which means that it only has two back springs.

The final five knives in this group of small-sized "double-ended Sportsmen's Knives ('non-horseman' style)" very much reflects the standardized and utilitarian features of the late-Victorian and early 20th century periods, including the inclusion of a tin opener.



Maker: "SINGLETON & PRIESTMAN SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade, the pen blade, and tin opener; the button hook is stamped "OIL THE JOINTS". The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), brass liners, and nickel silver pins and shackle. The knife has ivory scales, milled brass liners, a main blade and pen blade, button hook, tin-opener, rounded triangular awl, and corkscrew. According to Tweeddale's Directory, the firm of Singleton & Priestman had been active

from at least 1875 and were last listed in 1936. The ivory scales on this knife are more typical of the pre-WW1 era however the 'rounded triangular awl'² became the norm in the years following the end of WW1 when sportsman's knives as a concept based on tradition became obsolete and were replaced by four, five and six blade **utility knives**³. Thus, this knife, dating from the early 20th century is another example of a knife that reflects the final stage in the evolution of the British sportsman's knife. Examples of multiblade 'utility knives' that retain some of the characteristics of sportsmen's knives are detailed in the section titled "**3. Post-World War 1, the 1920s and 1930s**" starting [here](#) and on page 56 following.

As a lead into the "1920s and 1930s" period, the following four almost identical knives reflect characteristics of both the early 20th century and the 1920s. They have the same array of blades/tools as the Singleton & Priestman shown immediately above, although the style of the awl differs, and they all have a tin opener which suggests a high probability of them being marketed as 'private purchase' knives aimed at military personal serving in WW1. It is their all-metal construction which separates them from the Singleton & Priestman knife, and which provides a forerunner for the change to "utility knives" in the 1920s.



Maker: "SHEFFIELD MADE" stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade, and "OIL THE JOINTS" stamped on the pen blade and button hook. The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), the liners and scales are nickel silver, and the knife previously had a shackle which has been removed by a previous owner. The knife has a rounded triangular awl the same as the Singleton & Priestman knife.



Paul Stamp has noted a very similar knife that was included in an advertisement by John Pound & Co. in "THE BYSTANDER" newspaper dated 18 November **1914** which was referred to as a "Campaign Knife with Aluminium Scales".

The following three knives all have the more traditional triangular awl rather than the "rounded" version in the previous two knives which suggests that they may be of an earlier date.



"PVTE. E. GREGORY. 1/3RD. W. R. FIELD AMB."

Maker: "TAYLOR SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade; the tin opener is stamped "[logo] WITNESS SHEFFIELD" as does the pen blade and the button hook. The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), the liners and scales are nickel silver, and the knife previously had a shackle which has been removed by a previous owner. The knife has the more traditional triangular awl. One of the scales is inscribed



owner. The knife has the more traditional triangular awl and a stubby turnscrew/file/wire cutter tool in lieu of the button hook.

Maker: "C. BARRETT & Co. BURLINGTON ARCADE W. 1." is stamped on the mark side tanks of all blades/tools on the underside. In addition, the pile side tang of the main spear blade is stamped "SHEFFIELD MADE". The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), the liners and scales are nickel silver, and the knife previously had a shackle which has been removed by a previous



Maker: "MORTON & SONS SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tangs of all blades/tools and the Morton 'scales' trade mark is stamped on their pile sides. The knife has a closed length of almost 4 ½ inches (11.3cm), the liners and scales are nickel silver. The knife has the more traditional triangular awl. The knife has the more traditional triangular awl, and a stubby turnscrew/wire cutter tool in lieu of the button hook.

In conclusion, one perhaps quite valid assumption that can be drawn from this section on small-sized "double-ended Sportsmen's Knives ('non-horseman' style)", is that it represents the final phase in the evolution of the "sportsman's knife" from its beginnings in the late

18th century or early 19th century, and that many of the styles prevalent in the early 20th century were more part of the evolution of the 'Utility Knife' that became ubiquitous worldwide by the 1930's – through to perhaps the end of the 20th century.

There is an evident continuum in the knife styles displayed in this subsection of "**Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives**" within the overall Section on "**Late- Victorian, Edwardian & early 20th century**" Sportsmen's knives, however this final group of five "*small-sized double-ended Sportsmen's Knives ('non-horseman' style)*" may define one of the overall end points in the evolution of the 19th and early 20th century British Sportsman's knife.

There are many more styles of Sportsmen's knives displayed in the following Sections and subsections of this Collector Note, however the continuation of the overall theme of the above is referenced in the Section "**Post-World War 1, the 1920s and 1930s**" commencing [here](#) on page 54 following.

2.2.2 Double-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'horseman' style.

It appears that the great majority of 'horseman' style sportsmen's knives relevant to the Late Victorian and early 20th century periods are of the medium-sized 'single-ended' variety, which are detailed in section 2.3 of this Collector Note [here](#) and starting on the following page 30.

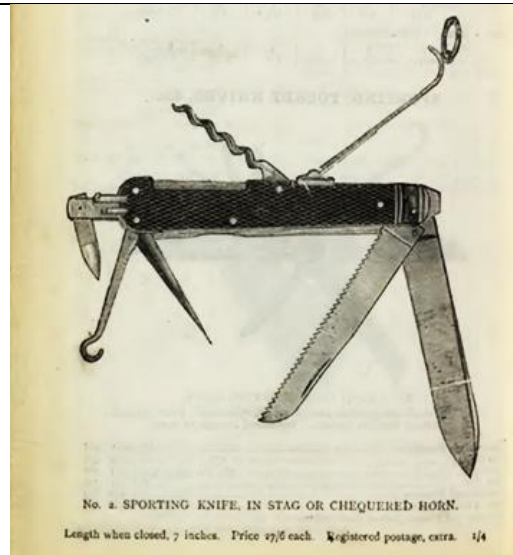
The notable exceptions are the following "double-ended" style horseman's knives:

- A large-sized horseman's pattern, featured in the A & N C.S.L. 1883 catalogue,
- A medium-sized horseman's pattern, featured in the A & N C.S.L. 1883 catalogue,
- Medium-sized, predominantly all-metal horseman's styles - marketed to military personnel as 'private purchase' knives suitable for service in the Boer Wars and WW1

The first two patterns/styles are detailed below, and the medium-sized all-metal horseman's styles are separately detailed at Section 2.4.2 [here](#)

2.2.2.1 Large-sized horseman's pattern

The reference point for this knife is the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. 1883 catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#)) – see illustration left side following, where it is described as "*No. 2. SPORTING KNIFE, IN STAG OR CHECKERED HORN. Length when closed 7 inches.*" The adjoining knife – see photo right following, is my 2021 purchase from UK dealer J.C. Militaria. It appears identical to the knife in the A & N C.S.L. catalogue illustration apart from the absence of the loop attached to the hoof-picker and, interestingly, the "length when closed" is 6 ¾ inches (17.1cm) depending on from where you measure it, rather than the 7 inches quoted for the catalogue knife. A distinctive feature of both knives are the grooved steel bolsters that were common in the 1870s and 1880s. The ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. were a retailer, not a manufacturer, and it is assumed that most (if not all) of the knives in their catalogues were sourced from Sheffield manufacturers.



Maker: not known. All blades stamped "ARMY & NAVY C.S.L." Length closed 6 ¾ inches. Scales are Checkered Horn.

The knife has a utilitarian appearance with all blades, liners, bolsters, and springs being carbon steel, and with nickel silver used for the pins and shield. Apart from the main spear blade (which has a pick-lock⁴), the other fold-out tools are a triangular reamer, buttonhook, grooved corkscrew and hoof pick. The slide-out tools are lancet (within buff horn covers), picker and tweezer. The knife has integral liners and bolsters – a practice that was being phased out during the 1880s. The knife is not featured in the A & N C.S.L. catalogues dated 1904 and 1907 which supports the observation that by the end of the 19th century large multiblade horsemen's knives were no-longer popular as a 'private purchase' service knife.



An almost identical knife in excellent condition is featured in the catalogue of the "The Largest Knife Sale Ever"⁵ dated February 25, 2008, being lot 144. The description states:

"Fine Unmarked Mappin & Webb Large Multi-Blade Folding Knife, of Civil War Period. 6-inch lockable spearpoint blade. Total of six blades and accessories, including saw, eyelet, hoofpick and corkscrew. Slide-outs of penknife with pivoting tortoise shell grip plates, tweezers and picker. Grooved steel bolsters. Staghorn grip panels, one side with shield shaped escutcheon. Length 6 ¾ inches".

This knife was also featured in the catalogue for the "Fine and Collectible Knives and Edged Weapons" Auction⁶ held on Friday September 6, 2013, being lot 2280.

The following knife has been in my collection for many years, and I had assumed that it dated from the 1870s – mainly due to its large size however research undertaken for this Collector Note now suggests a later date is a more likely possibility. In terms of size, style, and blade configuration it is very similar to the three knives featured immediately above. The main differences are that it has nickel silver shoulders instead of the "grooved steel bolsters" common to the above knives, and also the main spear blade and the long saw blade are independently locked open by adjoining pick-locks rather than a single pick-lock for the spear blade.



Maker: "JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" stamped on the face of the main blade, with the mark side tang stamped "No. 6 NORFOLK St. SHEFFIELD", and the pile side tang stamped "*+ ENGLAND" The sawblade is stamped "RODGERS CUTLERS TO HER MAJESTY" on the mark side tang and "*+" on the pile side tang. The other fold-out tools are a triangular awl, buttonhook, grooved corkscrew and hoof pick. The slide-out tools are lancet within tortoise shell covers, pick and

tweezer. The knife has a closed length of approximately 6 ½ inches (16.6cm), milled brass outer liners and a steel inner liner that protrudes beyond the frame to form a turnscrew. The scales are stag horn. Both the main blade and the sawblade are independently locked open by adjoining pick-locks. At 14 oz (400g) this is a heavyweight knife which stands in contrast to the trend in the last decades of the 19th century for horsemen' pattern sportsmen's knives to be smaller and more lightweight. It is noted also that one of the tangs is stamped "ENGLAND" which can often indicate that the knife dates after 1891 following the introduction of the US Tariff Protection Act. My assumption is that this knife dates circa 1890s and was intended as an up-market version of the earlier military "private purchase" version from the 1880s featured in the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. 1883 catalogue.



The adjacent photo is copied from Flook's TLKB (page 15) and is also identical the knife shown in the A & N C.S.L. catalogue illustration - including the loop attached to the hoof-picker, although it is the "checkered horn" version rather than the "stag" version.

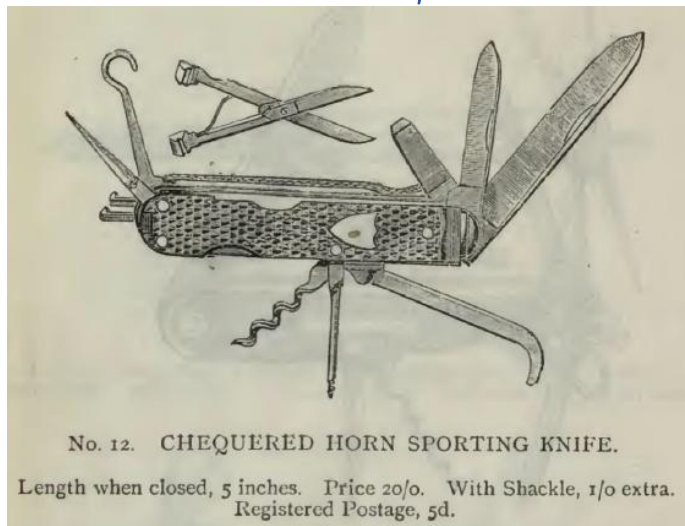
U.S. collector and commentator Neal Punchard has advised that he has some examples similar to my "Army & Navy C.S.L." knife (see preceding page 16) which are marked with various well-known makers, including one from "Needham Brothers" with a handle length of just over 6 ¾ inches, and stag scales. It is therefore possible that the A & N C.S.L. knives were made under contract by Needham Brothers, rather than Joseph Rodgers whose example shown above is more elaborate and has a different bolster arrangement.

In terms of dating, the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. 1883 catalogue indicates that such knives were available by at least that date and most probably sometime earlier. The A & N C.S.L. knife is in fact very similar to Thornhill's "*Old Shekarry's Hunting Knife*" which is detailed in PART 1 - pages 39 and 40 of this Collector Note; it has the same closed length of 6 ½ inches, the same style of bolsters supporting a locking main spear blade, a large sawblade, and a single corkscrew folding out from the topside. It is also shown with checkered buffalo horn scales. The only differences are that the Thornhill knife includes a large file which requires a third backspring, and it includes trace repair bolts. The Thornhill knife dates from 1874 so it is

safe to assume that the A & N C.S.L. style knives could have a date range commencing at least by early c.1870s. An indicative end date is the mid – late 1890s based on its non-inclusion in the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. 1904 and 1907 catalogues, and also that the more elaborate Joseph Rodgers version dates to the 1890s.

In summary, a reasonably well documented horseman's style sportsman's knife which appears to have been marketed for an approximate 30-year period from the **1870s to the 1890s**.

2.2.2.2 Medium-sized horseman's pattern



The relevant reference date for the following knife is also the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. 1883 catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#)) – see the adjacent illustration, where it is described as “No. 12. CHECKERED HORN SPORTING KNIFE. Length when closed 5 inches.” The illustration is also included in their 1904 and 1907 catalogues. The following knife is slightly smaller at 4½ inches (11.5cm) and has a

slightly different arrangement of blades and tools. The nickel silver shoulders suggest that it is of a later date to the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. knife.



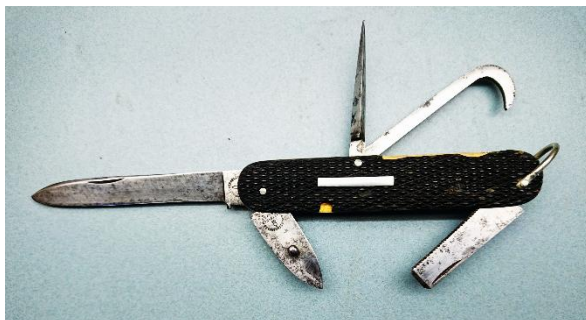
Maker: “[logo] JOSEPH ELLIOT & SONS SHEFFIELD” is stamped on the mark side tang of all blades/tools on the underside which consist of a main spear blade saw blade, stubby turncrew, pen blade (broken) and button hook. The top side has a corkscrew, gimlet, and triangular awl. The knife has a closed length of 4½

inches (11.5cm), chequered horn scales, brass liners (with the inner two being milled), and nickel silver shoulders, pins, shield, and shackle.

It is a robust knife that has similarities with the medium-sized Mappin & Webb and Young sportsmen's knives of the mid-Victorian era (see [PART 1](#) of the Collector Note at pages [37](#) and [38](#)) but lacks their refinement. It is also possibly a forerunner to “**medium-sized, all-metal horseman's styles**” that are separately featured [here](#) and on pages [48](#) to [52](#) of this Collector Note., it is probable that this knife dates from the 1880s.

Based on the inclusion of a knife with similar characteristics in both the 1883 and 1907 Army & Navy C.S.L. trade catalogues and given the absence of a tin opener which was a commonly included implement by the mid-1890s, it can be assumed that this style of “large and medium-sized horseman's pattern” sportsman's knives date from the early 1880s to the first decade of the 20th century and the start of WW1. It is also probable that the demand for this style of horseman's knife was ultimately usurped in the 1890s by the hugely popular medium-sized all-metal horseman's styles which included a tin opener.

The following knife has all of the characteristics that were common in the late 19th century and the early 20th century – up to the end of WW1, being a pared down and far more utilitarian style.



Maker: "BROOKES & CROOKES SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" stamped on the mark side tangs of all three of the blades on the underside. The main spear blade also has "OIL THE JOINTS" stamped on the pile side tang. Also, the hidden hoof pick (which works off a spring rather than a hinge – see more details in PART 3 of this Collector Note

at "2.1 Hidden horse hoof pick knives) is so well disguised that an unknowing observer would mistake it for a back spring, necessitating the stamping of "HOOF PICK" on the exposed face. The knife has a closed length of 5 inches (12.7cm), brass liners, checkered buffalo horn scales, and nickel silver pins and shackle.

2.2.3 Double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives

This large "Hunter-style" Sportsman's Knife is definitely my favourite of all the various "Sportsmen's Knives" patterns and styles detailed in this Collector Note - however there is surprisingly little information available about it. There are certainly variations on the 'standard pattern' shown below, however they all have an obvious distinctive feature – being a single heavy main locking spear blade at one end, together with (usually) a varying array of blades/tools both on the topside and at the back end of the underside.

2.2.3.1 The standard pattern

The knife in the following photo shows all the characteristics that are commonly (but not exclusively) found in **Double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives**, being: a closed length of 6 1/8 inches (15.5cm), a total of six blades: being: a main spear blade - made from 1/4 inch steel bar, a scaler/hook disgorger, button hook, pen blade, corkscrew, and triangular awl; the slide-out tools being scissors, tweezer and pick, milled brass liners, and a large nickel silver shackle. A distinctive feature of the standard pattern is nickel silver 'shoulders' and associated large pivot pin which secures the heavy main spear blade.



This excellent example of the standard pattern is included in the catalogue for "The Largest Knife Sale Ever ..." (page 60, Lot 140) where it is described as a "Fine 'Colonial Knife' Folder by S. W. Silver & Co., Cornhill, with Inscribed Escutcheon 'T. A. Hardcastle', with Staghorn Grip Panels, c.1860s".

Paul Stamp's Newspaper archive research has identified an advertisement by "S. W. SILVER & Co. 67 CORNHILL, LONDON" in the **29 December 1882** edition of "Colonies and India" which includes an illustration of this "COLONIAL KNIFE".

See also the "NOWILL & SONS" knife detailed [here](#) and on page 23 following that was retailed by S. W. SILVER.

The following schedule shows the ten knives in my collection of "Double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives". The third, fourth and fifth knives in the schedule precisely conform with the standard pattern characteristics. A long rectangular name plaque is also common, as are nickel silver shoulders at one end only. All knives shown have the **distinctive large single main locking spear blade at one end.**

The first two knives in the schedule are featured in "5 EARLY-VICTORIAN C.1830 – C.1860" section of PART 1 this Collector Note at pages 25 and 26. Although they are both considerably larger than the 'standard pattern' they clearly display the antecedents of the essential features that are common to "**Double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives**".

The last knife in the following schedule conforms with the essential characteristics of the standard pattern except that it is also a horseman's knife due to the inclusion of a folding horse hoof pick.

1



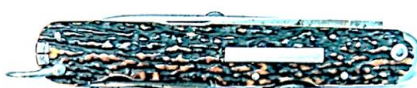
← Seven-blade version by GEO. WARD which dates from the early 1850s. This knife is detailed on page 22 following

2



← Large six-blade version by HARRISON BROTHERS & HOWSON - see page 22 following for details

3



← Standard pattern by WILKINSON.

4



← Standard pattern by J. NOWILL & SONS.

5



← Standard pattern by MAPPIN BROTHERS.

6



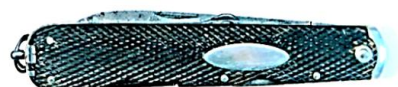
← Two-blade version by UNDERWOOD

7



← 5 5/8 inch slimmed-down four-blade version by ENGLISH & SON BRIGHTON.

8



← 5 1/2 inch six-blade military 'private purchase' version by PLUM WORCESTER.

9

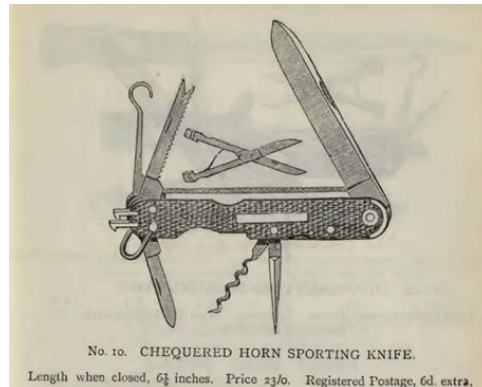


← 4 1/2 inch, slimmed-down five-blade version by WOOD MANCHESTER.



← Four-blade horseman's version by JOSEPH RODGERS. See [here](#) for details

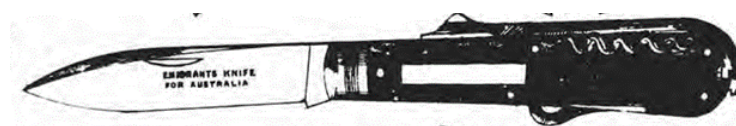
The Army & Navy Cooperative Stores Limited 1883 sales catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#)) provides an excellent 'reference point' for the **double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knife**, being their stock items "No. 10. Chequered Horn Sporting Knife" having a "*length when closed, 6 ¼ inches*", and "No. 11." having the same name but with a closed length of 4 ½ inches. Both knives, with the same stock numbers, were shown in the 1907 edition of the A & N C.S.L. catalogue, which suggests a date range of over 30 years.



There is no doubt that the three "standard pattern" knives shown on the preceding schedule at # 3, 4, and 5, are totally consistent with knife "No. 10." shown in the illustration above left, including the slide-out tools. The smaller knife "No. 11." has an additional slide-out – being a gripper for 'tying flies'.

As mentioned previously in this Collector Note, stock items that are held in-inventory by a manufacturer or in-stock by a retailer, indicates that they are available at that point in time. It does not indicate however when they first became available and, given that the Army & Navy Cooperative Stores was established in 1872, it can be assumed that there were possibly a number (?) of catalogues produced prior to the 1883 catalogue, and that stock items 10 and 11 were perhaps included in these catalogues; therefore it seems safe to assume a start date of circa 1870s for this distinctive style.

This general style of knife - having a distinctive "*single main locking spear blade at one end, together with (usually) a varying array of blades/tools both on the topside and at the back end*" however goes back much earlier, for example the Mappin & Web **c.1860** trade catalogue illustrates a broad variety of knives ranging from 3 ½ - 5 inches in length that have a 'single main ... spear blade at one end', although it is unclear whether these are "locking" blades. In particular, the section of the catalogue titled "MAPPINS' CELEBRATED DIRK AND HUNTING KNIVES" provides details of their Pattern 8468 which displays many of the characteristics that became popular in **double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knife** in the last quarter of the 19th century. Noting that this is actually a horseman's pattern due to the inclusion of the hoof pick.



8468 – "*Stag Handle, 6 inch, Hunting Knife, very strong Pocket blade, Cork*

screw, Button-blade, Leather-punch, Horse-picker, Screw-driver, Gun-picker, and Tweezers." The blade face is stamped "EMIGRANTS KNIFE FOR AUSTRALIA". Note the reference to the "*very strong Pocket blade*" which is the distinctive feature of double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knife. Paul Stamp has identified a newspaper

advertisement by Mappin Brothers in the 26 December 1857 edition of the “ILLUSTRATED TIMES” which includes an illustration of this knife, including the stamping on the blade face, which it refers to as a “Hunting Knife”

Similarly, the following knives made by George Ward and Harrison Brothers & Howson, which are fully detailed in the mid-Victorian section of this Collector Note [PART 1](#) – see pages [25](#) and [26](#), appears to date from c.1850s and c.1860s.

2.2.3.2 Representative examples

Following are the details of each of the ten knives illustrated in the schedule shown on page [20](#) above.



Maker: “GEO. WARD SHEFFIELD” stamped on the mark side tang of the main spearpoint blade which has a pick- lock locking device; the blade face is also covered by a floral pattern acid etch. Both the pen blade and the button hook are stamped “WARDS CELEBRATED CUTLERY” on their mark side tangs. The blade backs are partially or fully embossed with file-work, as are parts of the internal spring mechanisms.

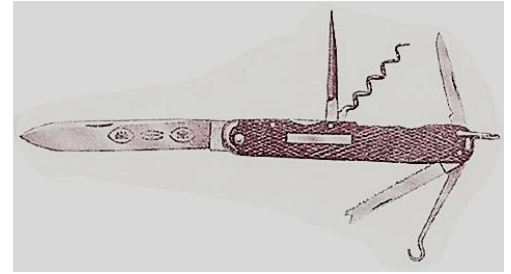
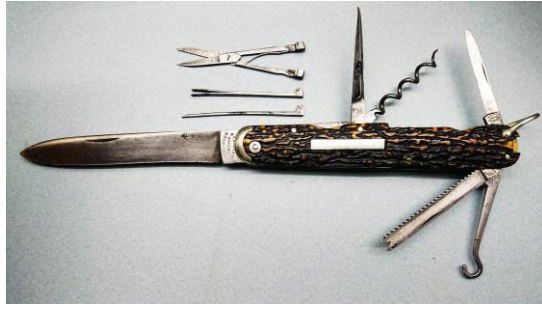
The knife has a closed length of 8 inches (22cm), fine gnarly stag scales, and slide out tweezer and pick. As stated previously, the knife appears to date from **c.1850s**.



Maker: “HARRISON BROTHERS & HOWSON” stamped on the pile side of the three blades on the underside and on the button hook on the topside. It has a closed length of 7 ¼ inches (18.4cm), integral steel liners and threaded bolsters, stag horn scales, and nickel silver shield and heavy shackle. The main spearpoint blade has a ‘back-lock’ locking device, and both the blade and the backspring are formed from 5/16-inch steel bar. This knife appears to date from

the **c.1860s**.

The following photo is of a knife by Wilkinson, shown together with an illustration provided to me by well- known USA based “F-S dealer” and authority on Wilkinson brand knives [Roy Shadbolt](#). He advised that the illustration is copied from a circa **1910** “General Catalogue and Price List” (page 199).

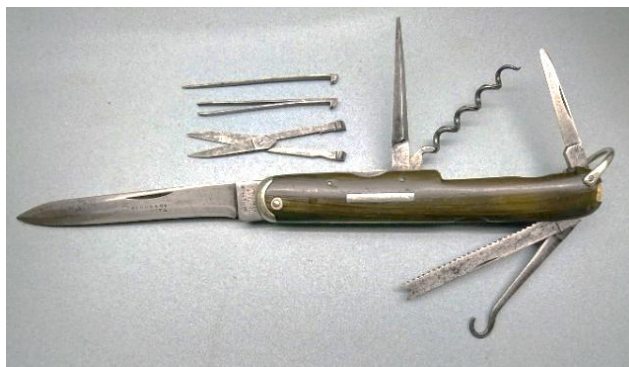


See **Knife 3** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "WILKINSON LONDON & SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tangs of all five blades on the underside, the pile side tangs are stamped with the two trade mark logos: "BEST SWORD STEEL" together with "W" over a crown. With a closed length of 6 1/8 inches (15.5cm) this knife is totally accords with the 'standard pattern' as described on page 18 above. This example has stag horn scales. The knife in the illustration shows three Wilkinson marks on the main spear blade however there is no evidence that they were ever applied to the knife in the photo.



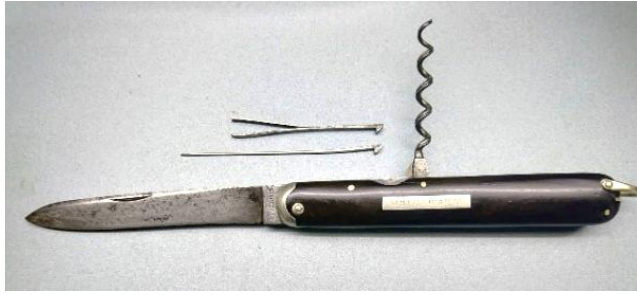
See **Knife 4** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "[logo] J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD [logo]" on the blade face, and the mark side tang is stamped "J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD". The pen blade, the buttonhook and the hook disgorging are all stamped "S. W. SILVER & Co. CORNHILL". With a closed length

of 6 1/8 inches (15.5cm) this knife is totally accords with the 'standard pattern' as described on page 18 above, except that the name plaque has been lost. This example has stag horn scales. S. W. Silver & Co. were a London retailer and "outfitter" based at various premises in Cornhill although no street number in Cornhill is shown on any of the blades.



See **Knife 5** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "[logo] MAPPIN BROTHERS SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade and the pile side tang is stamped "QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS SHEFFIELD"; the pen blade, buttonhook, and hook-disgorging are similarly stamped. The face of the main blade is stamped "RODDA

& Co. CALCUTTA". With a closed length of 6 1/8 inches (15.5cm) this knife is totally accords with the 'standard pattern' as described on page 18 above. This example has smooth buffalo horn scales. Rodda & Co. were a prominent British-owned gun-store situated in Calcutta, (British) India.



See **Knife 6** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "UNDERWOOD" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade. With a closed length of 6 1/8 inches (15.5cm) this knife is accords with the size and shape of the 'standard pattern' – and in particular the

provision of a single heavy locking spear blade at one end. It does however have only one backspring that supports the main spear blade and the corkscrew. This example has what appears to be polished coco or rosewood scales that have a dark red/brown hue. The exposed tang of the corkscrew, when closed, is adorned with diagonal grooves. Underwood was a prominent London cutlery company; Flook's London Knife Book displays a variety of knives stamped Underwood – most with the address "56 Haymarket" however this knife has no address stamp. The name plaque is inscribed "W. L. S. STUCLEY".

The following group of three knives diverge from the 'standard pattern' in various ways but maintain the *"obvious distinctive feature – being a single heavy main locking spear blade at one end, together with a varying array of blades/tools both on the topside and at the back end."*



See **Knife 7** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "ENGLISH & SON BRIGHTON" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main locking spear blade, pen blade, and buttonhook. This is a more light-weight example of the 'double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knife' when

compared to the four knives immediately above; it has a closed length of 5 1/2 inches (14cm) thin stag horn scales, milled brass liners, and nickel silver pins, shield, and shackle. The exposed tang of the corkscrew, when closed, is adorned with diagonal grooves. It is probable that English & Son was a retail business based in Brighton and that the knife was made in Sheffield under contract.

The knife in the following photo has the same blade configuration as the 'standard pattern' but has a closed length of 5 1/2 inches (14cm).



See **Knife 8** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "PLUM WORCESTER" is stamped on the tang of the sabre main blade, pen blade, button hook, and hook disgorging. It has chequered horn scales, milled brass liners, nickel silver shoulders, shield, and pins. The distinguishing feature is the fitted toggle and ring suitable for attachment to a lanyard which

suggests that the knife is also suitable for military use. In addition, it is the only 'double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knife' in my collection that has a sabre main blade in lieu of the standard spear point blade. Given its close similarity to the "No. 11, Chequered Horn Sporting Knife" in the 1883 A & N C.S.L. catalogue (see illustration at the top of page 21

above) , I date it as '**early-1880s**'. This knife appears to typify a trend in the manufacture of sportsmen's knives in the 1880s that would appeal to both sportsmen and military personnel which continued through to the end of WW1 in late 1918. This trend included a reduction in overall length, 4 ½ inches became common, and anything over 5 inches was rare. The knives in the three following illustrations typifies this trend.

Regrettably, the following knife is not in my collection.



The maker is "G. BUTLER & Co. SHEFFIELD [ART logo] ENGLAND" stamped on the mark side tang of the main sabre blade. The blade face is stamped "A & NCSL Ltd.", which is a reference to the 'Army & Navy Cooperative Stores Limited' who were the retailer. It is probable that this is an actual example (in fine condition) of stock item "No. 11. Chequered Horn Sporting Knife" in the A & N C.S.L. catalogues dated 1883 and 1907 – as shown in the illustration at the top of page 20 (right side) above. The adjacent photo is copied from the catalogue "*The largest Knife Sale Ever – featuring the Estate of Donald Littman, Part 1*"⁸ dated February 2008. Its closed length is stated as "4 11/16 inches. The sale

included its "*Finely constructed leather case marked in oval on belt loop 'Army & Navy CSL Makers, London'*". It is also listed as Lot 2258 in the online catalogue for the 2013 auction "*Fine and Collectible Knives and Edged Weapons*" (see page 12 of [PART 1](#) of this Collector Note).

"*The largest Knife Sale Ever*" catalogue featured a further three 'double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives' that complied with the 'standard pattern' but with the first have a different closed length, as follows: [Lot 135](#) – "I.XL George Wostenholm" having an assumed closed length of 5 ¼ inches, and [Lots 139 and 140](#) "Colonial Knives by S. W. Silver & Co Cornhill" with closed lengths of 6 ¼ inches.

The following two illustrations are copied from different sources (as stated) and are a further indication that this medium sized (i.e. less than 5 inches) 'Double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives' was popular for an extended period - from at least the early 1880s through to WW1.



The maker is "CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON & Co." as stamped on the face of the main blade. Length closed is stated at 4 ¾ inches. **SOURCE:** Christopher Johnson & Co. trade catalogue dated c.1895⁹. Plate 59, pattern 6644; it is assumed to date from the late 1890s – 1900s



The maker is "J. GIBBENS & SONS" and the knife appears to be identical to the PLUM knife, although some blades may be missing. **SOURCE:** Flook's "The London Knife Book" Plate 57, page 67. Flook notes that Gibbens had a single Directory entry for 1900.

The following knife is a further example of this trend to smaller sportsmen's knives



See **Knife 9** in the Schedule on page 22. Maker: "WOOD MANCHESTER" is stamped on the tang of the main blade, pen blade, and button hook. It has a closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.5cm), thin stag horn scales, milled brass liners, and nickel silver shield, and pins. The array of blades/tools varies from the 'standard pattern' in that it lack the hook-disgorger. This is a

high-quality knife and has similarities to the English & Sons knife, being a more light-weight example of the 'double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knife', the exposed tang of the corkscrew, when closed, is adorned with diagonal grooves, and the absence of the nickel silver shoulders. It is evident that Wood was a retail business based in Manchester and that the knife was made in Sheffield under contract. Other knives in this Collector Note stamped Wood Manchester are detailed in PART 1 of this Collector Note at page 39.



The adjacent photo is copied from Flook's "The London Knife Book" Plate 71, page 78, and appears to be almost identical to the WOOD Knife except that it has chequered scales. The maker is "T. HILL 4 HAYMARKET", and Flook notes that in the 1880 directory the company is listed as "Hill & Son",

and that *"sometime between 1885 and 1900 the name changed to Edwin Hill and Son"*.

The following two knives are either identical or very similar to the WOOD knife above.



The maker is "UNDERWOOD 56 HAYMARKET". Closed length 4 ½ inches. **SOURCE**: "Greg Martin Auction – Exceptional Bowie Knife Sale, April 2006" catalogue - page 36, lot 1062.



The maker is "JENNER & KNEWSTUB 33 St. JAMES STREET". This knife appears to be identical to the Wood knife except for the ivory scales. **SOURCE**: Flook's "The London Knife Book" page 92, Plate 91.

Finally, and saving the best for last, the following are copies of pages 127 and 143 of the book "Sheffield Exhibition Knives"¹⁰, with both described as "Showpiece Fishing Knives" made by I.XL GEORGE WOSTENHOLM & SONS Ltd." and are consistent with the 'standard pattern' although not all blades/tools are shown in the photos.



Top knife: closed length 6 ¼ inches, with stag horn scales.

Middle Knife: closed length 5 ¼ inches, with ivory scales and fancy file work on the exposed back of the backspring

Bottom Knife: closed length 5 ¼ inches, with stag horn scales

SOURCE: Page 127 of Sheffield Exhibition Knives



Right side knife: closed length 7 inches, stag horn scales, and file work on the inside springs, exposed sides of the back springs and the backs of all blades.

Left side knife: closed length 6 ¼ inches, ivory scales, and file work on the inside springs, exposed sides of the back springs and the backs of all blades

SOURCE: Page 143 of Sheffield Exhibition Knives

2.2.3.3 Joseph Rodgers & Sons Horseman's version

The final section of the '**double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives**' group consists of a predominantly horseman's style that is best known for the Joseph Rodgers versions (See **Knife 10** in the Schedule on page 22), although examples by other makers are noted. There are certainly variations on the 'standard pattern' described previously on page 18, however they all have the obvious distinctive feature of double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen's Knives – being a single heavy main locking spear blade at one end, together with (usually) a varying array of blades/tools both on the topside and at the back end.

The Joseph Rodgers & Sons catalogue¹¹ – undated but assumed to be circa 1912 (see [Appendix 4](#)) depicts an interesting 4-blade horseman's style knife which, having a closed length of 6 inches, makes it the largest horseman's style marketed by Rodgers at that time. The same knife is illustrated in "Levine's Guide to Knives and their Values"¹² – see illustrations following, knife is top right in both illustrations:



Source: Joseph Rodgers & Sons catalogue c.1912



Source: Levine's Guide to Knives and their Values, 4th edition



Maker: "JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" stamped (in italics) on the blade face adjacent to the top edge. The mark side tang is stamped "No. 6 NORFOLK St. SHEFFIELD" and the pile side tang is stamped with the Rodgers logo "*+ ". The button hook is stamped "*+ JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" along the arm, and the triangular punch (or awl) has the following stamping in a tiered format: "V[✓] R CUTLERS, CUTLERS TO HER MAJESTY PATENT". It is unclear as

to what aspect or feature of the knife the term "PATENT" refers to. The four blades and implements are: main spear blade with picklock, triangular reamer, button hook that is neatly housed between the brass liner and the stag scale and not supported by a backspring, a grooved corkscrew, together with the narrow (3/16 inch) hoof pick. The slide-out tools are missing in my example but would have been a lancet with tortoise shell covers, a picker and tweezer. The illustration below the photo is believed to be copied from the Joseph Rodgers catalogue dated c.1860s - see following page.

This is Joseph Rodgers pattern **P. 486**, and it is unusual that it has no bolsters. It is however a high-quality knife well-constructed knife which suggests a much earlier date of development than is indicated by its inclusion in the Rodgers c.1912 catalogue. An example of this is the insertion of a piece of buffalo horn as an extension of the main blade backspring to ensure that the blade tip doesn't accidentally come into contact with steel on closing. U.S. collector and commentator Neal Punchard has confirmed that this pattern P. 486 was certainly included "in the Rodgers 1865 catalogue and in others up to the 1912 catalogue". Punchard also detailed the minor changes that can be observed in pattern P. 486 between 1864 and 1912 and suggests that my knife would probably "date in the **1880s to early 1890s era**". This is consistent with the application of the "JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" stamping on the blade face adjacent to the top edge, as such stamping was not commonly applied by Rodgers but has been noted on knives attributed to this era. Neal also observed it appears probable that my knife has been repaired at some point in time, as it shows three pins immediately above the horse pick hinge whereas all other example noted only have two pins.



It is fascinating to note that four of the Sportsman's knives shown in the illustration copied from the c.1912 Rodgers catalogue shown above were featured in the adjacent (and much earlier) c.1860's catalogue. I have never had the privilege to handle any of these knives – apart from the Subject knife P.486, nor in fact have I ever seen an actual photo of one. They really are the 'crème

de la crème' of Rodger's sportsmen's knives – in my humble opinion.



An interesting example is illustrated in the catalogue for “The Largest Knife Sale Ever”¹³ (page 59 item 134) where it is described as “*Large Multi/Blade Folding Knife by Joseph Rodgers and Sons, with Staghorn Grip Panels, c. 1860*”. The stated closed length is “4 ³/₁₆ inches” which appears to be incorrect as the description also states “*Overall length with main blade open, 10 ¹⁵/₁₆ – inches*” which is consistent with the other knives featured above, as are other aspects of this knife except for the addition of a pen blade folding out of the back end of the handle – which would necessitate an additional backspring. Also, the lettering on the top edge of the main

spear blade is not in *italic* font.

I have details on file of a further variation that was posted on the “iKnife collector forum – Sheffield Cutlery” group hosted by “Smiling – Knife” on October 25, 2017 (see:



https://iknifecollector.com/group/sheffield-cutlery?xg_source=msg_wel_group), and was described by the owner as having “*stag handles with 7 functions and measures 11 ¹/₂ inches open*”. Based on the additional photos posted, it appears to be identical to my example – including the italic font used on the stamping near the top edge of the blade face, apart from the absence of the hoof pick.

I also have details on file of another non-horsemans example that was sold by the UK Auctioneer: WOOLLEY & WALLIS on April 20, 2021.



With an apparent closed length of 15.5cm (6 inches) it has identical characteristics to the horsemans type described above, with the following exceptions – in addition to the absence of the hoof pick: a back-lock instead of the pick-lock (a variation that has also been noted by Neal Punchard), and the addition of a fitted toggle and ring suitable for attachment to a lanyard which suggests that the knife is intended for military use as a private purchase item. The seller noted that the knife had a Royal Navy connection.

The knife also lacks the stamping “JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS” on the top edge of the main spear blade

however this is also a variation that has been noted by Neal Punchard; alternatively it could indicate a different manufacturer.

Another fine example of the non-horsemans version was recently (June 13, 2022) posted on the website “Sheffield Pocket Knives and Fixed Blades” by UK collector Paul Impey.



It is described by the owner as “Large late 1800s stag multi knife by Joseph Rodgers”. It clearly has the stamping “JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS” on the top edge of the main spear blade, has all three slide-out implements, and is the first example that I have noted that has an all-leather pouch that appears to be original.

An extraordinary knife was recently (Dec. 3/2022 and again on April 2/2023) posted on the website “Sheffield Pocket Knives and Fixed Blades” by UK collector Daren Nicholson. It is a variant of the ‘standard pattern’ previously described [here](#) – in that it lacks tools that fold-out from the back end of the knife. However, in my opinion it is a ‘Hunter style sportsman’s knife’ used for both killing game and then butchering it. The inclusion of the corkscrew is the defining element for it being a ‘sportsman’s knife’.



It is described by the owner as having a closed length of 8 inches and a 6 ½ inch blade. The mark side tang is stamped “SCOBIE PERTH”.

Given the knife’s closed length of 8 inches it is assumed that it dates from the 1850s – 1860s in

common with the two knives detailed at the start of section 2.2.3.2. [here](#). The popularity of such large knives appears to have waned by the 1870s when 6 – 6 ½ inches was more the norm for a large knife. Further, the pick-lock device that is evident on this knife appears to have been more common on knives dating from 1850s – 1860s than later.

In summary, an interesting knife that, given the current absence of examples from other makers, was probably a unique Joseph Rodgers pattern (although sportsmen’s knives without bolsters are featured in the Mappin Brothers c.1860 catalogue), and was held in inventory by Rodgers for at least 45 years. Also, given that it was not featured in Rodgers catalogues after WW1, it was possibly the last large horseman’s pattern sportsman’s knife made by Joseph Rodgers.

2.2.3.4 Conclusion

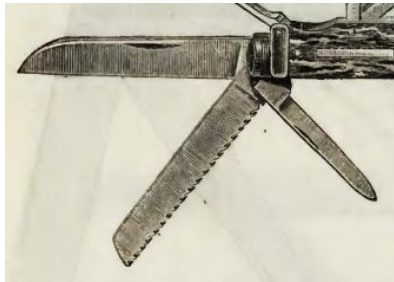
Although examples of this ‘**double-ended Hunter style Sportsmen’s Knives**’ were still featured in trade catalogues in the early 1900s, it is evident that it was predominantly a mid to late-19th century style that focussed on serving a particular (and diminishing) segment of society, and consequently its popularity didn’t survive the trauma of WW1.

2.3 Single-ended Sportsmen’s knives

2.3.1 Single-ended Sportsmen’s Knives of the ‘horseman’ style.

The dominant feature of this style of knives is the array of three (commonly - but can be both more and less) blades on the underside that open from one end only, and also included the three-tool combination on the topside (usually consisting of a corkscrew, drill and reamer) that became ‘standard practice’ in the previous mid-Victorian era. This

appears to be a standardisation process applied to most horsemen and non-horsemen patterns of sportsmen's knives that was increasingly common through to the end of the of Late- Victorian and early-20th century period. A further common characteristic of the single-ended sportsman's knife was the absence of a blade lock. This was not universal as occasional pick-locks are noted in non-horseman patterns, however it does appear to have become standard in horseman's patterns.



This underside combination consisted of a main spear blade (although sheepfoot blades are also common), a saw blade, and pen blade. Occasional variations are also noted with a long button hook instead of the saw blade, and four blade versions that incorporated both a saw blade and button hook are noted.

To appreciate the typology, this knife style is discussed separately as "sportsmen's knives (horseman's type)" and "sportsmen's knives (non-horseman's type)". Also, the "horseman's type" is differentiated further according to the type of hinge used to attach the hoof pick to the knife frame, being "bolster hinge" and tab hinge".

It is this style of sportsman's knife that is probably the most recognisable of all the sportsmen's knife patterns and is commonly referred to as a "horseman's knife" because of the characteristic hoof pick.



This horseman's style knife came in two main types depending on the mechanism used to provide the hinge for the hoof pick – see adjacent photo, the most common being the hinged bolster (top) and the alternative being a moulded nickel silver tab hinge (bottom). It appears that most horseman's style knives incorporated bolster hinges, including where the bolster is integral with the liners which suggests a

circa pre-1880s date. There is a possibly of other mechanisms being shown in the Mappin Brothers c.1860 catalogue that can best be described as a "mid-frame hinge" – that is where the hinge appears to be internally contained within the frame of the knife rather than externally as is the case with the bolster hinge or the tab hinge. The illustrations in the catalogue are too vague to be definitive, however if this observation is correct, it is probable that they are as described in the separate section "2.1 **Hidden horse hoof pick knives**" of PART 3 of this Collector Note – at pages 1 to 6.

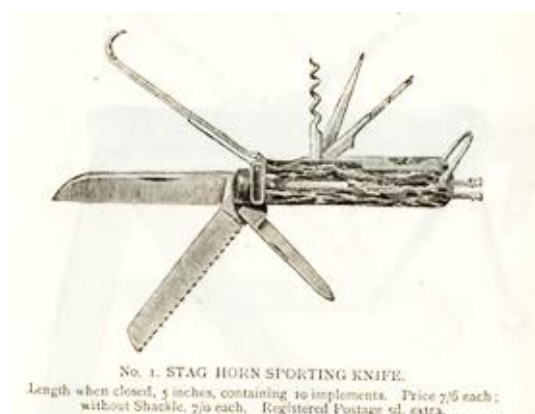
It is difficult to assess as to whether there was a dominant hinge mechanism in the earlier mid-Victorian period – for example the Mappin Brothers c.1860 catalogue shows many examples of both. It is apparent however that there was a general trend towards the adoption of the more utilitarian bolster hinge that is increasingly evident from the late 19th century onward. This could indicate that at this time the nickel silver tab hinge was promoted as a higher quality option - see the lower example on the previous page

This use of bolster hinges is particularly true of Geo. Wostenholm as shown in their c.1885-1892 catalogue (see [Appendix 2](#)) where all nine of their horsemen pattern knives have bolster hinges. The opposite appears to be the case with Joseph Rodgers as their c.1912 catalogue (see [Appendix 4](#)) illustrates most of their horsemen patterns using moulded nickel silver tabs attached to liners. A notable exception to this common use of bolster hinges after c.1880 is the **medium sized (4 ½ inch) all-metal 'horseman's pattern'**

sportsman's knife (see [here](#) and page 48 following) - where nickel silver tab hinges were (predominantly) an integral part of the frame. Such knives were extensively produced by a broad range of Sheffield manufacturers from the mid-1890s through to the 1920s. Similarly, the medium sized (4 ½ inch) horseman's pattern sportsman's knife that were aimed at the 'private-purchase' military market (see the Mappin & Webb example [here](#) and page 36 following) also commonly incorporated the nickel silver tab hinge into their design.

2.3.1.1 The hinged bolster type

The first example in this group is sourced from the A & N C.S.L. 1883 catalogue in the section titled "Sporting, Pocket Knives, &c." and is described as a "No. 1. Stag Horn Sporting Knife" (see illustration below left), and the knife in the adjacent photo appears to be identical, with both knives having a closed length of 5 inches (12.7cm). Note also, that this same illustration and text (apart from the price) is included in the ARMY & NAVY C.S.L. 1907 catalogue. The price has increased from 7/6 each to 9/3 each.



Maker: The mark side tangs are all stamped "J. POUND & CO. LEADENHALL St.", which is a London address, however the pile side tangs are stamped "SHEFFIELD MADE".

The knife has a closed length of 5 inches (12.7cm), stag horn scales with rectangular shield, and iron bolster and liners. The blades are sheepfoot, saw, and pen blade; on the topside is a corkscrew (broken) drill, and quadrangular borer, and the slide out tools are a pick and tweezer. Flook's TLKB lists "POUND, JOHN & CO." as Manufacturing Cutlers and states "*Not listed under cutlers until late in the 19th century when in 1885 recorded at 81, 82, 83 Leadenhall Street,*". It can be assumed that Pound occupied the Leadenhall address sometime prior to this listing, which is consistent with the catalogue date of 1883. Given that the A & N C.S.L. was a retailer rather than a manufacturer it is also safe to assume that the knife illustrated in the catalogue was also made in Sheffield and given their identical appearance, probably by the same manufacturer.

I am not aware of any examples of the 'hinge bolster horseman's pattern' that have closed length larger than 5 inches (12.7cm) but it is certainly possible, although it appears that slightly smaller patterns were more popular and were manufactured by various Sheffield makers. I have an example by Joseph Rodgers at 4 ¾ inches (12cm), another by Taylor Sheffield having the same length but with a clip point blade and integral liners and bolsters which suggests a pre-1880 date, and a four-blade version by J, Nowill & Sons with nickel silver threaded bolsters and brass liners, which also includes a long button hook and a sacking needle; see photos following:



Maker: "JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" stamped on the face of the main heavily worn sheepfoot blade, and "No. 6 NORFOLK ST. SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tang. The saw blade and the pen blade (also heavily worn) stamped "RODGERS"

CUTLERS TO HIS MAJESTY" on the mark side tang. The knife has a closed length of 4 ¾ inches (12cm), stag scales, and steel liners and bolsters. The pins and name plate are nickel silver.



This illustration is copied from the Joseph Rodgers 1912 trade catalogue (see [Appendix 4](#)). It shows the same knife as the above, which is Rodgers pattern P.1985.

The same knife is illustrated in "Levine's Guide ..." ¹⁴ page 266, although it is copied from an earlier Rodgers catalogue as the saw blade is stamped "RODGERS CUTLERS TO HER MAJESTY" which indicates a date prior to 1900. This indicates that the time frame for this pattern of medium size (that is: larger than 4 ½ inches or 11.4cm) 'hinge bolster horseman's pattern' sportsman's knife extended for 30+ years - from c.1880 to at least the start of WW1 in 1914.



Maker: "REAL [eye logo] KNIFE WITNESS" is stamped on the face of the main clip blade, and "TAYLOR SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang. The pen blade and the button hook are stamped "[eye logo] WITNESS". The knife has a closed length of 4 ¾ inches (12cm), stag

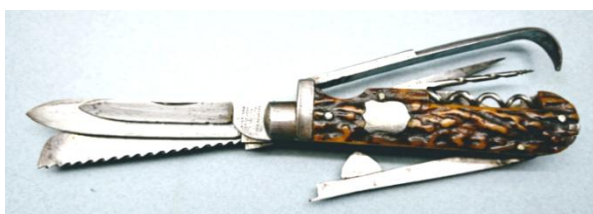
scales, and steel liners and bolsters. The pins, shackle, and name plate are nickel silver. The clip blade – in lieu of a spear or hawkbill blade is unusual but appears to be original.



Maker: "[logo] J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD [logo]" is stamped on the saw blade and most likely was also on the missing main blade. The mark side tangs of all blades are stamped "J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD". The pile side tang of both the pen blade and the button hook (missing the hook) are stamped with the Nowill trade mark. The knife has a closed length of

4 ¾ inches (12cm), four backsprings, stag scales, four brass liners and one steel liner. and the bolsters, pins, shackle, and name plate are nickel silver. Although stylistically similar to the other three described above, the four backsprings and the inclusion of a sacking needle suggests that this knife could be from an earlier date – 1870s to early 1880s.

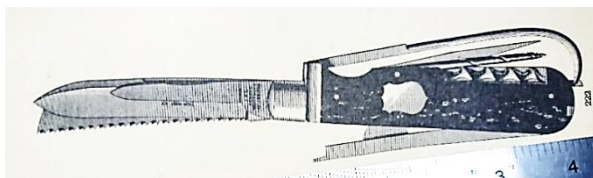
The trend to a smaller 'closed length' in the 'hinge bolster horseman's pattern' is reflected in the following example:



Maker: "HARRISON BROS. & HOWSON CUTLERS TO HER MAJESTY" stamped on the face of the main spear blade, with the tang stamped "45 NORFOLK ST SHEFFIELD". The tang of the pen blade is stamped "HARRISON BROS. &

HOWSON CUTLERS TO HER MAJESTY". The saw blade is stamped "CUTLERS TO HER MAJESTY". The knife has a closed length of 4 ¾ inches (12.1cm), has stag horn scales with a nickel silver shield, iron bolsters and liners. It has a foldout fleam that is housed between

the outside liner and the scale on the top side. The tools on the underside are the standard corkscrew, quadrangular borer and drill. The slide out tools are a tweezer and pick.



The adjacent illustration is copied from the "George Wostenholm & Sons" - undated catalogue but assumed to date c.1885 -1892 (see [Appendix 2](#) to this Collector Note). The knives are identical although made by different Sheffield cutlery manufacturers, which suggests that it is probably a "town pattern", that is a standard pattern made by a broad range of companies with many of the component parts purchased from a common source. Importantly, the fact that this is the largest (at 4 ¼ inches) 'hinge bolster horseman's pattern' in the Wostenholm trade catalogue, reinforces that the trend to smaller sportsmen's knives was common by the late 1880s and early 1890s. The other knives in the catalogue are all less than 4 inches and, in some cases, less than 3 inches.

The following knife is a similar pattern with the same closed length of 4 ¼ inches but with a sheepfoot blade and without the foldout fleam. It appears to have identical characteristics as the Joseph Rodgers 'Pattern 1985' illustrated on the previous page 31 but is ½ inch shorter.



Maker: "REPEAT NEEDHAM BROTHERS SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tangs of the topside sheepfoot blade, saw blade and pen blade. The knife has a closed length of 4 ¼ inches (12.1cm), has stag horn scales with a nickel silver shield, iron bolsters and liners. The tools on the

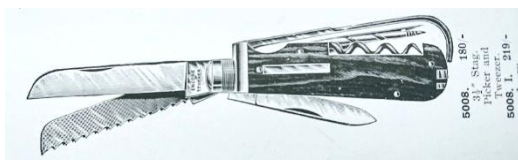
underside are the standard corkscrew, quadrangular borer, and drill. The slide out tools are a tweezer and pick.

Another example of this general trend to a reduced closed length is the following:



Maker: "HARRODS" stamped on the mark side tangs of the 3 blades. The pile side tang of the main sheepfoot blade is stamped "W.G.L.". The pile side tangs of both the saw blade and pen blade are stamped "hand forged". It has a closed length of 3 ¼

inches, stag horn scales with a rectangular nickel silver shield, nickel silver bolsters and bail, iron liners, and a wide hoof pick. This is a quality with the three underside blades having a full polish. The blades on the topside are the standard three tool combination of corkscrew, drill, and borer. The slide out tools are a tweezer and pick. This knife appears to be of an identical style as the "Joseph Rodgers & Sons" pattern P.1985 illustrated on page 79 above, although ½ inch longer) and it is probable that the Harrods knife was made for them under contract by Joseph Rodgers.



The knife in the adjacent illustration further assists in dating this style. It is copied from the "Thomas Turner & Co." catalogue dated July 1925 (see [Appendix 5](#)), which is a clear indication that the style extended beyond WW1. It has a closed length of 3 ½ inches.



Ultimately, it was the two-backspring version (plus the horse hook) which appears to have garnered popularity. The

adjacent illustration is also from the “Thomas Turner” 1925 catalogue. As with the above knife it has a closed length of 3 ½ inches. and was available with either a sheepfoot blade or spear blade.

Following are examples of this two-backspring version pattern, with closed lengths ranging between 3 ¼ - 3 ½ inches.



Maker: John Watts Sheffield England



Maker: Chris Johnson Western Works



Maker: Frank Mills & Co Ltd Sheffield



Maker: W. Morton & Sons Sheffield



Maker: Jameson Sheffield Made



Maker: Wingfield Rowbotham & Co.

In conclusion, this “hinged bolster type” of horsemen’s knives were in production from at least c.1860 and at that time were characterised by a closed length of 4 inches and less, and by having integral liners and bolsters. By the 1880s non-integral liners and bolsters had become the norm and a closed length of 4 ½ inches was common, however in the next decades through to the 1920s there is noticeable trend to smaller knives with a common closed length ranging between 3 ¼ - 3 ½ inches. As mentioned above, of the fourteen “Sportsman’s Knives featured in the “George Wostenholm & Sons Limited” trade catalogue (see [Appendix 2](#)) – nine are “horseman’s style” and all nine are hinged bolster type.

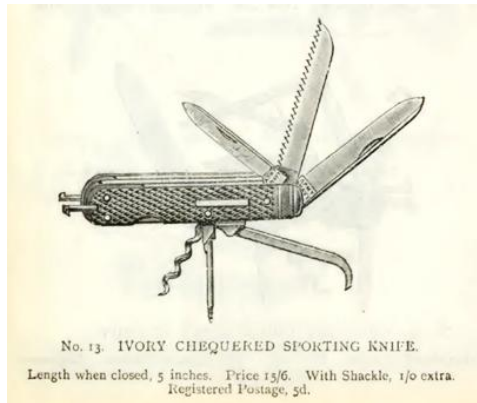
2.3.1.2 The tab-hinge type

There is little documentation available to establish any reference point for this style of horseman’s knife in the late-Victorian period. Certainly there are examples in Smith’s Key¹⁵ described as “Sportsmen Knives” which have tab hinges, but which appear to be integral with the liners, and there are many examples in the c.1860 Mappin Brothers trade catalogue (see Appendix 3 to [PART 1](#) of the Collector Note) – all of which appear to be moulded nickel silver tab hinges. Tab hinges are shown on horsemen’s style knives in the Army & Navy C.S.L. 1883 sales catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#)) but none are of the style that has the array of three blades on the underside that open from one end only.



Maker: "STAND T. RENSHAW AND SONS SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tangs of all three blades. This is a quality knife with ivory scales, milled brass liners and a nickel silver tab hinges and shield. It has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), a reamer, borer and corkscrew on the top side and the slide-out tools area picker and tweezer.

Tweeddale's "Directory" provides little assistance in dating the knife however it does note that "In 1869 Renshaw moved his business to *Stand Works* in Corporation Street", and that in 1888 "*Table and pocket cutlery (in pearl, tortoiseshell, ivory and horn) were the main lines, alongside scissors and razors*" (page 504). Based on this and having regard to the overall characteristics of the knife, a date of c.1880s is suggested. This knife is featured on page 241 of Sheffield Exhibition Knives¹⁶ and was previously in the collection of *Donald & Gloria Littman*. It is also illustrated in the catalogue for "The Largest Knife Sale Ever"¹⁷ (page 68 item 154) and in the Michaan's Auctions¹⁸ online catalogue dated September 6, 2013.



The Army & Navy C.S.L. 1883 catalogue has only one example of sportsman's knife of the style that has "*the array of three blades on the underside that open from one end only*", that has a nickel silver tab hinge.

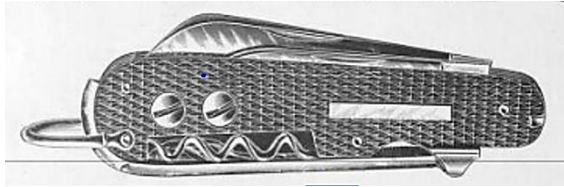
This knife is described as "No. 13 IVORY CHECKERED SPORTING KNIFE. Length when closed 5 inches."

This example indicates that this style was available in this basic form at least from 1883 and probably earlier, and that it evolved in the following years to address the needs of a military horseman – as detailed in the following examples. It is assumed that this knife had integral liners and bolsters which would be consistent with other similar knives in the 1883 catalogue.

The following knife is a little easier to date as it has an assumed Boer War association.



Maker: "MAPPIN & WEBB SHEFFIELD" stamped on both the main spear blade and the pen blade, together with the "M" logo.



The adjacent illustration is copied from an undated Mappin & Webb catalogue where it is described as “The Active Service Knife”. Paul Stamp has noted that this knife is referenced in Mappin &

Webb adverts in the “ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS” newspaper from January 1900 to March 1901 and the from December 1914 to December 1916.

The tin opener is stamped with the “M” logo together with the “TRUSTWORTHY” logo. This knife is described in the companion Collector Note “**British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives**” (see www.CASK.info) as: *“The knife has a closed length of 4 ½ inches, has black chequered horn scales, a main sheepfoot blade and a pen blade, tin opener, corkscrew, awl, reamer, hoof cleaning hook, and trace repair bolts, and is normally found with a leather pouch suitable for attaching to a belt. All examples with black chequered horn scales I have seen were manufactured by Mappin & Webb. It is, in my opinion a typical example of a Boer War era ‘private purchase’ horseman’s knife, although it (and the following knife) would have also been commercially available for ‘private purchase’ during WW1. Identical knives by Thomas Turner are known”.*

The dating of “British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives” is discussed in that Collector Note and to a large extent is contingent on the inclusion of the lever style “English” tin opener; examples of such inclusion in all-metal sportsmen’s knives dating from the at least the early 1880s are featured in that Collector Note. However the knife detailed above has few of the “sportsman” implements featured in the all-metal sportsmen’s knives, but rather appears to have been a purposefully pared down design to suit the needs of a military horseman, which suggests a date close to the start of the Boer War in October 1899. My suggested timeframe therefore is mid to late-1890s through to the end of WW1.

The following two knives date from the early 20th century and probably reflect the final stage in the production of horseman’s type knives that had a closed length of approximately 4 inches and more. Knives of a similar style shown in cutlery catalogues in the 1920s (i.e. after the end of WW1) predominantly had a closed length of 3 ½ inches or less. It also appears that this style of horseman’s knife – with nickel silver tab hinges, cap bolsters and shield, and brass liners, were considered a higher quality knife than those of the same size but with hinged bolsters and consequently commanded a high sale price, as shown in the 1925 Thomas Turner catalogue (see [Appendix 5](#)).



Maker: “S. HIBBERT & SON SHEFFIELD” stamped on mark side tang of both the pen blade and the button hook. The main spear blade is stamped “No. 82 TENTER ST. SHEFFIELD” on the mark side tang. The pile side tang of the button hook is also stamped “TRADE [SKIPPER] MARK”.

The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm) gnarly stag scales, brass liners and nickel

silver tab hinges, shoulders, bail and shield. The slide out tools are a scissor and pick. The more common blade combination incorporated a saw blade instead of the button hook in this knife. Tweedale’s “Directory” notes that Samuel Hibbert established “S. Hibbert and Son” “in about 1892”, and that by 1901 the address was at No. 82 Tenter Street Sheffield.

Although that address indicates this knife was made after 1901, it is safe to assume that the style had a date range from the late 1890s to at least the start of WW1.



Maker: "HOLTZAPFFEL & Co. 53 HAYMARKET SW" is stamped on the tang of all three blades. It has a closed length is 4 ¼ inches (10.8cm), checkered buffalo horn scales, brass liners, nickel silver cap bolsters, hinge tab, shield, and bail. The shield is possibly a latter addition and is stamped "H. HORNBYS STEER". The slide out tools are a scissor and pick.

Tweeddale's "Directory" (page 84) notes that "... the entry in the 1910 directory of Holtzapffel and Co. 53 Haymarket (late Charring Cross) and Sharples Hall St." As with the Hibbert knife above, the 53 Haymarket address indicates this knife was made after 1910, however it is assumed that it had probably had a date range from the late 1890s to at least the start of WW1

2.3.1.3 Conclusion

Admittedly based on a small sample, a common characteristic of this style in the mid-Victorian period, certainly dating back to at least c.1860 – based on the examples in the 1860 Mappin Brothers catalogue, was the use of large grooved bolsters (and also no bolsters "bare head") as depicted in the illustration from the 1883 A & N C.S.L. sales catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#) to this Collector Note). In the late-Victorian period however it appears that nickel silver shoulders became popular in higher-quality examples. Also, high-quality four-bade versions are illustrated in the Michaan's Auctions online catalogue for the "Fine and Collectable Knives and Edged Weapons"¹⁹ auction dated September 6, 2013, as lots 2281 and 2282.

2.3.2 Single-ended Sportsmen's Knives of the 'non-horseman' style.

This style of sportsman's knife is a continuation of style that has "*the array of three blades on the underside that open from one end only*"; the difference with the knives in the previous section is that this style lacks tools that are specifically designed to cater for the needs of horsemen – with an emphasis on the absence of a hoof pick.

The following three are of almost identical construction but with different stamping, and the third one has a quite different blade configuration



Maker: The main blade face is stamped "PREMIER [swan logo and TRY] KNIFE" and the mark side tang is stamped "F. NEWTON", as is the sawblade. The mark side tang of the pen blade is stamped "F. NEWTON PREMIER SHEFFIELD". It has a closed length of 4 ¼ inches (10.3cm), stag horn scales,

brass liners, and one steel liner that extends beyond the end to form a turnscrew. The slide-out tools are a tweezer and pick. Tweeddale's Directory doesn't provide any assistance

in dating the knife although it does include a copy of what is probably a newspaper advertisement under the name of "Francis Newton & Sons Ltd., together with a note indicating that *"In 1906 Newton's became a private limited company"*, which suggests that this pattern was still in inventory in the early 1900s.



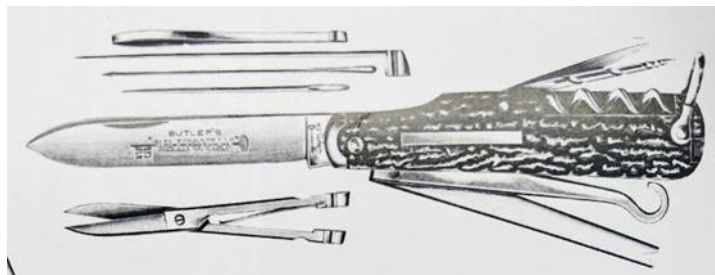
Maker: The main spear blade, saw blade, and pen blade are all tang stamped "FINNIGANS" on the mark side and "MANCHESTER & LIVERPOOL" on the pile side tang. It is safe to assume that Finnigans were a retailer operating in Manchester and Liverpool and it is highly probably that the knife was

made in Sheffield under contract by Francis Newton & Sons, given that it is almost identical to the knife above.



Maker: The main spear blade, and the long button hook (broken) are all tang stamped "BROOKES & CROOKES [bell logo] SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" and "OIL THE JOINTS" on the pile side tang. The nickel silver hook disgorger is stamped "BROOKES &

CROOKES [bell logo] SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" on the mark side tang.



Tweeddale's "The Sheffield Knife Book"²⁰ (page 170) has a full-page picture from an undated copy of a George Butler and Co. catalogue that has an illustration of what appears

to be an identical knife. The same illustration is featured in the **1928** George Butler and Co. catalogue.



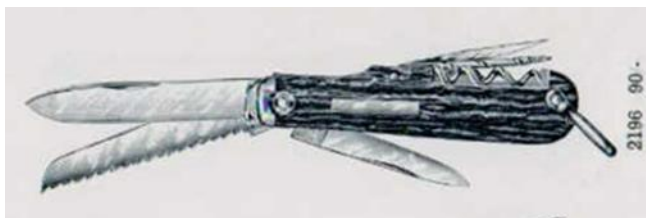
The face of the main spear blade is stamped "CUMMINS ...SHOP AUCKLAND". which is assumed to be a reference to W.J. Cummins who was a renowned Fishing Tackle maker in Bishop Auckland - a town in County Durham, UK.

The following knives show the standardised characteristics that were in fashion for non-horsemen's sportsman's knives having blades opening from one end only - from the end of the 19th century to the mid-1920s, and which is the final stage in the evolution of this style of sportsmen's knives in Sheffield. They were replaced by four, five and six-blade "utility" knives designed for the mass-market – see Section 8 "**Post-World War 1, the 1920s and 1930s**" in this Collector Note [here](#).



Maker: "T. TURNER & Co. CUTLERS TO HIS MAJESTY" stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade and the saw blade. The mark side tang of the pen blade is stamped "ENCORE OIL JOINTS

SHEFFIELD". The closed length is 3 ¾ inches (9.2cm), with ivory scales, nickel silver shoulders, pins, and shackle; three brass liners - and one iron liner that extends past the shoulder to form a turn screw. This pattern was featured in both the 1902 and 1925 Thomas Turner trade catalogues.



The adjacent illustration is copied from the 1902 Thomas Turner trade catalogue (page 166) - see [Appendix 3](#), and shows their Pattern 2196. It is described as having a closed length of 3 ¾

inches and is also available in ivory – as per the above photo. The description also notes that the stag version is also available with a "horsehook". The exact same illustration is shown in page 61 of the 1925 Thomas Turner trade catalogue (see [Appendix 4](#)) but with a different pattern number - being Pattern 1595 and with an identical description except that the 'horse-hook' option is no longer available (perhaps due to the decline in the 'horse and buggy' trade).

The early 20th century (and especially the 1920s) saw a trend in sportsmen's knives towards much simpler four, three and two blade having a maximum length closed of 4 inches (10.2cm). Trade catalogues of this period clearly show this trend, although a very limited number of six blade knives are also shown. The following knives and illustrations reflect this trend.



Maker: "[logo] JOSEPH ELLIOT & SONS SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tang of all blades. The knife has a closed length of 3 3/8 inches (8.2cm), jigged bone scales – dyed to look like stag, two brass liners, one iron liner that extends beyond the bolsters to provide a turnscrew, and nickel silver bolsters, shield, and shackle.



Maker: "HERBERT ROBINSON SHEFFIELD" stamped on the mark side tang of both the main sheepfoot blade and the pen blade. It has a closed length of 3

3/8 inches (8.2cm), cow horn scales, iron bolsters and liners and a nickel silver shackle. An almost identical knife is shown in the following illustration.



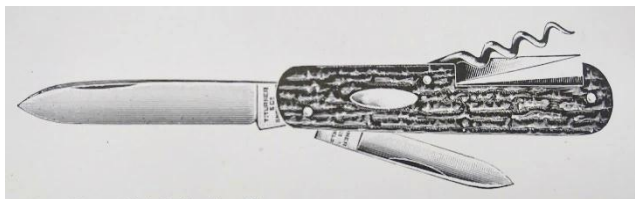
described as a “sportsman’s knife”. The catalogue is assumed to date from the 1920s. It contains two pages of “Sportsmen’s Knives” with none of them having a closed length over 4 inches (10.2cm).

The adjacent illustration is copied from the undated “Lockwood Brothers Limited, Sheffield” trade catalogue (page 91) and is



Maker “BROOKSBANK SHEFFIELD” stamped on the tang of both the main spear blade and the pen blade. The knife has a closed length of 3 ½ inches (8.9cm), jigged bone scales, brass liners, and nickel silver pins, shield, and

shackle.



The adjacent illustration is copied from the Thomas Turner & Co. 1925 catalogue (see [Appendix 5](#)) and shows their Pattern 7355 sportsman’s knife as being 3 ½

inches in length with imitation stag scales. It appears to be almost identical to the Brooksbank knife shown above.



Maker: “EDGAR ALLEN & Co. Ltd. SHEFFIELD” stamped on both the main spear blade and the pen blade. The knife has a closed length of 3 ¾ inches (9.2cm), jigged bone scales, brass liners, and nickel silver pins and shield. Tweedale Notes in

relation to “pocket knives” that “*These products would have been factored by Allen’s and were probably marketed up to the 1930s*”.



The adjacent illustration is copied from the undated “Lockwood Brothers Limited, Sheffield” trade catalogue (page 90) and is described as a “sportsman’s

knife”. It has a closed length of 3 ¾ inches (9.2cm), stag scales and appears to be almost identical to the Edgar Allen knife shown above.

The final knife in this exploration of sportsmen’s knives (non-horseman’s type) with blades opening from one end only, qualifies for inclusion due to it having a corkscrew – the norm with Sheffield cutlery trade catalogues was to classify any knife with a corkscrew under the heading “Sportsmen’s Knives”



Maker: “STRINGER [logo]” stamped n the face of the main blade and “STRINGER SHEFFIELD” stamped on the mark side tang. It has a closed length of 3 ½ inches

(8.9cm), cow horn scales, iron liners and nickel silver pins. Tweedale’s Directory notes that the Stringer family were active in the cutlery trade “since at least 1774”, however it

appears that the distinctive logo (as stamped on the blade) was acquired by other makers and used well into the 20th century. Based on the style of the knife, it is probably that the knife dates circa late-19th century to circa early-20th century.

2.3.2.1 Conclusion,

Medium sized and small sized sportsmen's knives, both single and double ended, continued well into the 1920s and 1930s – as can be appreciated by reference to the previously mentioned 1925 Thomas Turner trade catalogue (see [Appendix 5](#)).

2.4 All-metal Sportsmen's knives

Much of the documentation detailed in this section is derived from the companion Collector Note "**British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives**" (see: www.CASK.info).

It is apparent that 'all-metal sportsmen's knives', in all their variations, are a product of the mid to late-Victorian and early-20th century periods, as reflected in the 1883 A & N C.S.L. sales catalogue (see [Appendix 1](#)) which includes just one all-metal knife- being "No. 4. BUTLER'S PATENT CARTRIDGE EXTRACTOR KNIFE". Also, the "George Wostenholm & Sons" trade catalogue dated c.1885 – 1892 (see [Appendix 2](#)) shows four champagne pattern sportsmen's knives – none of which are of the "all-metal" style.

Their common closed length of between 3 ½ - 4 ¾ inches (8.9cm – 12.1cm) is a defining characteristic and is consistent with the observed trend over these periods to a reduction in the size of all styles and patterns of sportsmen's knives. **All-metal sportsmen's knives** are primarily comprised of two distinctive styles, being the smaller 'champagne' style and the larger horseman's style - each is described in separate sub-sections following. Currently available information suggests that the earliest all-metal sportsmen's knives were what is now generically referred to as "Champagne Pattern" knives, although it is not at all clear that this was what they were called when first introduced to the market in the **1870s**. The better-known medium-sized "all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives" appear to date from the early 1890s, and are discussed in detail in the following Section 2.4.2 [here](#).

2.4.1 Small all-metal 'champagne pattern' sportsmen's knives

This topic is now covered more comprehensively in a separate Collector Note "**Champagne Pattern clasp knives and multi-blade variants**" at www.CLASP.info. What follows here is a brief summary that focusses on their role as a 'knife for sportsmen'.

A traditional Sheffield definition²¹ of a champagne pattern knife is:

"The Champagne Pattern term covers a variety of multi-bladed folding knives, often with different frame shapes, sizes and numbers of blades/articles, but having two articles common to all - a corkscrew and a wire cutter. ... The frame shape as I've said, is not indicative of a Champagne PATTERN - the two articles are!"

What is clear is that they were, in all their myriad variations, specifically designed to meet the needs of "sportsmen" – as opposed to a knife that was designed as a hand-tool for manual workers. This also suggests a social dimension as in the 19th century 'sport' often had a social eating/drinking element that was a big attraction.

PREIST'S NEW COACHING & PIC-NIC KNIFE.



Price 13s. 6d. ; without Shackle, 12s. 6d.
Containing Gouge and Trace Nuts, &c. also Tin Opener
and other Pic-nic requisites.

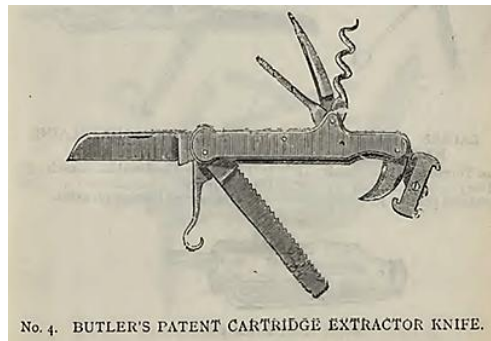
Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk).

Paul Stamp has identified a reference to Priest's 'Coaching & Pic-nic Knife' in an advertisement in the 14 May 1881 edition of "SPORTING GAZETTE", which includes a tin opener (and as noted by Paul in private correspondence to the author) – "*this is the earliest illustration of a tin opener so far identified*").

Newspaper image © The British Library Board. All rights reserved. With thanks to The British

The timeframe for specific styles of all-metal 'champagne pattern' style sportsmen's knives is difficult to define as it appears that some patterns were available, with minor variation in the blades/tools, over a lengthy period of time – possible extending from the style's inception in the early/mid -1870s to its probable demise in the late-1920s and even extending into the 1930s

Paul Stamp's research of newspaper archives has located adverts for 'champagne' style knives dated 1880, 1881, 1882 and 1883. The first documented example that I have found is in the 'Army & Navy Cooperative Society Limited' 1883 catalogue – see following illustration (left-side) and [Appendix 1](#), being stock item No.4 and described as "*Butler's Patent Cartridge Extractor Knife*" – noting that it fits the definition for a champagne knife as it has both a wire cutter and a corkscrew. The adjacent illustration appears to show an identical knife made by GEORGE BUTLER & CO. SHEFFIELD. The illustration is copied from GAMAGE'S²² 1913 "Christmas Bazaar" sales catalogue and was the only example of a 'champagne pattern knife' in the catalogue.



I am advised that this same pattern is included in the 1928 Geo. Butler trade catalogue. This indicates that this Butler pattern was available for almost the entire period that 'champagne pattern' knives were in fashion, and certainly from the early 1880s the late 1920s.

The following knife, also made by Butler, appears to be identical to the above except that the cartridge extractor has been replaced by a tin opener.

Maker: "[key logo] G. BUTLER & Co." is stamped on the mark side tang of main sheepfoot blade, button hook, saw blade, tin opener, and wire cutter. Their pile side tangs (including the tin opener) are stamped "SHEFFIELD [ART logo] ENGLAND". As was common at the time, the tin opener is stamped on the mark side tang "TIN OPENER" suggesting that there



was a need to explain its purpose. The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), and nickel silver scales, liners and pins.

The knife in the following photo has an array of tools designed for use by an angler; regrettably the main blade has snapped off at the tang. Of particular interest however is that the reverse scale is stamped with a British Registry Design Number "Diamond" code that shows the date

of April 12, **1883** - and being stamped on the knife handle rather than on one of the tools suggests that it applies to the design of the knife as a whole rather than one of the component tools. This is a wonderful all-metal (sportsman's) angler's knife but it's not strictly a champagne pattern as it lacks the standard champagne wire cutter tool.



Maker: The mark side tang of the (missing) main blade and most of the other tools on the underside, are stamped "PREIST & Co." and their pile side tangs are stamped "514 OXFORD St." This is a reference to the London cutlery manufacturer who, as noted in Tweeddale's Directory, had by 1885 relocated to 514 Oxford Street. This suggests that the knife could date to early/mid-1885, which is a later date than

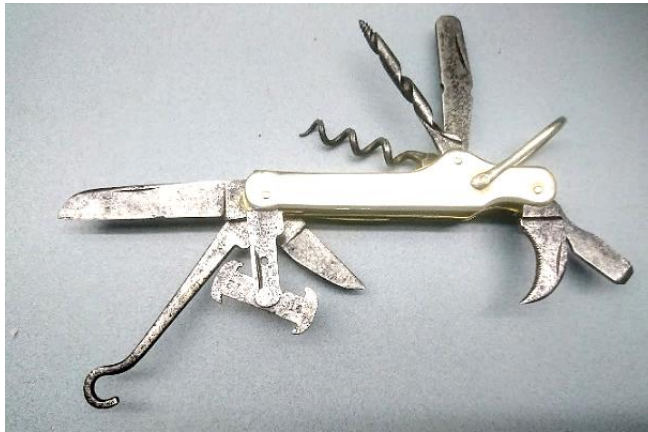
that indicated by the 'diamond' code. It is probable that the knife was made for Priest under contract by a Sheffield manufacturer.



Maker: "BUTLER'S ANGLING KNIFE" is stamped on the face of the main sheepfoot blade, the mark side tang is stamped "[key logo] G. BUTLER & Co." and the pile side tang is stamped "SHEFFIELD [ART logo] ENGLAND". The other blades

have similar stamps. The knife has a closed length of 3 ½ inches (8.7cm), nickel silver scales and shackle, and milled brass liners. The blades/tools are: main sheepfoot blade, scissor, hook disgorger, combined file, wire cutter, turnscrew on the underside, and on the topside a single heavy corkscrew that works against all three backsprings. It is assumed that this knife dates to the 1890s, however it was still featured in the 1928 Geo. Butler trade catalogue.

The following knives more particularly focus on the needs of the sportsman/shooter rather than the angler, as they each contains a type of cartridge extractor. An ideal knife for the cigar smoking, champagne drinking shooter to keep in his vest pocket.



Maker: "ABRAM BROOKSBANK SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tangs of most of the blades/tools on the underside. The knife has a closed length of 3 ½ inches (8.7cm), nickel silver scales and shackle, and milled brass liners. The blades/tools are: main sheepfoot blade, button hook, cartridge extractor, cigar cutter, wire cutter and turnscrew

on the underside. The topside has a corkscrew, gimlet and what appears to be a pry bar of some sort although its actual use is unclear – to me, at least. The style of cartridge extractor is identical to the "Butler's Patent Cartridge Extractor" shown in the illustration copied from the 'Army & Navy Cooperative Society Limited' 1883 catalogue shown on the previous page 42.



Maker: "J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main blade and on the face of the wire cutter. The face of the main blade is stamped "[logo] J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD [logo]" and the reverse face of the wire cutter is stamped "J.

NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD". One side of the handle is heavily stamped THE "GRIPPER" NOWILLS PATENT, and one arm of the gripper is stamped "THE GRIPPER PATENT No. 10778". The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), nickel silver scales, pins, and shackle, and brass liners. The blades/tools are: main blade (heavily damaged by rust but possibly a spear blade), large wire cutter, and patented cartridge extractor on the underside, and on the topside a corkscrew and what appears to be a pry bar of some sort although its actual use is unclear. Given the absence of an "ENGLAND" stamping anywhere on the knife it is probable that it dates **pre-1891**. It is possible that the Patent No 10778 could provide a more accurate date.



Maker: "TAYLOR SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang of the main blade. The main blade face, and one side of the handle, are stamped "REAL [eye logo] WITNESS KNIFE". Both the button hook and the wire cutter are stamped on the mark side "[eye

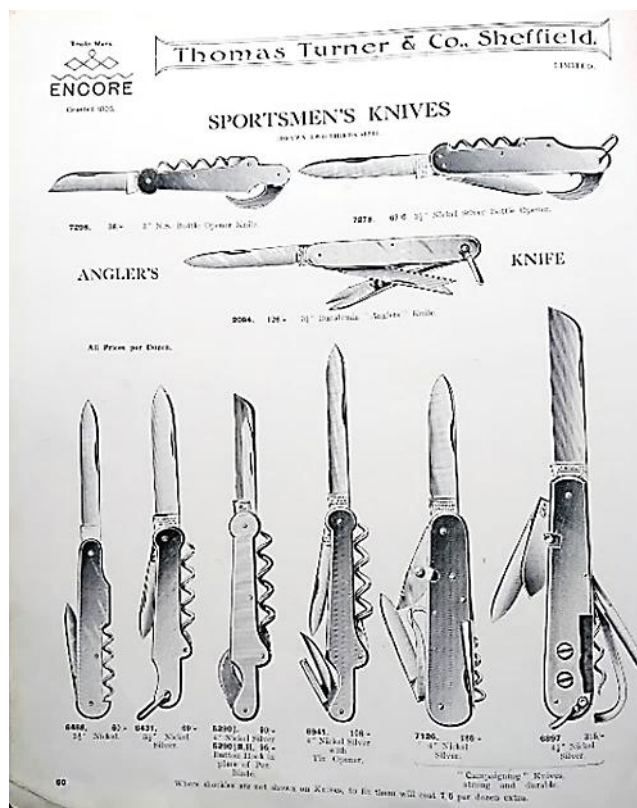
logo] WITNESS" together with further word which is hidden by the frame but ends in "... OR". Both arms of the cartridge extractor are stamped "REGISTERED" together with British Registry Design Number "Diamond" code – the year letter has been worn away however the Diamond code was discontinued in 1883.

The following knife more particularly focuses on the needs of the sportsman/horseman given its inclusion of trace repair bolt.



Maker: The pen blade, wire cutter, tin opener and turncrew are all stamped "IXL GEORGE WOLSTENHOLM SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" on their mark side tangs. The main clip (?) blade inexplicably has two cockerels stamped on the mark side tang and "BERTRAM GERMANY" on the pile side tang, and there is no clear evidence that the

pivot pin has been replaced. One scale has been poorly hand-stamped "J R CAPERTON CONCORD CAL". The knife has a closed length of 4 inches (10.2cm), nickel silver scales, pins, and shackle, and brass liners. The eight blades/tools are: main clip blade, pen reamer, fleam, wire cutter, tin opener, and turncrew on the underside, corkscrew on the topside. Dating the knife is difficult, however the inclusion of a fold-out fleam suggests the 1880s as by the 1890s they were less common as a tool in sportsman's/horseman's knife.



World War 1 had a significant adverse impact on the Sheffield cutlery trade, probably due to tragic loss of skilled craftsmen, but also changed social conditions meant that the demand for high quality 'recreational' knives – such as sportsmen's knives was greatly reduced, and as horse-drawn transport quickly gave way to automobiles. The adjacent illustration is a copy of page 60 of the Thomas Turner & Co. 1925 trade catalogue (see [Appendix 5](#) to this Collector Note), and it shows that "Sportsmen's Knives" were still held in inventory at that time - including four all-metal "Champagne" style knives. Tweedale notes however (page 614) that "Turner's did not fare

well during the 1920s. In the midst of the depression in 1932 the bankrupt business was apparently brought by Lee & Crookes Ltd ...". The 1928 Geo. Butler trade catalogue included an extensive range of all-metal 'Champagne' style knives even though by this date the demand for "sportsmen's knives" had effectively been replaced by the far more popular "Utility Knives" – as detailed [here](#).

What is not so well appreciated is that, perhaps in parallel with the all-metal patterns, Sheffield cutlery manufacturers were also making champagne pattern knives that were of the more traditional style. The following illustration is copied from the George Wostenholm & Son, Limited catalogue - undated but assumed to be circa 1885 – 1892 (see [Appendix 2](#)).



The illustration is part of "Plate 46" and the knives are described as "CHAMPAGNE KNIVES. FINE SPORTING KNIVES". Of the eight knives shown – starting from the left: the first, third, fourth and last all have a wire cutter and corkscrew (although the wire cutter on the first knife is obscured by the catalogue binding), and two of which have the option of

ivory, stag, or pearl scales. Also, nowhere in this catalogue is an example of the all-metal champagne pattern knife illustrated.

Regrettably, only one example of a traditional style champagne pattern knife is available to me to include here.



Maker: "J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tang, and the pile side tang is stamped with the Nowill trade mark. The other blades/tools on the underside have a variety of stamps consisting of a combination of the Nowill name and trademarks. This

is a well-constructed knife that has a closed length of 3 ¾ inches (9.5cm), ivory scales, and nickel silver liners, pins, and shield. The blades are: clip point main blade, wire cutter, manicure blade/file, and pen blade on the underside; the topside has a single corkscrew – the exposed back of which is embossed with diagonal grooves

The following two examples are perhaps a fusion of the traditional style in terms of scale material, and the commonly perceived 'champagne pattern' shape.



Maker: "[logo ART] GEO BUTLER & Co. SHEFFIELD" is stamped on the mark side tangs of the main spear blade and the button hook. The long champagne wire cutter is stamped "[logo ART]" on the mark side tang. The pen blade is stamped "J. U. JAMES SHEFFIELD" and is assumed to

be a replacement as there is possible evidence of work on the pivot pin that also secures the shackle. The knife has a closed length of 4 1/8 inches (10.5cm), diagonally cut buffalo scales, milled brass liners, and nickel silver pins, shield, shackle, and tabs that secure the tools on the topside. The blades/tools consist of a main spear blade, button hook, long wire cutter, and pen blade on the underside, and on the topside a corkscrew and reamer.



Maker: The main blade and the button hook are stamped "C. BARRATT 1 FENCHURCH St." There is no discernible stamping on the other blades. Flook's TLNB notes that Charles Barrett operated from this London address from 1905 to 1910 which provides a good time frame for the knife. It has a closed length of 4 inches

(10.2cm), stag horn scales, milled brass liners, and nickel silver pins, shield, and tabs that secure the tools on the topside. The blades/tools consist of a very worn main blade, button hook, long pen blade, and tin opener on the underside, and on the topside a corkscrew (broken) and reamer. The knife is in relic condition with heavy pitted on all surfaces, and there is some indication that the pivot holding the pen blade and tin opener may have been interfered with, or alternatively that a shackle has been removed.

In conclusion, many of the individual patterns of "Small all-metal 'champagne pattern' sportsmen's knives" detailed in this sub-section remained in production well into the 1920s and possibly the 1930s, which suggests that such patterns may have had a lifespan of over 50 years. Ultimately however, the demand for knives providing a specialized function was supplanted by the standardised utility knives that provided some variety in the type of blades/tools by virtue of their being four, five, and six-blade versions.

2.4.2 Medium-sized all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives

2.4.2.1 Double ended version

The double-ended all-metal horseman's knife is arguably the best-known all-metal Sheffield-made knife from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It appears to have been made in large numbers by the major Sheffield cutlery manufacturers for a period of perhaps 35 years – from c.1885 to the end of WW1. Notably, there was very insignificant variation from the standard for the whole of that period which suggests that it was an acknowledged 'town pattern'²³ in Sheffield. It is also notable for the inclusion of a tin opener – which reinforces the view that it was specifically designed to appeal to military servicemen as a 'private purchase' knife suitable for use 'in the field', and it appears to have been popular with servicemen in both the Second Boer War (1899 – 1901) and World War 1. The inclusion of the cartridge extractor however shows that the knife would also appeal to sportsmen in peace time. The following knife displays all the 'standard' characteristics found in the individual patterns produced by Sheffield cutlery manufacturers.

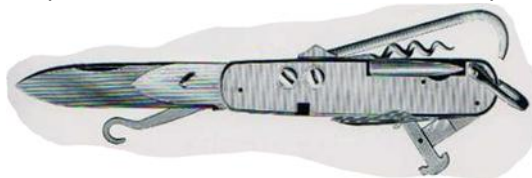


Maker: "HENNIG & Co" is stamped on mark side tangs all blades and tools on the underside and "26 COVENTRY STREET W" on their pile side tangs. Flook's TLKB entry for Hennig & Co. states "*Operated for only about 15 years from 1890 to circa 1905 at 26 Coventry St. being described as razor*

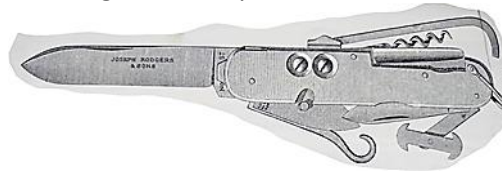
makers". The knife has a closed length of 4 ¾ inches (12.1cm), one nickel silver liner and one steel liner that extends beyond the frame to form a turnscrew, and nickel silver pins and shackle. It is unclear to me whether the scales are nickel silver or polished steel, however - due to the total absence of rust or staining on any of the examples listed here,

I assume nickel silver. The blades/tools consist of: a main lock back spear blade, button hook, tin opener, pen blade, and cartridge extractor on the underside, and hoof pick, reamer and corkscrew on the topside. Both the reamer and the corkscrew have diagonal grooves embossed on their exposed tangs which is a standard characteristic of such patterns. The only difference I can discern between this knife and all other examples listed here is that the reamer has the convex side facing out while the others have the concave side facing out.

This pattern is featured in Sheffield cutlery trade catalogues of the period, as follows:



Source: Thomas Turner & Sons 1902 catalogue pattern 5501 - page 169



Source: Joseph Rodgers & Sons c.1912 catalogue pattern P.1980 – page 22.

As mentioned in the introduction to this section 2.4 on “All-metal Sportsmen’s knives”, they are not mentioned in the Army & Navy Cooperative Stores Limited 1883 catalogue, however they are detailed in both the 1904 and 1907 catalogues where they are described as “The Army & Navy Metal Sporting Knife. For Campaigning”, as follows”

**The Army & Navy
Metal Sporting Knife.
For Campaigning.**



o. 14. The scales of this knife are made of German silver, and are therefore very durable. It contains large and small blade, button hook, tin opener, cartridge extractor (12 and 16 bore), hollow gouge, corkscrew, turn-screw at end, horsepick, and two trace bolts for mending traces, &c. Length when closed, 5 inches.
With lock-back blade..... each 18/0
*Sterling Silver Scales..... " 40/0
Cowhide leather cases for above..... " 2/5

Maker: not known. The A & N C.S.L. was a retailer and outfitter and the great majority of their cutlery products were sourced from Sheffield. Given however that all of this style of knife appear to conform to a standard design it is difficult ascertain which Sheffield cutlery manufacturer had the contract to provide these knives. This advert does confirm that “German silver” (i.e. nickel silver) was the standard – at least for this seller, and that the option of “Sterling Silver Scales” was available (at more than twice the price). Also, I note the “length when closed” is stated as 5 inches whereas all examples featured here have a closed length of 4 ¾ inches which includes the protruding turn screw. If the hook of the hoof cleaner is included when closed, then the length increases to 4 7/8 inches. Therefore, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, I suggest that the claimed 5 inches is just a slight exaggeration for marketing purposes. The example in

the Thomas Turner 1902 catalogue illustrated on the previous page is described as having a closed length of 4 ¾ inches.

I have been unable to find any documentary explanation as to how and why this large all-metal ‘horseman’ style sportsmen’s knife emerged and became so popular? The scenario I favour is that it followed on from the development of the smaller **all-metal ‘champagne style’ of sportsman’s knife** in the mid-1870s – as described in subsection 2.4.1 [here](#) and built on its popularity. The champagne style knife was always a knife of a size suitable to be carried in a pocket (i.e. a “pocketknife”), and perhaps a demand emerged for a larger knife that could be carried in a pouch (“Cowhide leather cases ...” – see above advert.) and was suited to the needs of both sportsmen and military servicemen.

The earliest example that I have noted has hallmarked sterling silver scales which date it to **1888** (see details following), and I am aware of an identical knife that has an engraved inscription on one scale that includes the date August 6th **1888**, and another inscribed

1891. Each of these knives accords with the 'standard characteristics' described on the previous page.



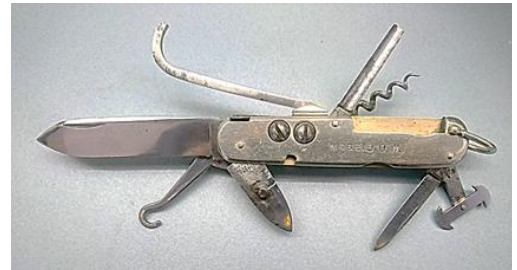
Maker: not known. All of the blades, apart from the main blade, are marked "BARRETT & SONS on the mark side tangs and "63 & 64 PICCADILLY" on the pile side tangs; the main blade is stamped "I. ELLIS & SONS SHEFFIELD". It is possible that the main blade is a replacement however there is no evidence on any

work on the pivot pin. Tweeddale notes that I. Ellis & Sons were in the cutlery manufacturing business under that name from 1860 until the 1930s so it is likely that they were the makers. The knife has a closed length of 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (12.1cm), sterling silver scales hallmarked to **1888**, a single milled nickel silver liner and a steel liner that protrudes beyond the frame to form the turnscrew. There is a fitted toggle and ring attached to the shackle, suitable for attachment to a lanyard which suggests that the knife is suitable for military use.

The following four knives, by different makers, all confirm with the standard characteristics for Large all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives.



Maker: "JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" is stamped all blades and tools on the underside.



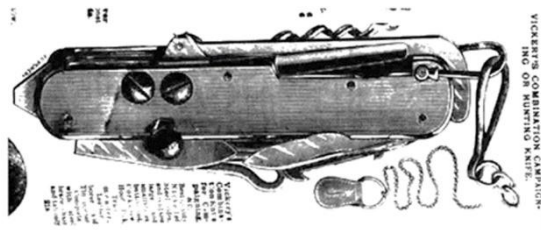
Maker: assume "JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS" as stamped on all blades and tools except the main spear blade which is stamped "COWLISHAW SHEFFIELD". One scale is stamped "W. O. GIBSON".



Maker: unclear, as the main spear blade is stamped "A & N. C. S. L", the tin opener is stamped with Mappin & Webb's "TRUSTWORTHY" logo and "SHEFFIELD", and the pen blade is stamped "J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD". The scales are ivory and appear to be original. The pen blade may be a replacement.



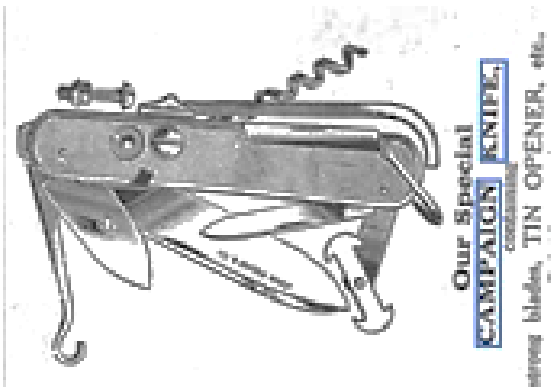
Maker: unknown, all blades and tools on the underside are stamped "J. C. VICKERY REGENT St. W" which is a London address. The style of the tin opener is identical to that used by G. Butler & Co., however the master blade is not a lock-back - contrary to the 'standard pattern' that applies to all the other knives in my collection



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Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk).

opener. Complete with steel brace chain and tab."

The adjacent illustration is copied from the journal "GENTLEWOMAN" dated 23 March 1901 and is described as "VICKERY'S COMBINATION CAMPAIGNING OR HUNTING KNIFE". The rest of the text is partially obscured but appears to state: "Best quality Nickelled steel sides, and containing large and small blades, buttonhook, Corkscrew, Hoof Pick, Trace mender, leather borer, and tin



© Illustrated London News Ltd / Mary Evans

The adjacent illustration is copied from the journal "THE GRAPHIC" dated 31 August 1918, in an advert by John Pound & Co. It is described as "Our special CAMPAIGN KNIFE incorporating strong blades, TIN OPENER etc." Flook's TLKB lists "POUND, JOHN & CO." as Manufacturing Cutlers and states "Not listed under cutlers until late in the 19th century when in 1885 recorded at 81, 82, 83 Leadenhall Street,".



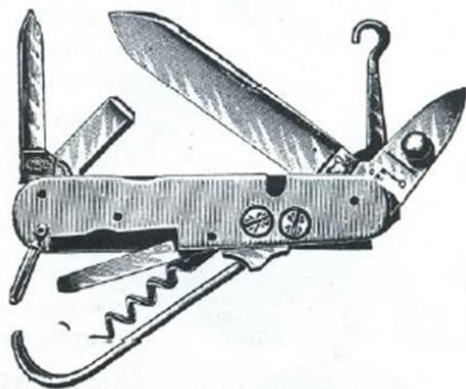
HALL. 4TH W. R. (HOWITZER) BGDE R.F.A.". The online link to the IMW collection is: <https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/30001256>

The knife in the adjacent photo is in the collection of the Imperial War Museum and appears to have the "standard characteristics" as described for the knives picture above, including a locking main blade.

The inscription reads: "MAJOR M. F.

I have found little information which indicates that this medium-sized "all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives" evolved any further than the 'standard' style that emerged in Sheffield in the late 1880s and was consistently popular through to the end of World War 1. Stock may have been available from retailers in the years immediately following the end of WW1 however it appears that few Sheffield manufacturers maintained it in their inventory into the 1920s.

The previously mentioned "GAMAGES 1913 Xmas catalogue (see page 42 and Endnote 21), suggests that small variations to the 'standard' style were produced - see illustration



No. F. A223. The "Colonial" Camp Knife.
Fitted with two strong blades, turncrew, tin-opener,
corkscrew, button hook, etc. Length 5 in.
Nickel handle .. 18/9

following. It appears that this knife, described as "The 'Colonial' Camp Knife", was made by George Butler and Co. as their 'Key' mark is evident in the illustration on the tang of both the tin opener and main spear blade; also other knives in this catalogue are similarly marked. The significant variation is that the cartridge extractor tool – that is common to all examples shown above, has been replaced by a file/turnscrew²⁴ tool. I note that the length is stated as "5 in." which is ¼ inch larger than the standard style and is consistent with the description of the knife in the

illustration on the previous page 17 - copied from the Army & Navy Cooperative Stores Limited 1907 catalogue, and for which I suggested is just a slight exaggeration for marketing purposes. An identical knife is featured in the Geo. Butler 1928 trade catalogue as Pattern 1974, which indicates that this variant remained in inventory by Butlers until at least the **late 1920s**. In conclusion, and irrespective of it being included in the 1928 Geo Butler catalogue, it is apparent that the popularity of this pattern concluded with the end of WW1 - concurrently with the societal changes that emerged as a result of "The Great War".

2.4.2.2 Variants – both single and double-ended versions

The following four all-metal horsemen's knives appear to specifically focus on the needs of military servicemen, and most likely for service in WW1 although earlier dates have been noted. They appear to have evolved from the heavier stag horn and chequered buffalo horn horsemen's knives that were a popular 'private purchase' knife for service in the Boer War and probably also for WW1. This reflects a continuation of the trend to pared down, smaller, and more utilitarian styles than was previously the norm.



Maker: JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS. It is possible that this was stamped on the mark side tang of the main spear blade, however all that now remains is "... NORFOLK STREET SHEFFIELD". The pile side is stamped with the Rodgers *+ logo and "ENGLAND". The tin opener is similarly marked. The

pen blade and the button hook are stamped "RODGERS CUTLERS TO HIS MAJESTY". The knife has a closed length of 4 ¾ inches (12.1cm), nickel silver scales and shackle, one nickel silver liner and one steel liner. The blades/tools are: main spear blade (well-worn), pen blade (broken), long button hook, hoof pick, rectangular reamer, corkscrew and tin opener. This is an example of multi-blade pattern knife that emerged at the time of WW1, that has been pared down by the removal of the 'sportsman's' components such as the cartridge extractor, and thus had a singular focus on military uses.



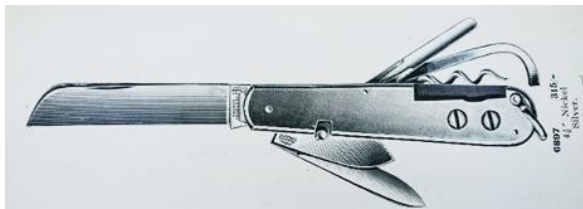
There is an identical knife (including a broken pen blade) in the collection of the Imperial War Museum, described as "BRITISH CLASP KNIFE, OFFICER'S PRIVATE PURCHASE." The inscription on the scale reads '**CAPT. P. D. MUNDY 11th K.R.R.C. CARNOY SEPT 1916**'. The online link to the IMW collection is:

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/30000392>



Maker: "[flag logo] CHRIS. JOHNSON WESTERN WORKS SHEFFIELD" stamped on the main blade tang and on the tin opener tang. The knife has a closed length of 4 ½ inches (10.5cm), the scales are nickel silver, and it has one brass liner and one heavy steel liner that extends past the end of the frame to form the turnscrew. The blades/tools are: sheepfoot main

blade, heavy marline spile, tin opener, "hidden" hoof pick (which sits within the frame of the knife when in the closed position, rather than sitting proud of the frame as was the norm), reamer and corkscrew. Hidden hoofpick knives are described in more detail in PART 3 of this Collector Note at section 2.1.



This appears to have been a popular pattern as it is also illustrated in the Thomas Turner Co. 1925 catalogue (see Appendix 5) where it is referred to as "*Campaigning Knives, strong and durable*". This post-WW1 version – see illustration opposite, shows that

the marline spile has been replaced by a pen blade. This is consistent with my observation that the marline spile was a useful tool in wartime but not popular during peacetime. I am aware of an identical knife made by "Ellis & Son PRIMUS" in a UK collection.



Maker: "[logo] J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD [logo]" is stamped on the face of the main spear blade, and "J. NOWILL & SONS SHEFFIELD ENGLAND" is stamped on the mark side tang. The knife has a closed length of 4 ¼ inches (10.8cm), nickel silver scales, pins, and liners. The blades/tools are: main spear blade, large pen blade, tin opener, hoof pick,

reamer, gimlet, and corkscrew. The knife is not included in the John Nowill & Sons 1915 "Military Catalogue" which suggests that it dates to the Boer War rather than WW1.



Maker: "CHAS CLEMENTS" is stamped on the mark side tang, and the pile side tang is stamped "SHEFFIELD MAKE". The pile side tang of the pen blade is stamped with the London address :17 BILLITER ST E.C". The knife has a closed length of 4 1/8 inches (10.5cm), nickel silver scales and pins, and steel liners. The blades/tools are: main

spear blade, large pen blade. tin opener, hoof pick, quadrangular reamer, gimlet, and corkscrew. One of the scales (which have what appears to be faux hallmarks) is inscribed "FROM MAJOR J. O. RUSCOE TO I AM GOODCHILD".



The back story to this knife is that I acquired it recently (September 2021) in a trade with Australian collector and dealer Wayne Herrington. Wayne had previously sought background information from the "Sheffield Pocket Knives and Fixed Blades" forum, and member David Thomas provided the following information and the adjacent photo. *"This is Jack Osmond Ruscoe, (12 Oct 1902 Epsom - March 1973 Sunninghill Ascot) when he married in 1918 aged 25 he was a Captain in the RAF. So I AM Goodchild was probably 1st class Airman. He further advised "I have now found a number of Goodchilds in the 1918 RAG muster rolls. So Leonard James is probably not the recipient of the knife. Typical officer, inscribed his rank, name and initials but the person he is grateful to is referred to by rank and name".* The knife is also detailed in the self-published book "Introduction to Collecting Australian, British & Canadian Military Clasp Knives"²⁵, page 13, Plate 5 of the "Revised Edition", by Australian collector Kevin Colman, which includes similar information: *"Research has shown that there was Jack Osmond Ruscoe listed as a member of the Royal Flying Corps (Officers list) and a Charles Maxwell Goodchild (all ranks list) also listed in the Royal Flying Corps. Goodchild could have been Ruscoe's armourer and the knife given to him as a gift".*

In conclusion, it is arguable that these four 'single-ended' versions of the medium-sized "all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives" are not in fact sportsmen's knives at all and were never intended to be. They were pared down designs specifically aimed to accommodate the needs of military servicemen; even in 1925 – well after the completion of WW1, they were described as 'campaigning knives' as shown in the previously mentioned Thomas Turner 1925 catalogue. In contrast, the 'standardised 'double ended' version (as featured extensively in the preceding subsection 2.4.2.1) included a cartridge extractor that was not a tool that had any wartime purpose but was specifically aimed to also appeal to sportsmen.

2.4.3 Medium all-metal 'non-horsemen' style sportsmen's knives

The following two knives have many features in common with "large all-metal 'horsemen' style sportsmen's knives" except for the absence of tools/articles specifically provided to appeal to horsemen – that is: a hoof cleaning hook and trace repair bolts.



Maker: not known. All blades are stamped on their mark side tangs "J. MOORE" and on their pile side tangs "211 OXFORD ST." According to Flook's TLNB this is the London address of "Moore, James" who is described as a "working cutler", and who operated from this address from 1840 to 1910 (and also from other addresses in

London). The sterling silver scales are hallmarked to 1901. It is assumed that Moore was also a retailer, and it is probable that the knife was made for J. Moore by a Sheffield manufacturer - as was a common practice at that time. The knife has a closed length of 4

5/8 inches (11.8cm) milled nickel silver liners, pins and shackle, and seven blades: a main non-lock back spearpoint, a large button hook, a champagne/wine foil cutter, corkscrew, hollow reamer, tin opener, and a secondary pen blade (broken). Given that it has both a wire cutter and a corkscrew it is also consistent with the “champagne pattern” definition.

The following photo shows a knife that is a replacement of an example in my collection – which was in “*desperate need of repair as it is missing the main blade and the pen blade is broken. It is however the only one I have seen in 30+ years of collecting so it fits my collecting philosophy that ‘a broken example is better than none at all’.*”

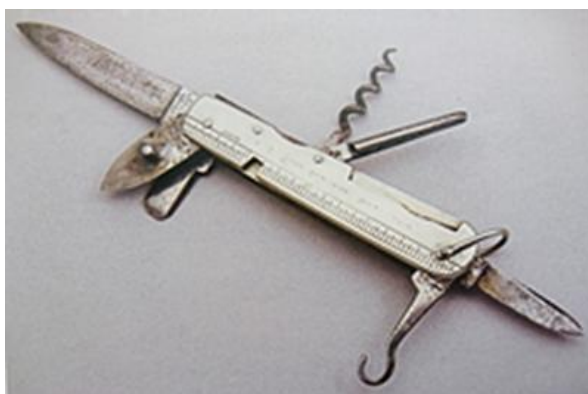


reamer, and corkscrew.

Maker: JOSEPH RODGERS & SONS SHEFFIELD. The mail spear point blade, tin opener and the pen blade are stamped “RODGERS CUTLERS TO HIS MAJESTY”. The file/turnscrew is stamped “No. 6 NORFOLK ST. SHEFFIELD”, and all of the blades/tools on the underside show the *+ Rodgers logo. The knife has a closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.4cm), nickel silver scales, liners, pins, and shackle. The remaining blades are: combined file/turnscrew, tin opener, button hook, pen blade, hollow



The adjacent illustration is copied from page 990 of the Army & Navy C.S.L. c.1907 under the heading “Nickel Silver Sports Knives” where it is described as follows: “No. 3972. Nickel silver scales, containing large blade with lock back, small blade, button hook, tin opener, screwdriver, leather gouge, measures on scales, London on one side metre the reverse. Length when closed 4 ½ in. ... each 16/0”.



An excellent example attributed to “CLEMENTS” is also shown on Plate 27 (page 38) of Flook’s ‘The London Knife Book’, see adjacent photo.

With a closed length of 4 7/8 inches (12.4cm), the following knife is the largest knife in this “All-metal Sportsmen’s knives” section and goes against the perceived trend in the late-Victorian and early 20th century period to a smaller style of sportsman’s knife.



Maker: "A. W. STANFORTH CUTLER, CARDIFF" is heavily stamped onto the face of the main blade. The mark side tang of the main blade and of the large champagne style wire cutter are stamped "STANFORTH CARDIFF" and their pile side tangs are stamped "OIL

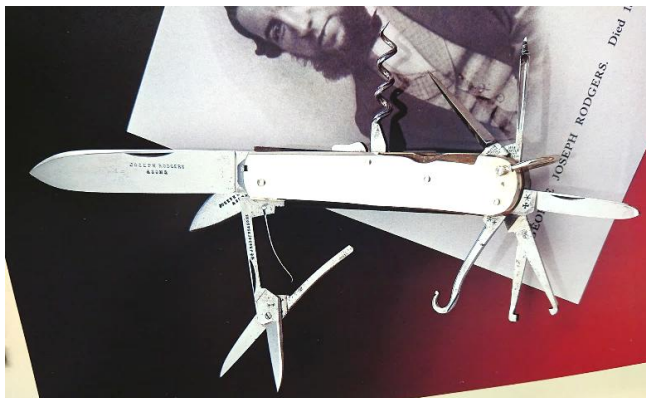
THE JOINTS". The knife has a closed length of 4 7/8 inches (12.4cm), nickel silver scales, pins and shackle, and a single bass liner. The blade/tools are: main sheepfoot blade, large wire cutter, marline spike, and corkscrew. Given that it has both a wire cutter and a corkscrew it is also consistent with the "champagne pattern" definition.



An almost identical knife (the shackle is different) is featured in Flook's TLNB Plate 105 (page 106). I have turned the illustration upside-down for better comparison. Flook describes the knife as follows: "*An all metal consisting of main sheepfoot blade, marlin spike, corkscrew and foil*

cutter. Main blade and foil cutter are marked LUND CORNHILL.".

It is difficult to establish a date range for these last two knives - given the absence of any specific inclusion of a blade/tool that suggests an orientation to either a specific sporting activity (i.e. fishing, shooting, hunting) or military activity (i.e. a tin opener or horsemen's tools). My thoughts tend towards the mid to late-**1880s** and **1890s** - prior to the start of the Second Boer War, when relative peace and continuing colonial expansion facilitated more gentlemanly activities and the consequent demand for a knife that reflected the associated expectations.



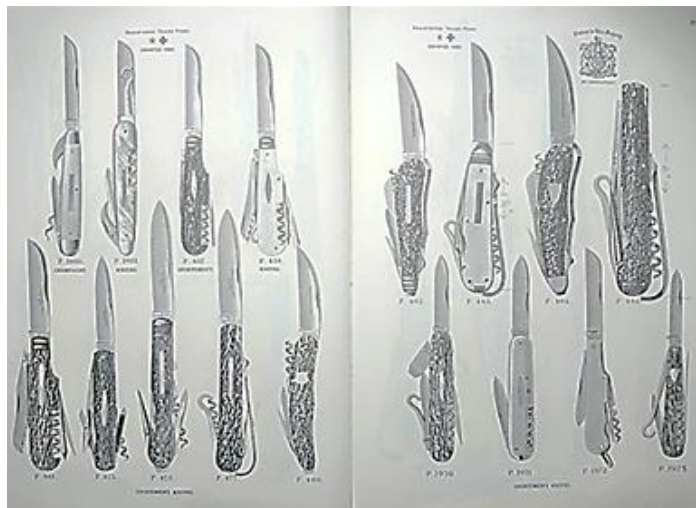
The adjacent illustration is copied from page 163 of the book "**Exhibition Knives – Joseph Rodgers & Sons – The Samuel Setian Collection**" by Abel Domenech. Details of the book are provided on page 12 and Endnote 20 of PART 1 of this Collector Note. It is the only example I am aware of and is too beautiful not to be included here.

The description on page 162 of the book states "**LARGE SIZED SPORTSMAN'S KNIFE**. *This type of knife is known as "sportsman's knife as it was specially designed to be used by riders, hunters, fishermen, etc. To this effect it had ten elements or accessories working by bearing on four separate springs. The main blade has a lock mechanism to prevent its accidental closing. The accessories include a can opener, shell extractor, hook remover and fish scaler [not shown – ed.] button hook, leather punch, pen blade, corkscrew, awl and screwdriver. Additionally, it carries a small tweezers in a receptacle built into the knife body. The scales are made of polished nickel silver with a bail for security cord. OL (closed) 5" (12.5cm)".* It is unusual in that it has four backsprings – perhaps even unique as I have not seen another all-metal sportsman's knife with four backsprings, so perhaps it was a display knife or a 'one-off' special order as it not featured in any of the Rodgers' catalogues that I have access to - which date from c.1900 to c.1912. Based solely on the inclusion the tin opener I date it to late 1890s - early 1900s. The same knife, or an identical one, is shown on page 41 of the book "Sheffield Exhibition Knives - see page 11 and footnote 19 in PART 1 of this Collector Note.

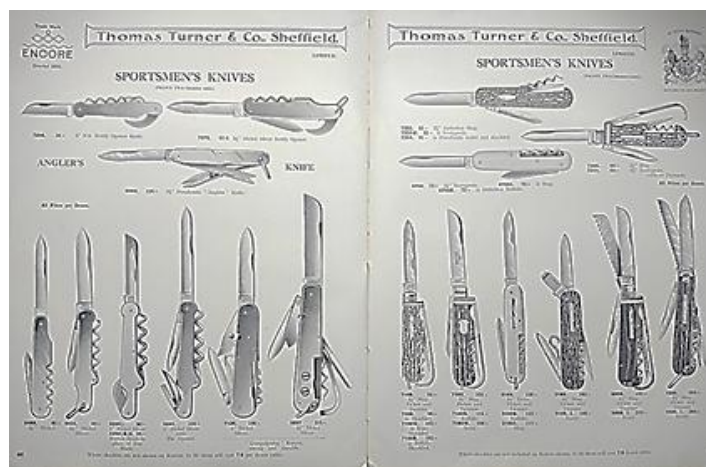
3 POST-WORLD WAR 1, THE 1920s AND 1930s

For many reasons, World War 1 caused major societal changes in Great Britain that were reflected in the cutlery manufacturing industry. The 19th century concept – that continued into the early 20th century, of a “sportsman’s knife” being a knife suitable for a ‘gentleman’ was no longer relevant.

The changes in the style of sportsmen’s knives to smaller and more utilitarian patterns – that was becoming evident in the last decades of the 19th century, had gathered pace in the early 20th century but had not fully replaced knives having a more traditional style, in practice, both types continued to be marketed.



The adjacent photo is copied from the Joseph Rodgers & Sons **circa.1912** trade catalogue (see [Appendix 4](#)) and shows examples of their fine “Norfolk” and “Wharndcliffe” sportsmen’s knives, being two of four pages of Sportsmen’s Knives” in the catalogue that dates to just prior to the start of WW1



The adjacent photo is copied from the Thomas Turner **1925** trade catalogue (see [Appendix 5](#)) and are the only pages of “Sportsmen’s knives in the catalogue. Interestingly, the George Butler & Co. **1928** trade catalogue has a similar array of patterns as this Thomas Turner 1925 catalogue – although with a much larger

range of all-metal sportsmen’s knives, all spread over eleven pages.

Perhaps the most apparent trend is the reduction in size of the post-WW1 knives with neither the Thomas 1925 catalogue nor the George Butler 1928 catalogue featuring a sportsman’s knife with a closed length of more than 4 ¾ inches (12.1cm).

What the 1925 T. Turner catalogue and the 1928 Butler catalogue do suggest however is that my assumptions that the array of blades/tools that were included in these smaller “sportsmen’s knives” were useful in dating such knives to either pre-WW1 and wartime, or to post-WW1 and the 1920s - is open to question, and of course there is never a clear distinction as changes in style was/is always a gradual process. I was of the view that the phasing out of button hooks, and the inclusion of cap lifters were good indicators of post-WW1 styles and the change from sportsmen’s knives to “utility knives” (see definition at Footnote 2 [here](#)) however both catalogues suggest that this was not clear-cut.

I have an original version of the 1925 Thomas Turner catalogue, and of the two pages of sportsmen's knives illustrated (see above) – two have a button hook and none include a cap lifter. For the Butler catalogue I only have photographs of the eleven pages of "Sportsmen's Knives" which includes "Fishermen's Knives". Of the fifty-one individual knives illustrated eighteen have a button hook and one has a combined tin opener/cap lifter. This may have been a result of their unwillingness to change with the times; for example, Tweeddale notes that *"Turner's did not fare well during the 1920s. In the midst of the depression in 1932 the bankrupt business was apparently bought by Lee & Crookes Ltd"*.

It does appear however that there was a marked change in the preferences of the buying public in the years following the end of WW1 - towards smaller and more compact knives, with the six-blade utility knife (that was a common WW1 military 'private purchase' knife) becoming increasingly popular (see previous pages [13](#) and [14](#)). This is most evident with the stubby turnscREW/file, that was a common feature of WW1 'private purchase' knives, which had been redesigned in the post-WW1 years to incorporate a cap lifter. There are no examples of 'private purchase' knives in the [WW1 section](#) of the companion Collector Note **"British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives"**²⁶ that have the redesigned screwdriver/cap, and no examples are evident in any of the [pre-WW1](#) cutlery catalogues that I have access to.

The following information is derived from **"British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives"** section headed "Post-First World War". It is also a continuation of the separate trends identified in previous sections and subsection above that conclude by noting that many of the various sportsmen knife styles continued to be reflected in some of the knives manufactured in the post-WW1 era.

The crown seal style of bottle cap was patented in 1892 and two years later the cap lifter was also patented. The Army and Navy C.S.L. [1907](#) catalogue features three 'gadget' style knives made by the Sheffield cutlery firm 'John Watts & Co.', however none of the extensive range of 'Sportsmen's knives in the catalogue contains either a separate cap lifter tool or a 'redesigned' stubby turnscREW/file incorporating a cap lifter.



The Veldt Knife".

The earliest example I can find is of a separate cap lifter tool in the TAYLOR'S "EYE WITNESS" c.1919 advertisement, incorporated into "The

My assumption is that during the First World War, a cap lifter was not considered an essential item for military personal, or alternatively that free-standing bottle openers were readily available.

The following group of four knives are all "six blade utility knives" having a closed length of 4 – 4 ½ inches, and all include a combination screwdriver/cap lifter blade in addition to a tin opener. On all four knives the underside has a corkscrew and a (leather) borer tool. This pattern, that appears to have emerged during the first decade of the 20th century as a 'private purchase' knife (albeit without the combination screwdriver/cap lifter) and became popular in the public domain in the years following the WW1 and remained so at least until the 1970s. All have a closed length of 3 ½ inches (9cm) except the last.



and liner. The reverse scale is engraved with the owner's name "R. L. DOWNING".

The face of the main blade of this knife is stamped "ROBINSON SHEFFIELD" together with their 'GRINDER' logo. The mark side tang is stamped "HERBERT ROBINSON SHEFFIELD and the pile side tang is stamped "HAND FORGED". The tangs of the pen blade are similarly stamped. The knife has nickel silver scales



This knife appears to have jigged bone scales dyed to resemble stag, and brass liners. Both the main blade and the pen blade are stamped "G. BUTLER & Co. SHEFFIELD".



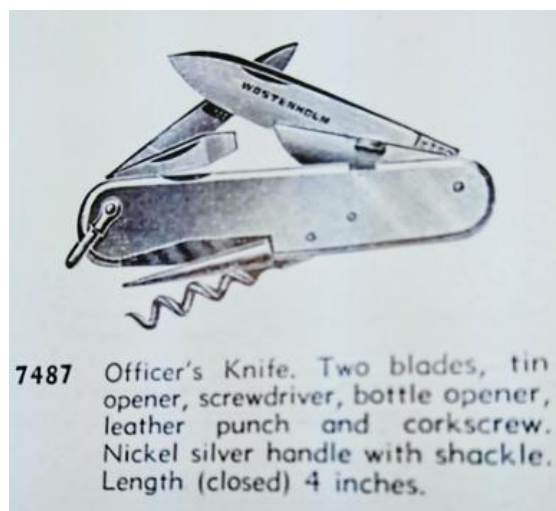
knives.

The main blade of this knife is stamped "J. MORTON & SONS SHEFFIELD" on the mark side tang. The pen blade has the Morton 'scales' logo on the mark side tang. The tin opener has "J. MORTON & SONS SHEFFIELD" on the mark side tang. This 'claw' style of tin opener is commonly found on Morton utility



lifter tangs are similarly stamped.

This knife has stag scales and brass liners and with a closed length of 4 inches is slightly larger than the previous three knives. The mark side tang of the main blade is stamped "[key logo] G. BUTLER & Co." and the pile side tang is stamped "SHEFFIELD [ART logo] ENGLAND. The pen blade, the tin opener and the cap



7487 Officer's Knife. Two blades, tin opener, screwdriver, bottle opener, leather punch and corkscrew. Nickel silver handle with shackle. Length (closed) 4 inches.

This illustration is copied from "Wostenholm's I*XL catalogue" dated c.1961 shows that their stock number 7487 "Officer's Knife" has characteristics that are identical with the four post-WW1 'six-blade utility knives' shown immediately above. It has a closed length of 4 inches. It is also identical to one of the knives illustrated on page 55 above, copied from the Thomas Turner & Co catalogue dated 1925, except that the button hook has been replaced by the "bottle opener".

The following knife has some of the characteristics of the other knives in this group, and also of the post-WW1 four, five and six-blade utility knives, however it's closed length of 4 ½ inches (11.5cm), chequered horn scales, nickel silver liners, pins and bar shield, and pull-out tweezers and pick suggest it is more appropriately classified as a 'sportsman's knife.



Maker: "RICHARD MELHUISE Ltd. FETTER LANE HOLBORN, E. C." is stamped on the mark side tang of both the main spear blade and pen blade (broken); the pile side tang stamping is now illegible however it could include "SHEFFIELD MADE ...". The inclusion of a tin opener and combined cap lifter/turn

screw suggest that it could date from the **1920s**. Tweedale notes that Melhuish was founded between 1905 and 1908 and that in the 1930s the name changed to 'Richard Melhuish (London) Ltd'. An identical knife, except with stag scales, also made by MELHUISE is shown on Plate 117 (page 115) of Flook's "The London Knife Book", noting that the address given for the company is slightly different to that shown above.

4 CONCLUDING COMMENTS

This PART 2 describes how the "**Late-Victorian, Edwardian & early 20th century, c.1880 – c.1920**" period was a time of both standardisation and innovation, with designs becoming progressively more utilitarian. There are some general trends that are evident in this period:

- Knives became smaller; by the 1890s sportsmen's knives with a closed length of 6 inches (15.4cm) were rare, and less than 5 inches (12.3cm) had become the norm.
- Embellishments such as decorative diagonal grooves and file-work on knife backs – especially on the exposed backs of tools on the topside, became less common.
- Lock-back main blades became increasingly rare, and almost non-existent on smaller sized sportsmen's knives (both horsemen and non-horsemen).

Sportsmen's knives in the traditional Sheffield style having a closed length of less than 4 ¾ inches (12.1cm) continued to be made by a small number of manufacturers through to the 1930's however the primarily all-metal 'utility knives' were increasingly popular, and the term "sportsmen's knives" was no longer a useful description of the knives on offer in the 1920s and 1930s. In reality, the era of the "Sportsman's Knife" concluded with the advent of World War One, having been in a decline from the first decade of the 20th century.

As stated at the commencement of this Collector Note, it is an attempt to provide both a chronology and a typology to explain the development of the extensive range of 19th century 'sportsmen's knives' that were produced primarily in Sheffield England from the late 18th century through to the early 20th century.

Whether the attempt has been successful will always remain open to question, however it is a starting point and hopefully it will stimulate regular input from collectors that will expand the knowledge base regarding "*19th & early 20th Century British Sportsmen's Knives*".

The primary reason for compiling this Collector Note is to provide a CONTEXT that enables a collector to appreciate the circumstances within which a particular knife pattern or style evolved, and hopefully to better understand how and why it evolved. It is however primarily my own personal interpretation of those circumstances (albeit with much advice from individuals and authors credited throughout the Collector Note), and therefore other

interpretations that contribute to, or expand the chronology and typology will always be welcome.

5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

An extensive range of documentary sources have been referenced in the preparation of this Collector Note and are acknowledged in the Endnotes that follow on from the Appendices. The primary sources have also been detailed in section 2 DOCUMENTARY SOURCES.

A special thanks to UK based fellow collector Paul Stamp who made useful suggestions for further technical explanations and made available the results of his on-going research of 19th and early 20th century newspaper archives for information on collectable antique Sheffield knives. A special thanks also to UK based commentator and collector of military cutlery Martin Cook who extensively reviewed the final draft and identified numerous errors and omissions.

6 UPDATES, ELABORATIONS & CORRECTIONS

Much of the value of 'web notes' such as this Collector Note lies in their ability to be regularly updated, elaborated and corrected, so that in-reality there is no final version – it is in-fact a '*never-ending story*'. My purpose is to assist in filling the knowledge gap regarding antique Sheffield pocket knives and folding knives that was very apparent to me all through my collecting years - to encourage/assist new collectors and to generally promote the pleasure associated with such collecting.

To this end, any suggestions/contributions that fellow collectors may have that will improve the content of this Collector Note and thus expand the knowledge base will be most welcome, and I am sure will be greatly appreciated by all present and future collectors of **19th & early 20th Century British Sportsmen's Knives**.

AUTHOR

Lawrie Wilson

APPENDIX 1. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM "ARMY & NAVY COOPERATIVE STORES LIMITED SALES CATALOGUE" DATED 1883

955
No. 8, GUN Department—Second Floor.

HORN DRINKING CUPS (Electro-plated Mounts).

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ gill 6/0 | $\frac{1}{2}$ gill 6/8 | $\frac{1}{2}$ pint. 7/6 each. |
| In Sets of Six, unmounted, horn bottoms | | 8/0 |
| " " | glass " | 11/0 |

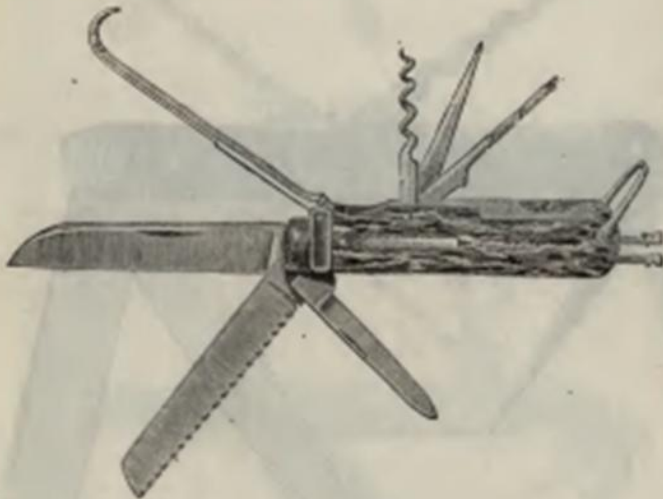
Single, unmounted (horn bottoms)—

| | | | | | |
|--|----------|------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ gill No. 1 0/5 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 2 0/8 | 3 0/9 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 4 1/0 | 5 1/3 | $\frac{1}{2}$ pint 6 1/6 each. |
|--|----------|------------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------------------|

Ditto - ditto (glass bottoms)—

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| No. 1 0/11 | 2 1/1 | 3 1/3 | 4 1/7 | 5 1/10 | 6 2/0 each. |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------------|

SPORTING, POCKET KNIVES, &c.

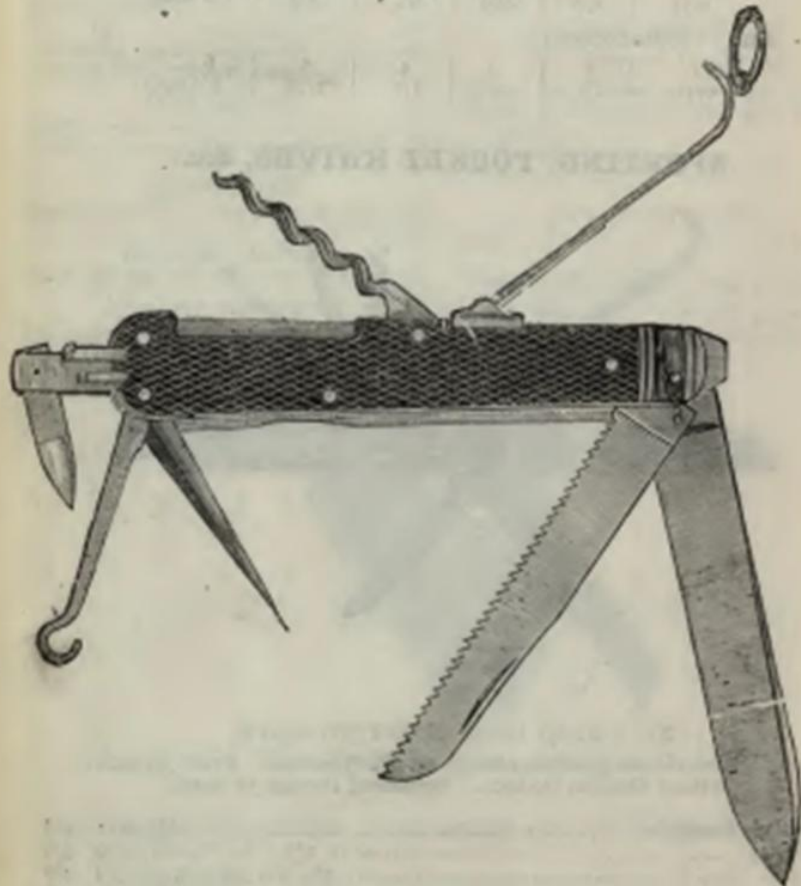


No. 1. STAG HORN SPORTING KNIFE.
Length when closed, 5 inches, containing 10 implements. Price 7/6 each;
without Shackle, 7/0 each. Registered Postage 5d. extra.

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| Single Blade Penknife | 0/9, 0/11 | 1/6 |
| Two Blades | 0/11, 1/3, 1/8, 1/10, 2/4, 2/10 | 3/6 |
| Three do. | 1/9, 2/1, 3/0, 3/3, 3/6, 3/9 | 4/6 |
| Four do. | 3/3, 3/9 | 4/9 |
| Two do. and Scissors | 4/3, 5/9 | 8/9 |
| Boys' Pocket Knives | 2/3, 2/9, 3/6, 4/3, 5/0 | 6/3 |
| Sporting and Pocket Knives, best quality— | | |
| | 10/6, 12/6, 14/0, 15/6, 18/0, 20/0, 23/0, 27/6, 35/0, 51/0 | |

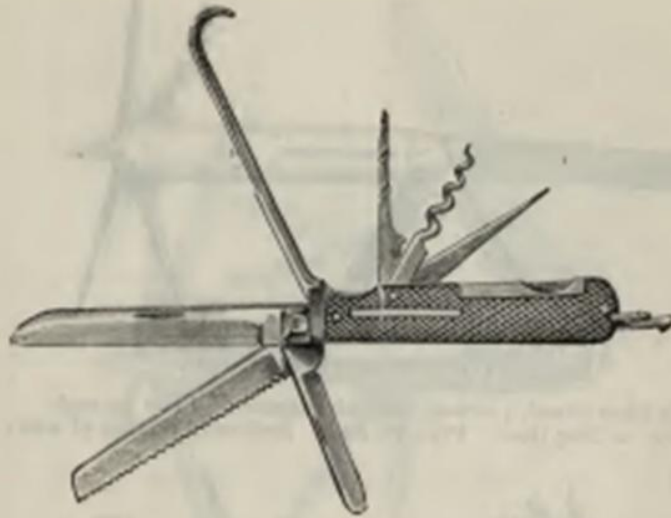
| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Skinning and Hunting Knives | 2/6, 2/8, 8/6, 11/6, 13/6 | 21/0 |
| *The Stanley Knife | | 70/0 |
| *The Army and Navy Afghan Knife | | 37/0 45/0 |
| Fruit Knife, silver blades | 3/4, 5/2, 6/4, 6/9, 8/2, 10/9 | |
| " " in leather case | 6/8, 9/6, 14/0 | |
| " " two in case | 14/0 | 19/0 |
| Ivory Paper and Fruit Knives | 0/10, 1/2 | 1/6 |

* Procured to order only.



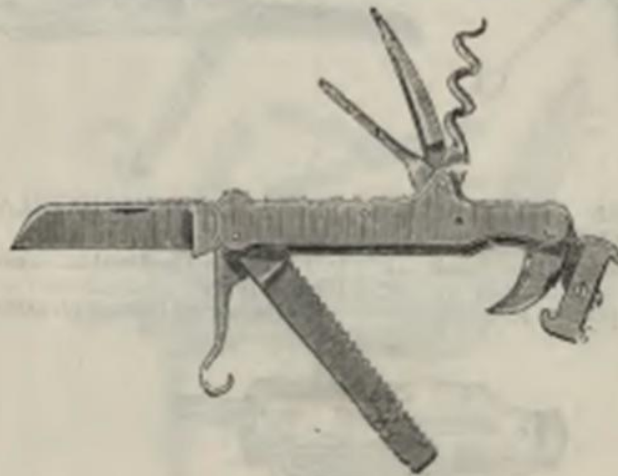
No. 2. SPORTING KNIFE, IN STAG OR CHEQUERED HORN.

Length when closed, 7 inches. Price 27/6 each. Registered postage, extra. 1/4



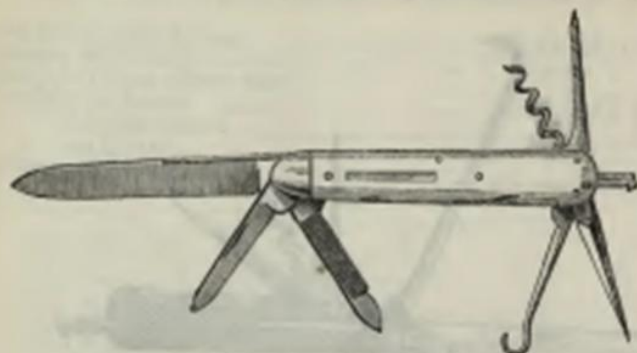
No. 3. BOY'S KNIFE.

Length when closed, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, in Chequered Horn or Plain Ivory, price 5/6 each.
In Stag Horn, 4/9 each. Registered postage 3d. extra.



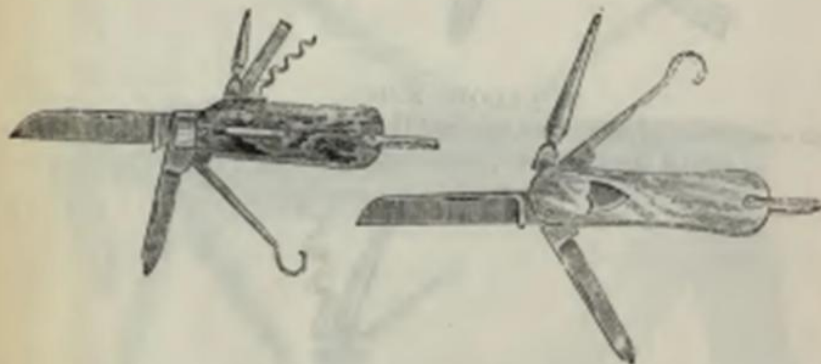
No. 4. BUTLER'S PATENT CARTRIDGE EXTRACTOR KNIFE.

12 and 16 bore, length when closed, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Price 8/6 each.
Ditto with shackle, length when closed, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Price 9/6 each.
Registered postage 3d. extra.



No. 5. IVORY SPORTING KNIFE.

Length when closed, 4 inches, with 9 implements. Price 8/6 each.
 Ditto ditto in Stag Horn. Price 7/6 each. Registered postage 3d. extra.

No. 6. LADIES' CHATELAIN
KNIFE.

In Pearl or Tortoiseshelleach 4/0
 Ditto in Ivory " 3/6
 Registered postage 4d. extra.

No. 7. LADIES' CHATELAIN
KNIFE.

In Tortoiseshell or Pearl.....each 3/9
 Ditto in Ivory " 3/0
 Registered postage 4d. extra.



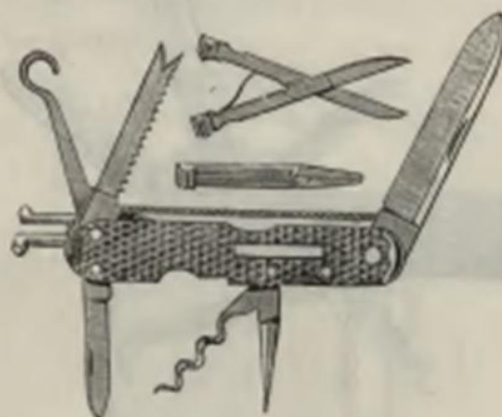
No. 8. BOY'S KNIFE.

Length when closed, 3½ inches, contains 10 implements, 5/0 each; with 12 implements, 5/9 each; with 8 implements, 4/3 each; without shackle, 6d. less; if in Stag Horn instead of Ivory, 3d. less. Registered postage, 3d. extra.



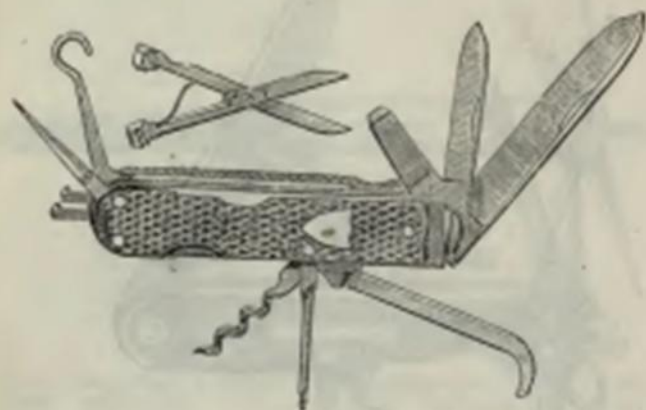
No. 10. CHEQUERED HORN SPORTING KNIFE.

Length when closed, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Price 23/0. Registered Postage, 6d. extra.



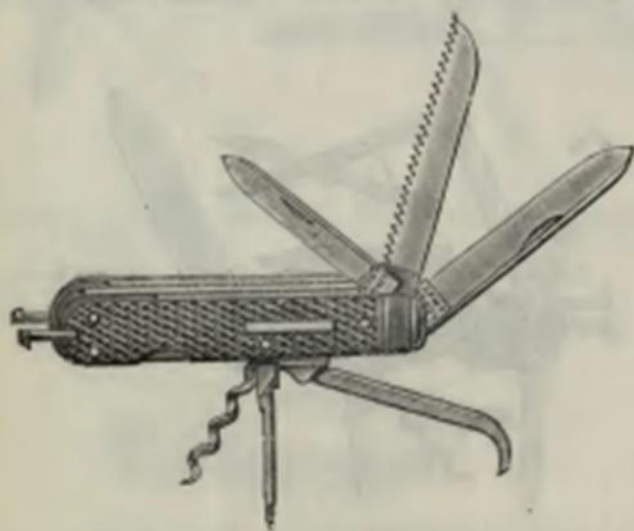
No. 11. CHEQUERED HORN SPORTING KNIFE.

Length when closed, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Price 23/0. With Shackle 1/0 extra. Registered Postage, 5d.



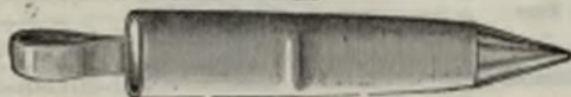
No. 12. CHEQUERED HORN SPORTING KNIFE.

Length when closed, 5 inches. Price 20/0. With Shackle, 1/0 extra.
Registered Postage, 3d.



No. 13. IVORY CHEQUERED SPORTING KNIFE.

Length when closed, 5 inches. Price 15/6. With Shackle, 1/0 extra.
Registered Postage, 3d.



In Chequered Horn and Stag Horn Handles, with sheath complete; length of blade, 7½ inches. Price 13/6 each. Registered postage, 6d. extra.

| | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------------|
| 2 ft. | 4 ft. | 6 ft. | 8 ft. | 10 ft. | 12 ft. long. |
| 3/8 | 4/5 | 5/3 | 6/0 | 6/10 | 8/5 |

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| 8 ft. long..... | 8/5 | 10 ft. long..... | 9/3 |
|-----------------|-----|------------------|-----|

In ordering, please state whether LEFT or RIGHT HAND are required.

[illegible]

THE NEW LEVER PADLOCK.

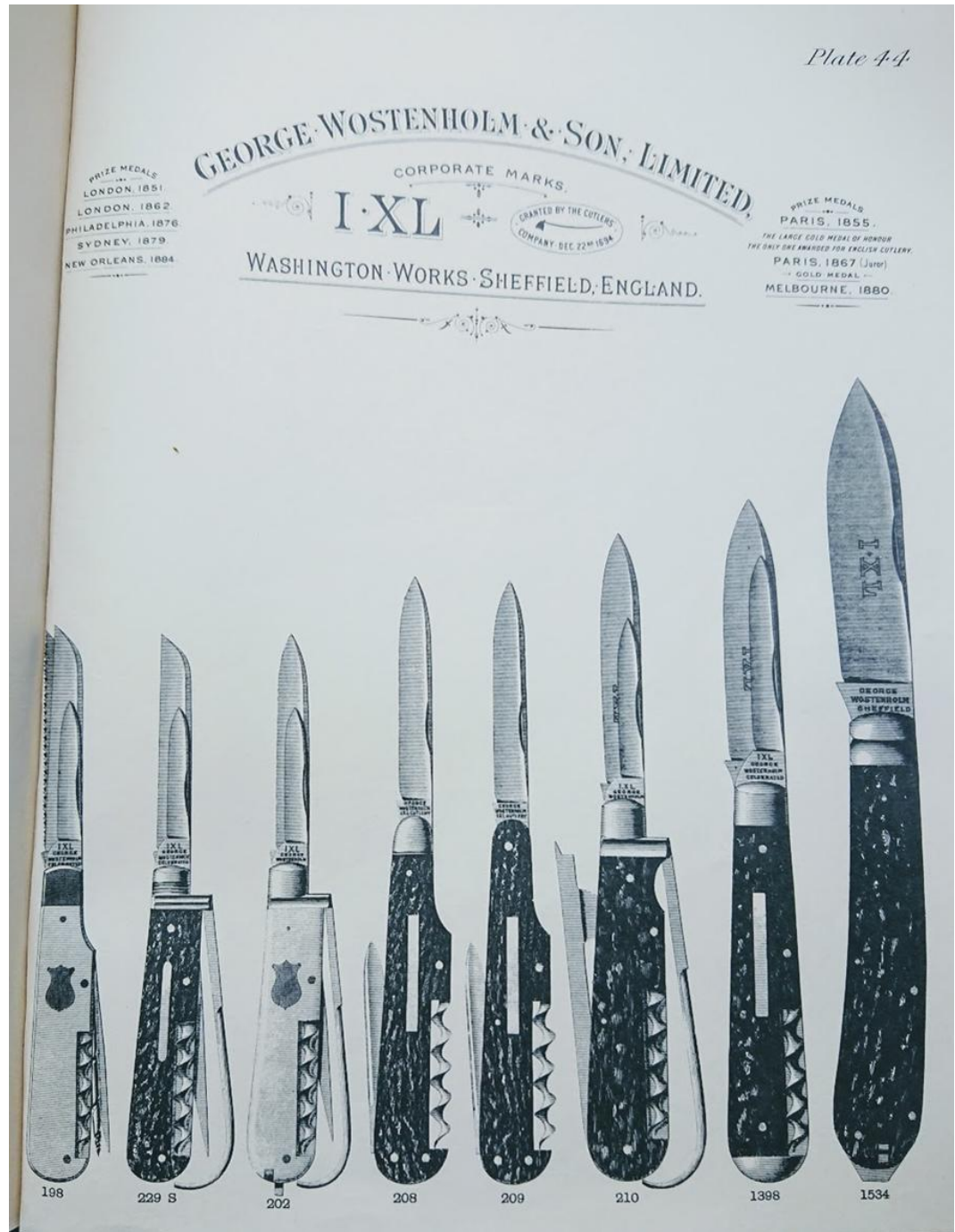


| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| Nickel Plated Case, 1½ inch | each | 1/0 |
| Ditto " I " | " | 0/11 |

* Procured to order only.

APPENDIX 2. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM GEORGE WOSTENHOLM & SONS TRADE CATALOGUE

UNDATED BUT ASSUMED CIRCA 1885 – 1892



GEORGE WOSTENHOLM & SON, LIMITED

CORPORATE MARKS.

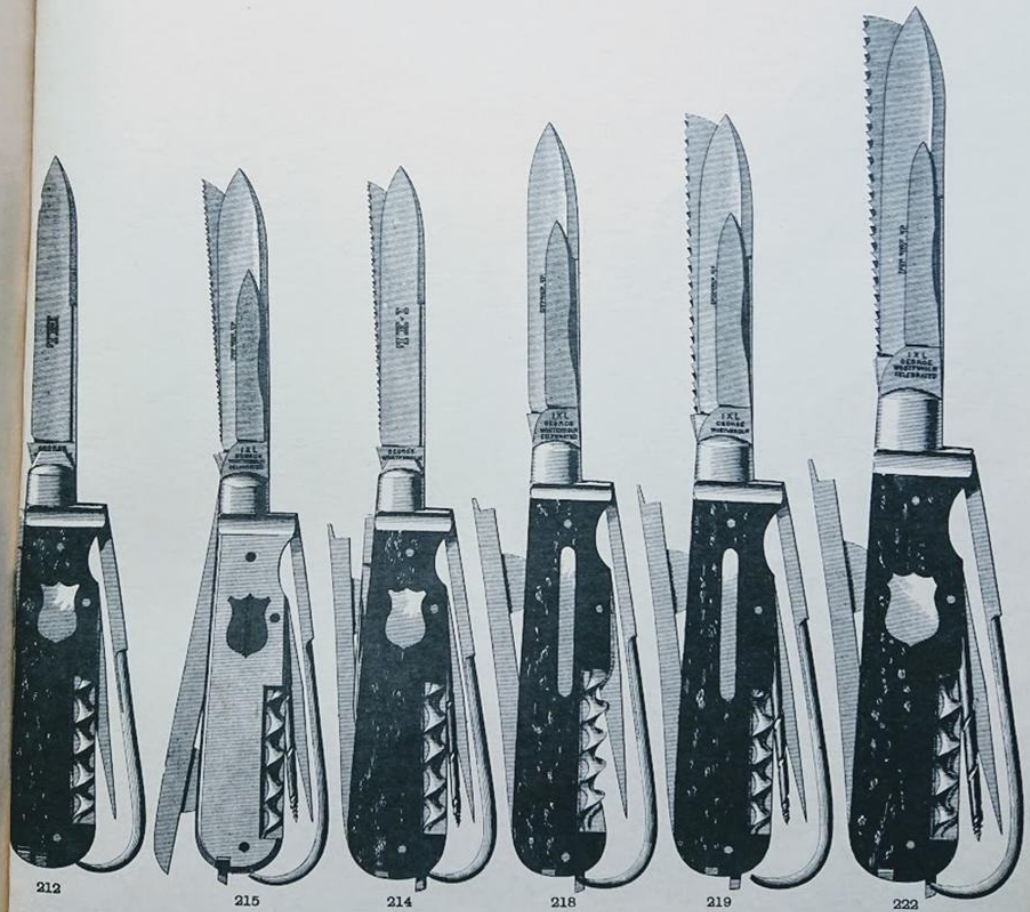
I·XL

GRANTED BY THE CUTLERS
COMPANY DEC 22nd 1894

WASHINGTON WORKS SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND.

PRIZE MEDALS
LONDON, 1851
LONDON, 1862
PHILADELPHIA, 1876
SYDNEY, 1879
NEW ORLEANS, 1884

PRIZE MEDALS
PARIS, 1855
THE LARGE GOLD MEDAL OF HONOUR
THE ONLY ONE AWARDED FOR ENGLISH CUTLERY.
PARIS, 1867 (Juster)
GOLD MEDAL
MELBOURNE, 1880.



212

215

214

218

219

222

PRIZE MEDALS
LONDON, 1851.
LONDON, 1862.
PHILADELPHIA, 1876.
SYDNEY, 1879.
NEW ORLEANS, 1884.

GEORGE WOSTENHOLM & SON, LIMITED

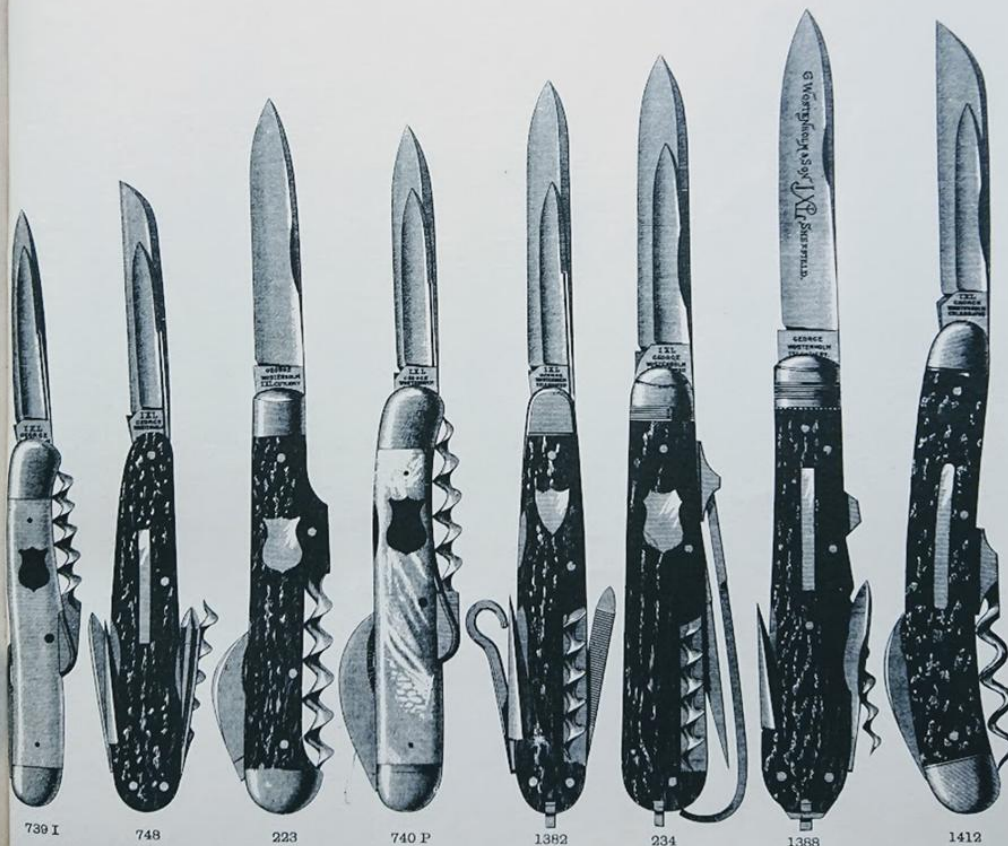
CORPORATE MARKS.

I.XL

WASHINGTON WORKS SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND.

PRIZE MEDALS
PARIS, 1855.
THE LARGE GOLD MEDAL OF HONOUR
THE ONLY ONE AWARDED FOR ENGLISH CUTLERY.
PARIS, 1867 (Jurat)
GOLD MEDAL
MELBOURNE, 1880.

GRANTED BY THE CUTLERS' COMPANY DEC. 22ND 1894



APPENDIX 3. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM THOMAS TURNER & CO. 1902 TRADE CATALOGUE

164



CUTLERS TO
HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICES

THOMAS TURNER & CO.

SHEFFIELD.



DRAWN
TWO-THIRDS SIZE.

SPORTSMAN'S KNIVES.



German Silver Shackles
fitted to knives.
4.6 per doz. extra on all
drawn without Shackle



9532 15/-
3 1/4 in. Im. Stag.

Knives catalogued are
kept in Stock. Any
alterations involve
delay.



5003 W 31/6
3 in. Bono, with Picker and Tweezers.
5003 1/2 31/6 is Stag



9204 31/6
3 3/4 in. Ivory
9204 S 31/5
Is Stag



4099 1/2 31/6
3 3/4 in. Stag
Picker and Tweezers
4099 W 31/6 is Bone
4099 Cheq. 31/6
Is Chequered Buffalo
4099 B 33/-
Is Grey Buffalo



5247 31/6
3 3/4 in. Stag
Picker and Tweezers
5247 W 31/6 is Bone
5247 Cheq. 31/6
Is Chequered Buffalo
5247 B 33/-
Is Grey Buffalo



4099 45/-
3 3/4 in. Stag
Picker and Tweezers
Better finish
4099 I 57/-
Is Ivory



5018 51/-
3 3/4 in. Stag
Picker and Tweezers
5018 I 57/-
Is Ivory

THOMAS TURNER & CO

SAFFIELD



GRANTED 1825
ENCORE

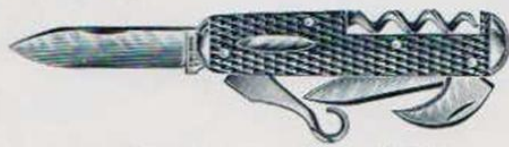
CUTLERS TO
HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICES

DRAWN
TWO-THIRDS SIZE

SPORTSMAN'S KNIVES.



German Silver Shackles
Fitted to Knives.
48 per doz. extra on all
drawn without Shackle.



3183 51/- 3 1/2 in. Chequered Buffalo.
3183S 51/- Is Stag.
3183I 57/- Is Ivory.



5101 57/-
2 1/2 in. Ivory Picker
and Tweezers
5101S 57/-
Is Stag
5101GS 57/-
Is German Silver
5101 Cheq 60/-
Is Chequered Buffalo



3189 54/-
2 1/2 in. Ivory Picker
and Tweezers
3189S 54/-
Is Stag



5475 57/-
2 1/2 in. Ivory
5475S 57/-
Is Stag



3185 66/-
2 1/2 in. Stag Picker
and Tweezers
3185I 72/-
Is Ivory



5008 69/-
2 1/2 in. Stag Picker
and Tweezers
5008I 75/-
Is Ivory
5007 45/-
Is Stag, without Saw
and Gimlet
5007I 54/- Is Ivory ditto.

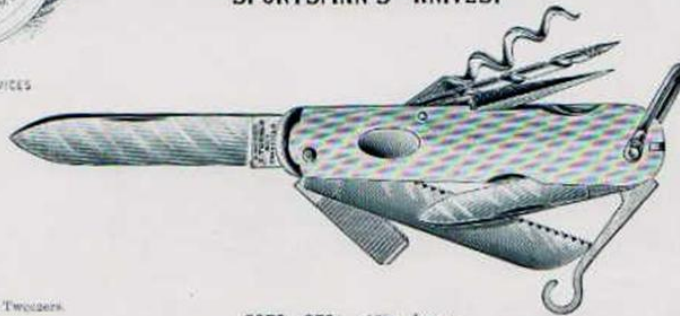


THOMAS TURNER & CO.

GRANTED 1805
ENCORE

SPORTSMAN'S KNIVES.

DRAWN
TWO-THIRDS SIZE.



All with Picker and Tweezers.

2378 270/- 4 1/2 in. Ivory.

G.S. Shackles 4/6 per doz. extra
on Knives drawn without Shackles.



2024 72/-

4 in. Stag

2024 I 90/-

Is Ivory

2026 90/-

Is Stag with

Buttonhook and

Grimet extra

2026 I 106/- Is Ivory ditto.



4049 78/-

3 1/2 in. Checkered Ivory

6129 90/-

Is with Scissors

in place of

Buttonhook



2196 90/-

3 1/2 in. Stag

2196 I 112/6

Is Ivory

2297 103/6

Is Stag with

Horsehook extra



8000 90/-

4 in. Stag

8000 I 109/-

Is Ivory



2255 240/-

4 in. Stag

Best Finish

2255 I 270/-

Is Ivory



THOMAS TURNER & CO

SAEFFIELD



DRAWN
TWO-THIRDS SIZE.

CHAMPAGNE KNIVES.



5223 45/- 2 1/2 in. German Silver.



4056 40 6 3 in. German Silver.
4056 BH 42/- Is Buttonhook in place of Pen Blade.



5588 31 6
3 1/2 in. German Silver



4074 42/-
4 in. Round
German Silver



6007 45/-
3 1/2 in.
Aluminium Bronze
Engine turned
3126 51/-
Is German Silver
with Pen Blade
extra



5290 49 6
4 in.
German Silver
5290 BH 51/-
Is with
Buttonhook in
place of
Pen Blade



5230 54/-
4 in.
German Silver



4083 54/-
3 1/2 in.
German Silver
4088 81/-
Is with Pen Blade
and Leather Bone extra.
Both with adjustable
Extractor to fit any
cartridge



THOMAS TURNER & CO

SAEFFFIELD.

GRANTED 1895
ENCORE

DRAWN
TWO-THIRDS SIZE.

GERMAN SILVER SPORTSMAN'S KNIVES.



2406 108/- 4 in. German Silver.



4032 72/-
4 in. German Silver
with Adjustable
Extractor.



3837F 84/-
3 in. German Silver
Angler's Knife.



5026 84/-
4 in. German Silver
5026A 84/-
is Aluminum Haft.



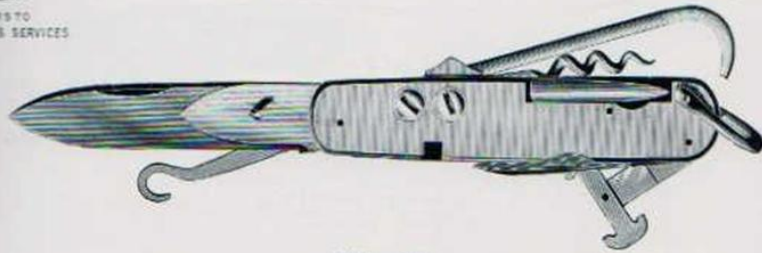
5290 84/-
4 in. Ivory.
5290S 84/-
is Stag.



5495 94/6
4 in. German Silver
with Trace Repairing
Screws.



DRAWN
TWO-THIRDS SIZE.



5501 270/-

4½ in. German Silver with lock back large blade,
Trace repairing Screws, Tin Opener, &c.

Large quantities of all these Knives were supplied by THOMAS TURNER & CO., as Contractors
to HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICES during the WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA, 1899 to 1902.



SPECIAL REGISTERED DESIGN, No. 30993.

6119 31/6

Blade and strong
Tin Opener.



6118 31/6

Blade and Marline
Spike, Boating and
Yachtsman's Knife.



SPECIAL REGISTERED DESIGN, No. 30996.

6143 31/6

Blade and Hoof Pick.
The best Coachman's
Knife.

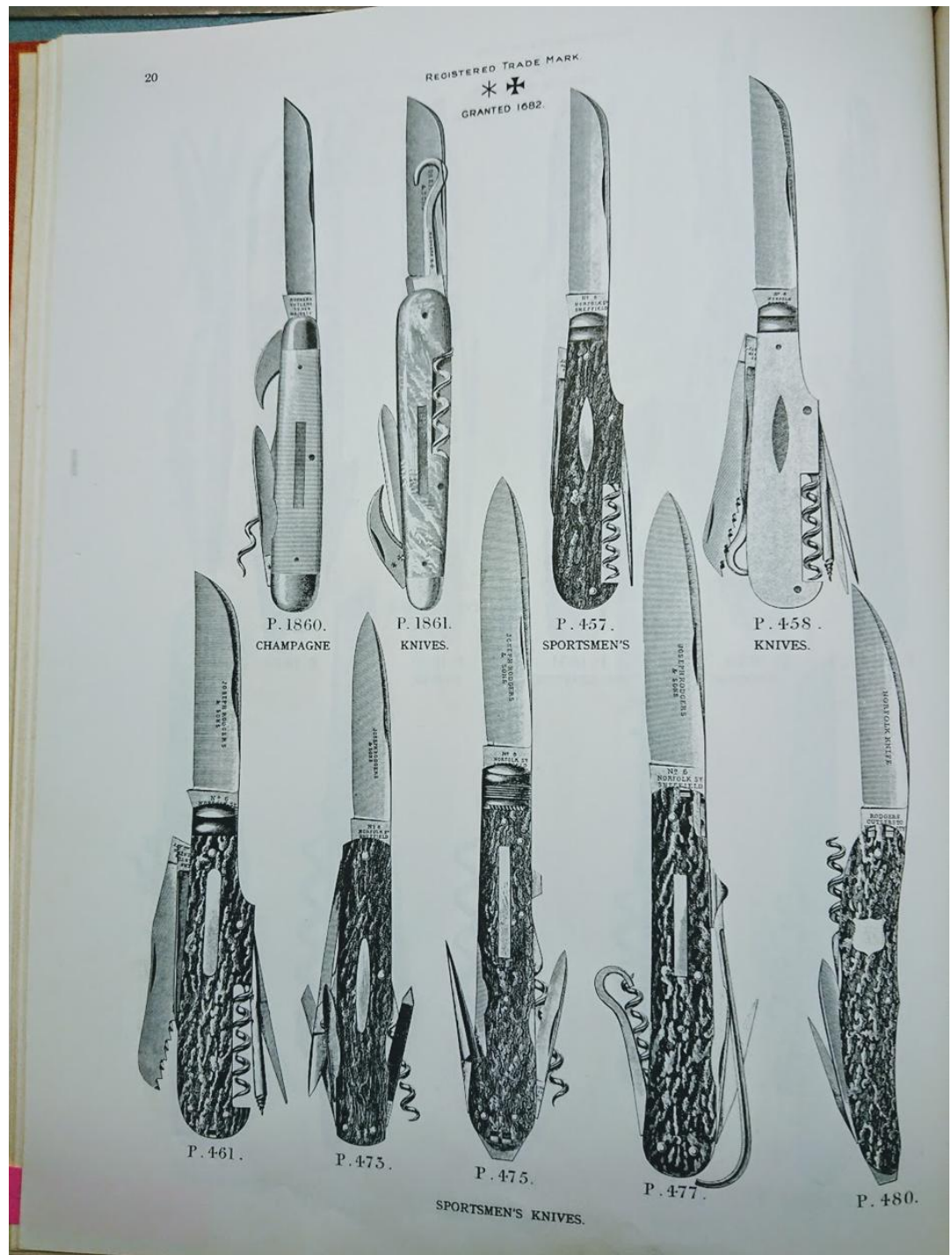


SPECIAL REGISTERED DESIGN, No. 31515.

6041 51/-

Blade Tin Opener
and Leather Horer.
As supplied to the City
Imperial Volunteers.

APPENDIX 4. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM JOSEPH
RODGERS & SONS CUTLERS TRADE CATALOGUE
(ASSUMED DATED CIRCA 1912)



REGISTERED TRADE MARK
*
GRANTED 1682.

Cutlery to His Majesty
BY APPOINTMENT.



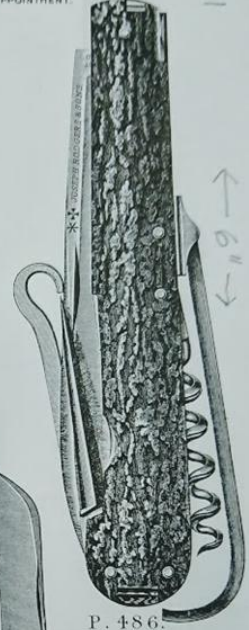
P. 482.



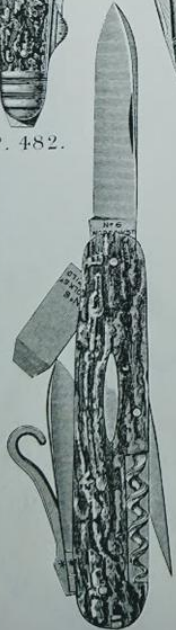
P. 483.



P. 484.



P. 486.



P. 1970



P. 1971



P. 1972



P. 1973

SPORTSMEN'S KNIVES.

Cutlery to His Majesty

 BY APPOINTMENT.

REGISTERED TRADE MARK.

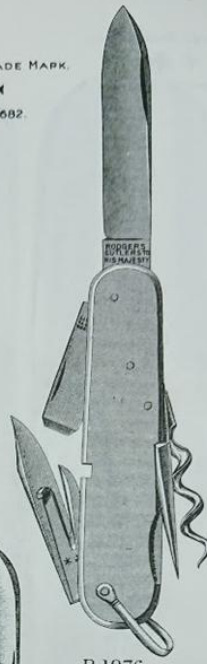
 GRANTED 1682.



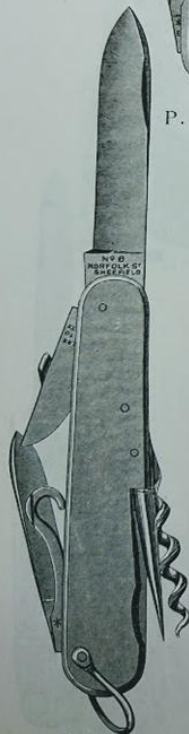
P.1974



P.1975



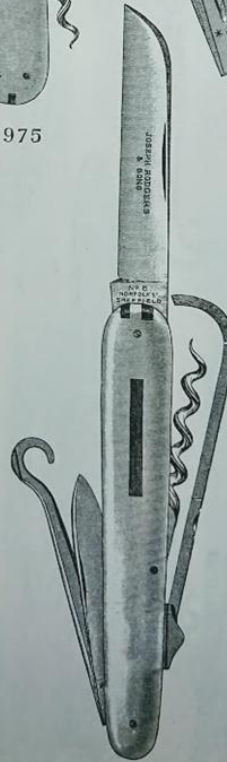
P.1976



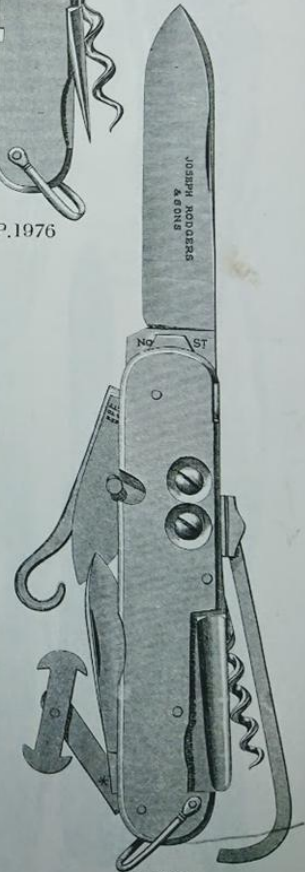
P.1977



P.1978



P.1979.



P.1980

SPORTSMEN'S KNIVES.

Cutlers to His Majesty

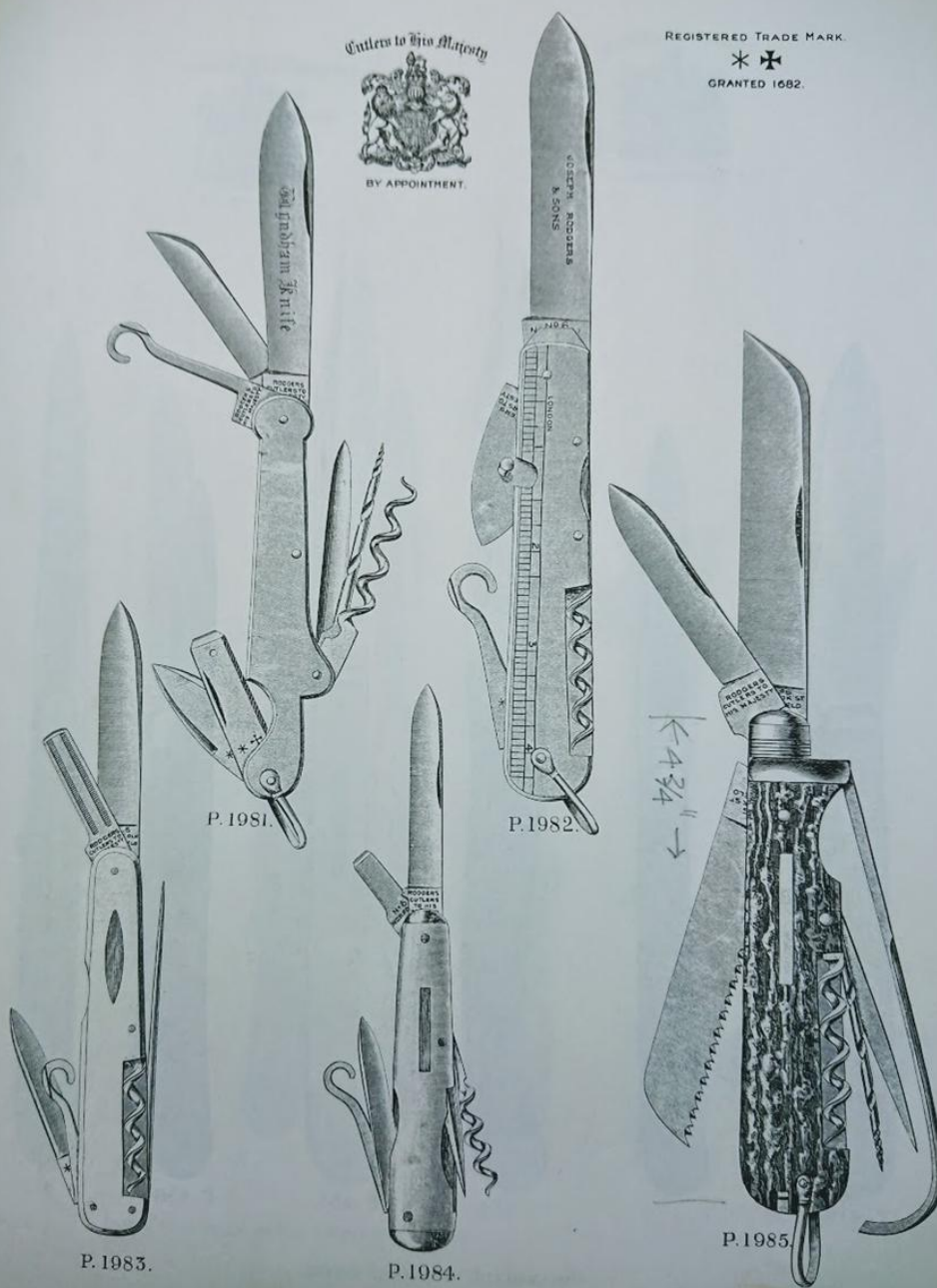


BY APPOINTMENT.

REGISTERED TRADE MARK.



GRANTED 1682.



P.1981.

P.1982.

P.1983.


P.1984.

P.1985.

SPORTSMEN'S KNIVES.

APPENDIX 5. COPY OF RELEVANT PAGES FROM THOMAS TURNER & CO. 1925 TRADE CATALOGUE

Trade Mark



ENCORE


Granted 1905.

Thomas Turner & Co., Sheffield.


LIMITED.

SPORTSMEN'S KNIVES

(DRAWS TWO-THIRDS SIZE).




7298. 36 - 3" N.S. Bottle Opener Knife.



7278. 67/6 3 1/2" Nickel Silver Bottle Opener.


ANGLER'S




KNIFE

2094. 126 - 3 1/2" Duralumin "Anglers" Knife.


All Prices per Dozen.




6488. 60/-
3 1/2" Nickel.




6431. 69/-
3 1/2" Nickel Silver.



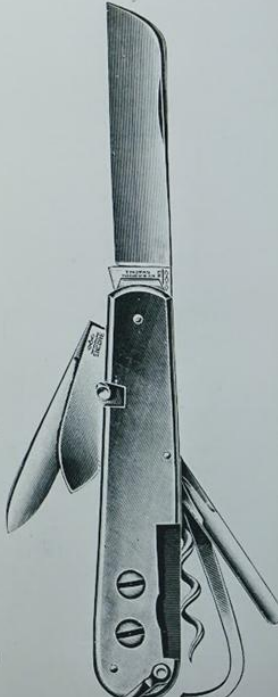
5290 1/2. 90/-
4" Nickel Silver



6941. 108/-
4" Nickel Silver with Tin Opener.



7126. 186/-
4" Nickel Silver.



6897 315/-
4 1/2" Nickel Silver.

"Campaigning" Knives, strong and durable.

Where shackles are not shown on Knives, to fit them will cost 7/6 per dozen extra.

Thomas Turner & Co., Sheffield.

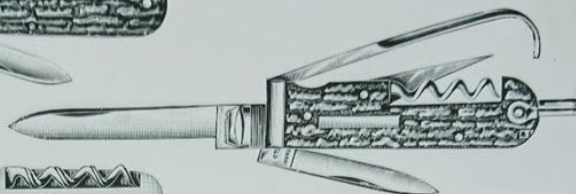
LIMITED.

SPORTSMEN'S KNIVES

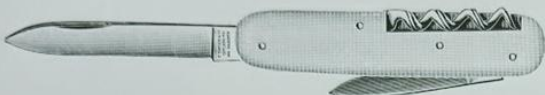
(DRAWN TWO-THIRDS SIZE).



7355. 42 - 3 1/2" Imitation Stag.
7355W. 45 - is Ivorygrain.
7364. 60 - is Duralumin scales and shackled.



7305. 66 - 3 1/2" Stag.
7371. 69 - 3 1/2" Ivorygrain,
without Tweezers.



6759. 72 - 3 1/2" Ivorygrain.
6759B. 72 - is Imitation Buffalo.

All Prices per Dozen.



7148. 84 -
3 1/2" Stag.
Picker and
Tweezer.
7199. 96 -
is Shackled.
7199W. 102 -
is Bone
Shackled.
7199B. 102 -
is Buffalo
Shackled.



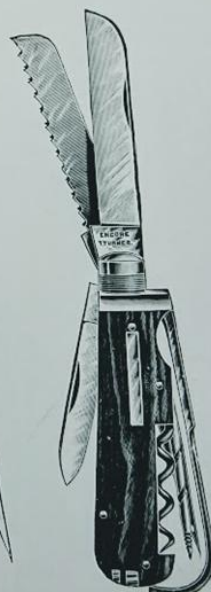
7180. 105 -
3 1/2" Stag.
Picker and
Tweezer.
7180B. 114 -
Buffalo.
7180W. 108 -
Bone.



3189. 126 -
3 1/2" Ivory.
Picker and
Tweezer.
3189B. 123 -
Buffalo.
3189S. 117 -
Stag.



3185. 162 -
3 1/2" Stag.
Picker and
Tweezer.
3185. I. 186 -
Ivory.



5008. 180 -
3 1/2" Stag.
Picker and
Tweezer.
5008. I. 219 -
Ivory.



1595. 204 -
3 1/2" Stag.
Picker and
Tweezer.
1595. I. 264 -
Ivory.

Where shackles are not included on Knives shown, to fit them will cost 7/6 dozen extra.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ The author is most grateful that the British Library Board has granted permission for us to reproduce images under British Library Board copyright.
- ² Traditionally, awls were either quadrangular or triangular in cross-section, however in the early 20th century the more common awl had two flat side with a right-angle corner and the remaining two sides were replaced by a curved (i.e. "rounded") surface.
- ³ "Utility knife". The "Knife Glossary" in Knife Magazine provides the following definition: "*A large equal-end knife which traditionally carries four blades/tools: a full-length blade, a can opener, a screwdriver/bottle-cap lifter combination, and a leather awl. The typical official Boy Scouts of America knife is a utility pattern (See: Scout Knife). In Europe [and the UK. Ed.] this knife usually has two extra blades on the back, one of which is usually a corkscrew*". See: <https://www.knifemagazine.com/glossary/#u>
- ⁴ "Pick-lock". Bernard Levine provides an explanation in his Knife Magazine article (see End Note 3) as follows "... a *"Spanish Lock-spring"* is what collectors now call a *pick-lock*: a thumb-nail tab on the side of the locking spring at the free end – lift it to unlock the blade."
- ⁵ "The Largest Knife Sale Ever – featuring the estate of Donald Littman, Part 1" - see page 26 for details
- ⁶ "Fine and Collectible Knives and Edged Weapons" Auction – see page 27 for details
- ⁷ Catalogue for "The Largest Knife Sale Ever – featuring the estate of Donald Littman, Part 1", published by Greg Martin Auctions, 2008
- ⁸ Same as above
- ⁹ SOURCE: : <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2377720913/view>
- ¹⁰ Sheffield Exhibition Knives by Bill Claussen et. al.
- ¹¹ "Joseph Rodgers & Sons Cutlers" – see footnote 9 and page 3 above.
- ¹² Bernard Levine, "Levine's Guide to Knives and their Values" – see Endnote 35above
- ¹³ "The Largest Knife Sale Ever ..." See Endnote 57 above
- ¹⁴ Bernard Levine, "Levine's Guide To Knives and their Values" – see Endnote 35above
- ¹⁵ Smith's Key - see Endnote 2.
- ¹⁶ Sheffield Exhibition Knives - see Endnote 20.
- ¹⁷ Greg Martin Auctions - see Endnote 25.
- ¹⁸ Michaan's Auctions - see footnote 26.
- ¹⁹ Catalogue for "Fine and Collectible Knives and Edged Weapons", published by Michaan's Auctions 2751 Todd Street Alameda, CA 94501
- ²⁰ "The Sheffield Knife Book" – see footnote 20
- ²¹ Quote by "Owdtom" in the "Champagne Knives" thread on the now defunct 'BritishBlades' forum.
- ²² A.W. Gamage Ltd. was a department store in Holborn, London, trading between 1878 and 1972.
- ²³ "town pattern" – see footnote 1.
- ²⁴ File/turnscrew. This tool appears in many of the sportsmen's knives featured throughout this Collector Note, but perhaps more commonly in Part 2, and has many styles. The one featured on page 50 in the advert for GAMAGES is also a wire cutter as it has a cutting edge and this may have been its intended primary function. Others are noted that are smaller (i.e. "stubby") and their primary function would have been as a turnscrew.
- ²⁵ "Introduction to Collecting Australian, British & Canadian Military Clasp Knives". Kevin Coleman, privately published 2021, Australia.
- ²⁶ "British Private Purchase Military Clasp Knives", Collector Note available at www.CASK.info