

Andrew D. Waddell's Presentation Civil War Infantry Officer's Sword

Rock Island Auction held an auction on eBay May 5, 2008 starting at 08:00:00 PDT for a Presentation Civil War Infantry Officer's Sword having belonged to Lt. Andrew D. Waddell. Bidding closed at: US \$3,000.00.

Description:

Imported, non-regulation Civil War infantry officer's sword. The sword has an iron hilt with three-branch guard, rounded pommel, and down-turned quillion. The grip is ray-skin wrapped with three strands of wire. The 32-inch fullered blade has a spear point and is decorated with an eagle and "E PLURIBUS UNUM" in a ribbon on the reverse and "US" on the obverse. The back of the blade is etched "IRON PROOF". The ricasso has an inlaid proof on the reverse and a marking that consists on an arrow in a punch mark on the obverse. The iron scabbard has a brass throat drag and suspension ring bands. The upper band has a shield engraved with the inscription: "Presented to / LT. A.D. Waddell / 5th Regiment Mich / Infantry / By his Friends at / Howell / 1864. The face of the drag is engraved with an eagle, shield, and floral designs. Documents with the sword indicate Andrew D. Waddell enlisted on 2/1/64 as a 1st Lieutenant in Company "I" 5th Michigan Infantry and was discharged on 6/9/64. The 5th Michigan Infantry was assigned to the 2nd Corp of the Army of the Potomac. Between May 5, 1864 and June 9, 1864 the 5th Michigan Infantry fought in the Battle of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, North Ann River, Mechanicsville, and Colt Harbor. During this period the regiment lost 30 men killed in action, 101 wounded in action, 14 captured, and 2 missing. There is no indication of why Lt. Waddell was discharged. Lieutenant Waddell saw action in some of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War during his five months of service with the 5th Michigan Infantry.

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(see next pages for pictures)



