

Remington Revolver Rebuild

by Jeff Tanner

I bought this revolver from Jerry Horner who at one time shot for the GB team. It had previously belonged to Bud Baxter, another GB team ex. [Figure 1]

The Dixie Catalogue contains a large amount of information on the Remington Revolvers, page no. 645 "A Quick Guide to Remington Revolvers" by Stephen B. Cook MD. (*The Remington Society of America have on-line forums which readers may also find helpful: www.remingtonsociety.com. Editor*)

The number of my revolver is in the 102,000. This makes it a New Model and it would have the Inspectors cartouche on the left grip. A monogram of either BH. for Maj. Benjamin Huger or GR. for Giles Porter or OWA for O.W. Ainsworth. Mine was OWA [Figure 2]

It was very sloppy. The cylinder would lift up and down by .023" and had .015" end float. The cylinder pin was .233" diameter and the centre hole .243". Some work was called for to bring the piece to reasonable shooting condition. The barrel bore was quite good. A real plus.

The right hand grip had been cracked by over tightening of the grip screw and had been poorly glued. The right grip was soaked in hot water to get rid of the old glue and when cleaned and dry, laid on the frame with fresh PVA glue in the joint and clamped with lots of elastic bands which keep a constant pressure while the glue set. [Figure 3]

Once the front and rear of the cylinder had been cleaned up and the frame deburred it was obvious that the end float had allowed the cylinder to hammer itself into the frame with recoil. There was a distinct print of the ratchet on the rear of the frame. [Figure 4]

It was decided to line ream the whole frame and cylinder and to make a new cylinder pin. This could easily be done with a 7mm piece of silver steel ground as a whistle cutter then hardened and tempered. The cutter was fed through the cylinder first with plenty of lubricant and constant clearing of swarf. The frame was treated the same way with the cutter this time being rotated. This was done from the rear of the frame. [Figure 5]



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

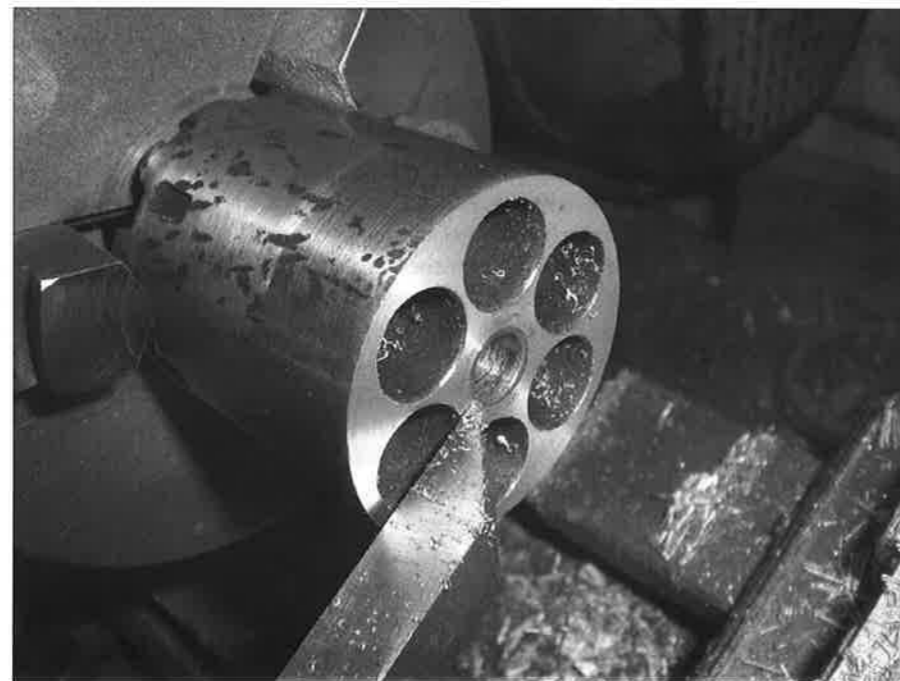


Figure 4

Once this was done I cut the end from the whistle cutter to use as a new cylinder pin.

There was still the end float to eliminate. I could have worked a shim in at the rear of the cylinder but decided to set the barrel back one revolution as a better idea. With the thread pitch of .030 this would easily get rid of the end float and a skim across the front of the cylinder would clean off the traces of powder erosion. [Figure 6]

This would also mean that the rammer lever would need to be shortened a few thou as the catch would also move to the rear by .030". [Figures 7 & 8]

The nipples were a bit burred, but unscrewed easily so were dressed up with a diamond file while spinning in the lathe chuck.

There was a fair bit of side slop on the rammer lever so the frame was nipped in the vice where the ram slid through and the play eliminated.

While this work was going on the trigger was straightened a little as a single action revolver does not need much curvature on the trigger. [Figure 9]

A previous owner had hammered the cylinder lightly along its length. Luckily these dings were not too deep so I polished most of them out and then re-blued by the slow rust system. When it was dark enough the bluing was stopped and some linseed oil applied. [Figure 10]

A trip to the range was next on the agenda and a vast improvement in group size the result.



Figure 5

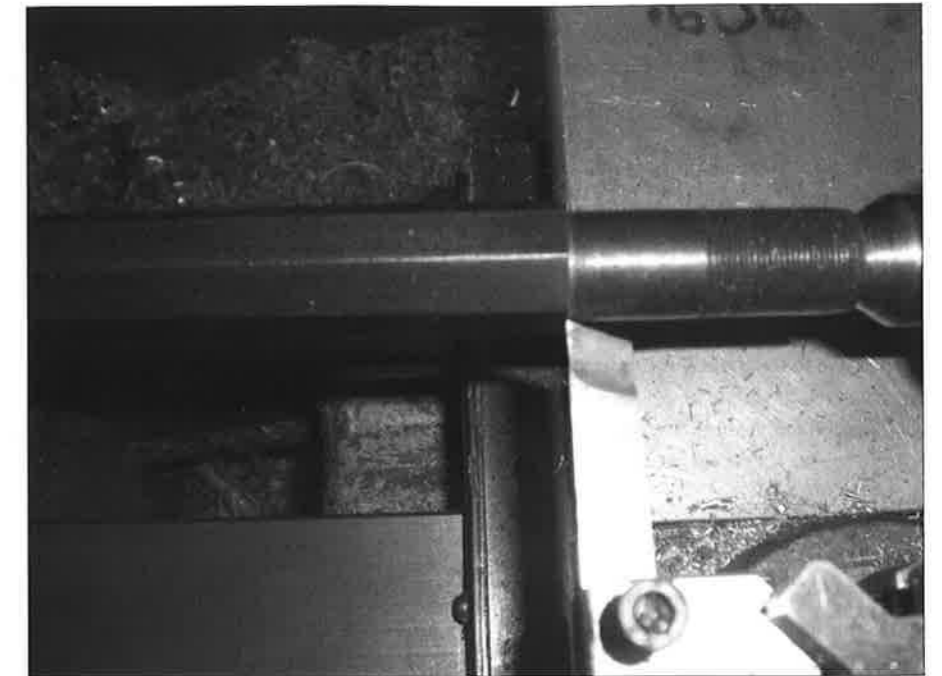


Figure 6

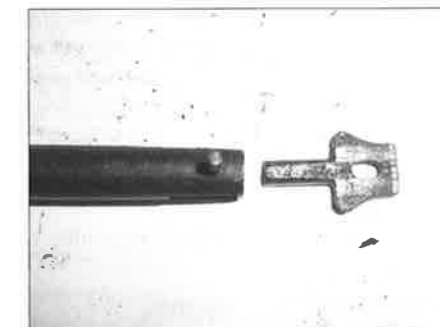


Figure 7

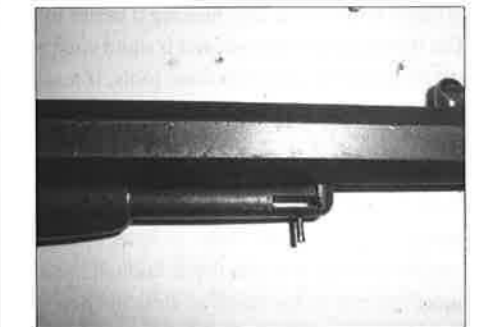


Figure 8



Figure 9

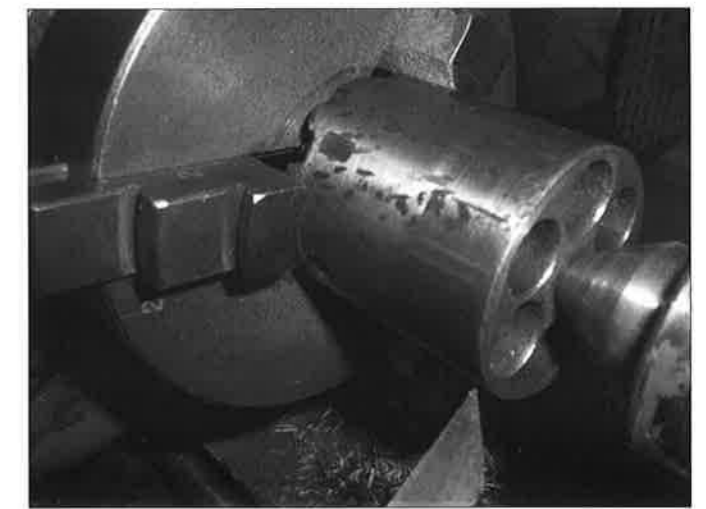


Figure 10