Reassembly

1. Reassemble breech block.

2. Lay extractor in extractor notch on the breech block. Hold the rifle in the barrel up position, insert the breech block into receiver. The extractor must be lifted into closed position as the breech block is moved into the receiver.

3. Align the frame lever and extractor pivot hole.

4. Insert takedown pivot pin and turn 180° counter clockwise to upward locked position.

5. Replace lever spring and forend if previously removed.

Care and Cleaning

The mechanism should be lubricated with light machine oil or gun oil. Do not oil too heavily. As a rust prevention measure, all surfaces, including the bore of the rifle, should be wiped with oil after use. Do not flood the bore with oil.

A comprehensive field-clearing of the mechanism is not required more than once a season or unless obviously necessary. The purpose of such cleaning is only to remove powder residues from internal components and as a rust prevention procedure (in the event that the gun has been soaked or submerged in water). The barrel should always be cleaned after each use.

If sand or other foreign matter in any appreciable quantity enters the mechanism, the reliability of functioning will probably be impaired until the gun is dismantled and thoroughly cleaned.

NOTE: Always use a good quality screw driver which properly fits the screw slots to avoid unsightly disfigurement of the screw heads.

Service Policy

Every C. Sharps Rifle is inspected and tested to ensure the highest quality and standards. If there is any question with regard to the performance of the rifle, please write the service department fully describing the circumstances and conditions regarding the problem or question.

C. Sharps Arms Co., Inc. - Service Department
P.O. Box 88 - 100 Centennial Drive
Big Timber, Montana 59011

If it is necessary to return a rifle for repair, please comply with the following suggestions for prompt service.

1. Rifles returned for service should be sent to the above address, with shipping paid. No C.O.D. parcels will be accepted.

2. For best repair service always enclose letter furnishing model, caliber and serial number. Give a full description of the problem or desired work. Enclose copies of previous correspondence.

3. Work performed under warranty will be returned without fee. Work performed not covered by warranty will be invoiced accordingly and payment must be made before the rifle is returned. The minimum service charge is $25.00 (shipping not included) for work not covered under warranty.

4. No work will be performed on any Sharps not manufactured by C. Sharps Arms Co., Inc.

5. All federal regulations must be complied with regarding the shipment of firearms. It is therefore most strongly recommended that all firearms be returned through a federally licensed dealer.

Our Promise of Quality (Limited Warranty)

C. Sharps Arms Co., Inc., will replace or repair (at our option) any part of this rifle found defective in material or workmanship (at our option) for materials or workmanship (at our option) for 10 years after the date of purchase. This limited warranty does not apply to parts which are damaged through neglect, misuse, or improper maintenance, nor does it cover the use such as fire or rusting.

The warranty applies only to the original owner, providing C. Sharps Arms Co., Inc., has received the owner's Registration Card within 30 days of purchase. If no warranty card is with the rifle, contact C. Sharps Arms Co., Inc., and forward serial number, as well as a copy of receipt from dealership where purchased.

INTRODUCTION MANUAL
C. SHARPS ARMS CO., INC.
MODEL 1874 SHARPS
OLD RELIABLE®
Metallic Cartridge Rifle

The C. Sharps Model 1874 is a replica of the original Sharps metallic cartridge rifles, though made of modern materials. It is important to note that this type of rifle should be handled with great caution and respect and should not be classified as a modern high pressure or modern cartridge rifle. Our Sharps is manufactured in chambers designated for black powder carriages. (See Warning No. 3)

Our Sharps is not intended for the novice or inexperienced shooter, but for those who are competent in the use of antique and black powder cartridge rifles.

The instruction manual contains important warnings and information that should be thoroughly understood before using these firearms.
Warning

1. All firearms are potentially dangerous and may cause injury or death if not properly handled or maintained.

2. If you are not thoroughly familiar with the safe handling of the Sharps Rifle, obtain professional instruction before attempting to load or discharge the C. Sharps breech loading firearms.

3. The Model 1874 Cartridge Rifles are intended for black powder loads and the black powder substitute, “Pyrodex,” as well as commercial factory ammunitions, where available. Smokeless powder reloads should be used with great caution. Use only approved loading data where available from reliable and recognized sources who are in the business of producing such information. All reloads must be used at shooter’s own risk. C. Sharps Arms Co., Inc. and Montana Amory, Inc., assumes no responsibility for damage or injury incurred due to the use of reloaded ammunition.

4. C. Sharps Model 1874 metallic cartridge rifles are intended for lead or lead-alloy bullets. The .40 caliber lead alloy bullets should not exceed .410” diameter, .45 caliber lead alloy bullets should not exceed .460” diameter, and the .50 caliber bullets should not exceed .512” diameter. Copper, steel brass or other hard jacketed bullets must be used at the shooter’s own risk. All projectiles must be properly sized and lubricated before being loaded into a C. Sharps Rifle.

Loading and Ejection

Put the hammer in the safety position, lower the lever, insert the cartridge fully into the chamber. Raise the lever to the fully closed position. The operation of the lever opens and closes the breech and extracts the shell.

WARNING: Be certain that you have the correct caliber ammunition designated for your rifle and that the chamber and the bore are clear of any obstructions, including grease, excessive oil or powder fouling. The cartridge should fit the chamber without force. The cartridge should not be forced into the chamber with the upward stroke of the lever. If the cartridge does not chamber properly into the rifle, you may have an improperly sized cartridge or an obstruction in the chamber or bore, and the rifle should be inspected closely.

Loading and Ejection, continued

WARNING: In using this or any other center fire firearm it is important that the primer of each cartridge be seated flush or below the surface of the shell base. There is a remote danger that a protruding primer could cause a premature discharge when closing the breach mechanism.

Important Safety Information

(Hammer Position)

The C. Sharps is a replica of the original early model 1874 cartridge rifles. There are three positions of the hammer.

1. In the forward position or fired position, the hammer is resting on the transfer bar and firing pin.

2. The safety position is with the hammer approximately 1/8” (one-eighth inch) from the transfer bar. The rifle should always be in the safety position before loading and remain in the safety position before firing.

3. The firing position — or full cock position — is the last position and approximately one and one half inches from the firing pin. Great care should be taken when moving the hammer from the safety position to the firing position. If the lock mechanism is not properly engaged, an accidental discharge could occur.

WARNING: No safety is perfect or infallible. Always handle a loaded firearm with great respect and pointed in a safe direction. The rifle user should always unload the rifle if he is in danger of falling, or if the firearm is left unattended.

Set Triggers

(Use and Adjustment)

WARNING: Do not test or adjust the set trigger mechanism when the rifle is loaded.

Many Models of the 1874 C. Sharps are fitted with adjustable double set triggers as used on the original Sharps Rifles. Set triggers consist of two triggers and an adjustment screw between the triggers. Front trigger is the firing or release trigger and the rear trigger is the set trigger or cocking trigger.

(Set Triggers, continued)

The rifle may be fired with the use of the front trigger only and is recommended for hunting and sport shooting. This gives a trigger pull of three to six pounds. When a lighter or more sensitive pull is required, the set trigger "rear trigger" may be used by pressing it to the rear until it locks in the cocking position. When the set trigger is cocked, this will give a much lighter "front trigger" pull from three to eight ounces. This pull is adjusted by the adjustment screw between the two triggers. Turn the screw in "clockwise" for lighter pull, and turn the screw out "counter clockwise" for heavier pull. (If the set trigger "rear trigger" will not lock in cocked position, the set screw may be enganged too far. Turn the screw out several turns and try again.)

WARNING: The set trigger should be engaged only immediately prior to desired discharge and while the hammer is in the safety position only. Do not attempt to operate the set trigger mechanism with more than one finger "the trigger finger" or when your fingers are extremely cold or when wearing gloves as this could cause an undesired discharge due to lack of sensitivity of shooter's trigger finger.

Disassembly

1. Pull hammer to safety position.

2. Lower breech lever to open position.

3. Unload rifle and inspect chamber. Raise the breech lever.

4. Remove breech take down pivot pin from frame as follows: Push in spring loaded takedown pivot pin retainer, turn takedown pivot pin 180° clockwise to down position, pull takedown pivot pin from the frame. (The takedown pivot pin is under spring tension and may require some effort.) If the pin will not come out with finger pressure, remove the forend and the lever spring.

5. With the takedown pivot pin removed, lower breech block assembly and extractor will move downward. (The extractor must be in Extract position for removal).

6. The firing pin may be removed from the breech block by sliding the cocking firing pin plate to the left.