

**NZART ID: 191, Arm Type: Rifle, Date of Draft: 19 September 2011, Compiled by: Phil Cregeen**

Pattern: MLM .22 Conversion Training Rifle, Introduced in to NZ Service: 1914/15, Withdrawn

Maker: As per the original MLM, Conversion by CG Bonehill, Belmont Row, Birmingham in 1914.

Calibre: .22 Long Rifle, Bore: 8 groove LH twist, Barrel length: 30.2 in.

OA Length: 49.5 in. Type of Action: Bolt, single shot Weight: 8 lb 14 oz.

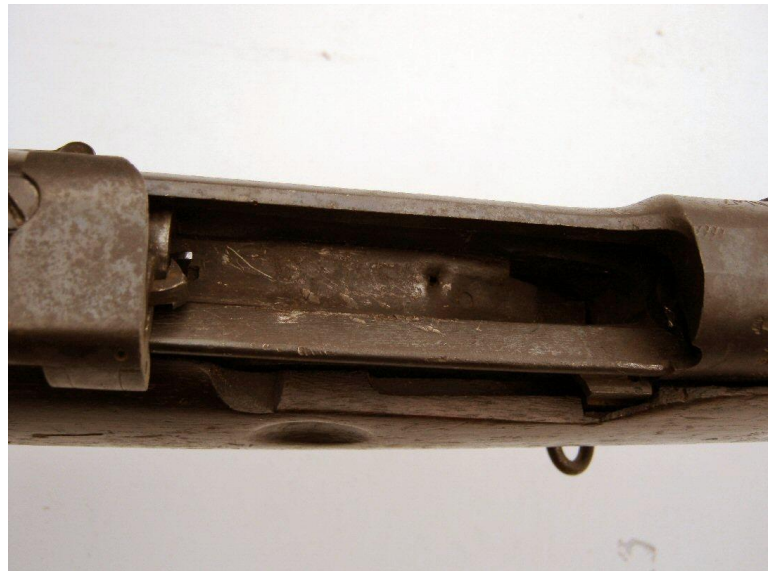
Magazine: None, Sights: Rear sight 25,50,100,150,200 yds on ladder



MLM Converted to .22 RF by CG Bonehill



Manufactured BSA & M Co. 1892, NZ Issue 1915



Steel floor plate to magazine well



Magazine well blanked by wood block



This example appears to have been converted at a later time to a sporting rifle.



Close up of bolt, cut off and magazine removed

The 1914 Defence return states: "300 miniature .22 rifles under order and our Representative at the War Office is now dealing with the question of providing miniature rifles as cheaply as possible". In a letter dated 7 April 1914 the Major General Commanding NZ Military Forces recommended the purchase and conversion of 400 MLM rifles to .22. Subsequent to a cable to the NZ High Commission on 14 April 1914 an order was placed with CG Bonehill of Birmingham to convert 300 old Metford Rifles to .22 LR by fitting new barrels with 8 groove rifling, and adapted striker mechanism, blocking the magazine well with wood block and graduating the rear sight to ,25, 50, 100, 150, 200 yds.



Enfield Manufacture as MLM in 1890, NZ Issue 1915



Rear sight graduations

*Acknowledgements:*

*Photographs: Noel Taylor & Graeme Barber*

*Phil Moore original research documents*