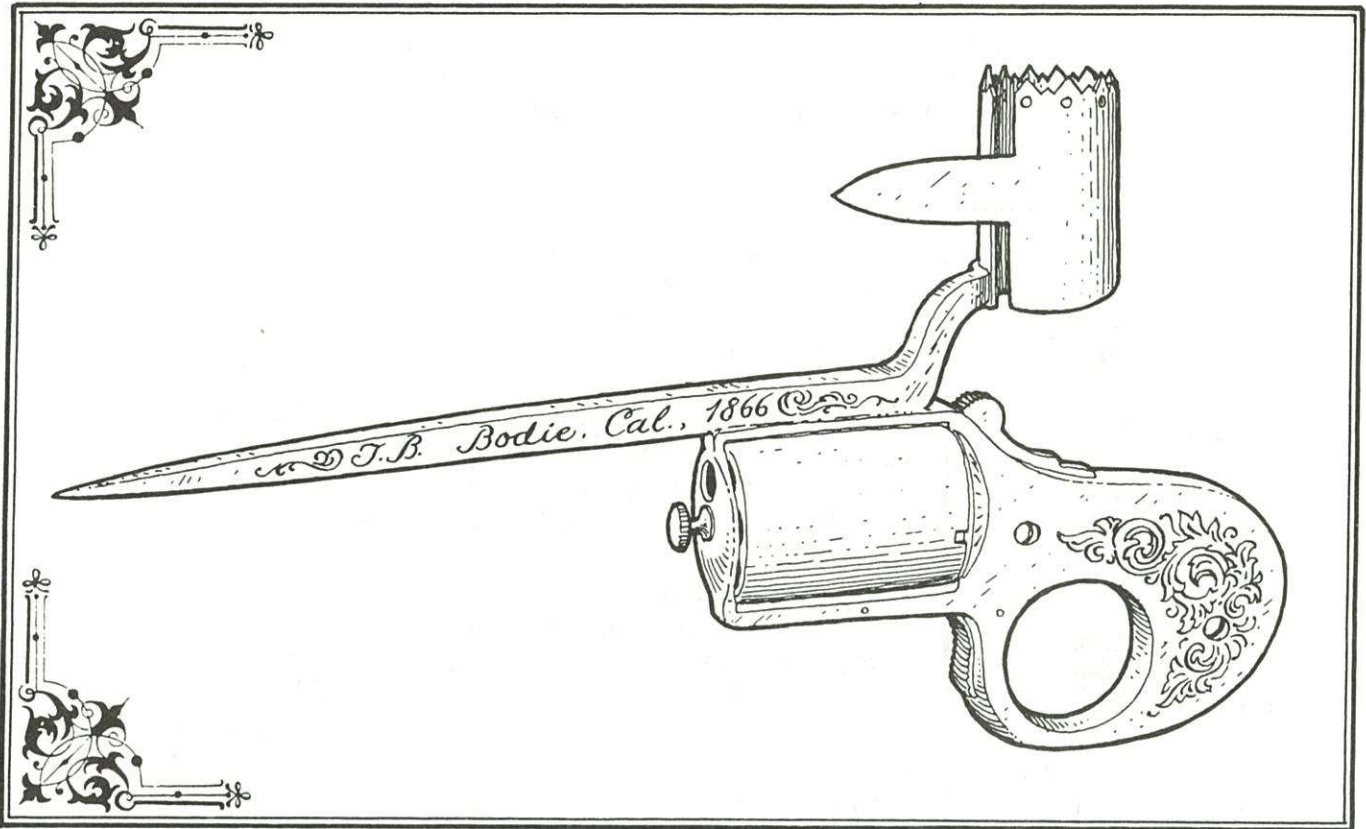


Bodie 4-shot Derringer/Candlestick



Style: Pistol-grip (perhaps the original "pistol-grip" stick)

Manufacturer: Patented 4/1/1863 by Horace "the Slug" Buchanan, Bodie, Calif.

Construction: Engraved steel, 7" long

Owner: Ima Hokes

Comment: It has unfortunately come to our attention that certain items that have been pictured in the Mining Artifact Collector may not be entirely genuine. We are speaking particularly of pieces from the collection of Ima Hokes: namely the Blemus lamp illustrated in issue #3, page 3, the "droop-snoot" Trethaway shown in issue #7, page 31, and the Bodie derringer/candlestick shown above. We're not absolutely certain. Perhaps it is mere coincidence that Ima's name is pronounced the same as "I'm a hoax," and that all of her patented lamps seem to be patented on April 1 (April Fool's Day). And perhaps there really is some clever way to screw the Blemus lamp together as the threading on the drawing indicates, even though the lamp is square in cross-section. But we're suspicious. We wouldn't want the integrity of this honorable and decorous journal of serious history to be comprised by surreptitious frivolity! As a service to MAC readers, we have sent Wendell Wilson to Goshen, Indiana to visit Ima Hokes in her home and see her collection in person. He has promised to file a detailed report for publication in a future issue.

Ted Bobrink