

## REVOLVER COMPARISON

over the ball. We've loaded all of our personal collection of original and 2nd Generation Colt percussion revolvers that way for many years, and can shoot as long as we like with no tying-up of the gun from fouling, no leading, easy clean-up, and excellent overall results. Accuracy is generally improved with the Ox-Yoke wads, too.

We used CCI brand number 11 percussion caps with all loads. They worked well and gave a proper fit. Note that a loose cap can recoil back against the recoil shield and detonate, and that is probably one common cause of "cross-firing." If the cap is too tight it won't go on all the way and the cylinder won't turn. We used Speer swaged lead balls of 0.375-inch diameter.

By the end of our testing we much preferred the 20-grain load as our standard. It gave enough room in all the guns for the Ox-Yoke wad and the ball with a little room to spare for clearance. It shot well in all the guns. We tried lighter and heavier loads, but shooting was erratic. We tried a load as light as 10 grains, but there was too much room left over in the cylinder, and because black powder requires a compressed charge for proper burning, we had to stack the Wonder Wads sometimes three deep to get compression. Grouping was poor, so we quit that light load.

We didn't try conical bullets because they have to be cast, and that induces another variable. Swaged lead balls generally give better accuracy, are easy to load, inexpensive, and from what we've read they performed better in service. Most shooters, we feel, will go this route also.

All our test shooting was done at 15 yards. All the manufacturers recommended loading only five chambers, but we loaded all six for our testing, and fired the gun immediately. Original Colts had a pin between each cylinder that fit into a notch on the hammer, so the guns could be carried fully loaded in relative safety. Cabela's and EMF's guns didn't have safety pins;

CIMARRON F.A. Co. 1851 NAVY LONDON

Price.....\$259



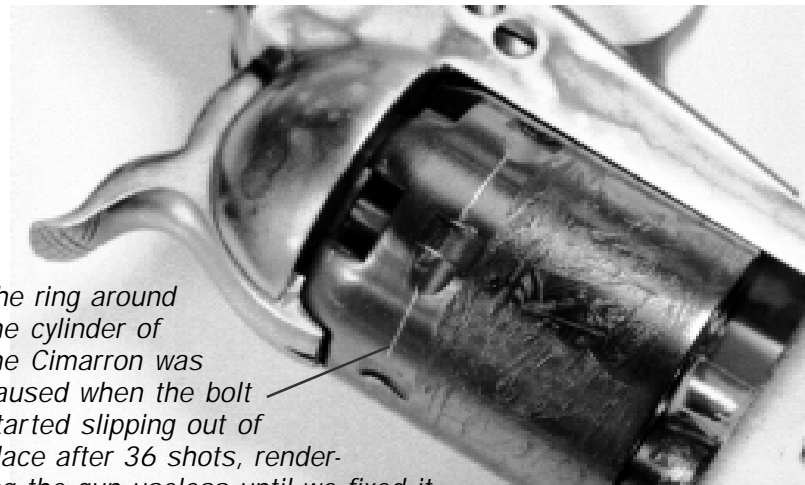
### SPECIFICATIONS

Warranty: None Written

FINISH .....	Blued/Case Colored	SIGHT RADIUS .....	10.2 in.
WEIGHT .....	42 oz.	CAPACITY .....	6
OVERALL LENGTH .....	13.2 in.	GRIP MATERIAL .....	WOOD
OVERALL HEIGHT .....	4.9 in.	ACTION TYPE .....	Single
MAXIMUM WIDTH .....	1.54 in.	TRIGGER PULL WT. ....	2.8 lbs.
BARREL LENGTH .....	7.5 in.	TRIGGER REACH .....	3.1 in.



**Our recommendation:** Cimarron sent us this copy of a London-made Navy, and it had a steel grip strap and trigger guard, as it should have. It broke, but we fixed it and liked it a lot.



*The ring around the cylinder of the Cimarron was caused when the bolt started slipping out of place after 36 shots, rendering the gun useless until we fixed it.*

Cimarron's and Colt's did.

Of our test guns only Cabela's version was worth the money. It offered lots of fun, looked almost right, and didn't break the bank. The Cimarron broke, but we liked it enough to buy it, fix it with trepi-

dation, and hope it would last. We'd have a hard time buying the EMF because it didn't work with the screws tight, and it would need fixing right out of the box. Yet it shot very well, and if you can manage to get it tinkered into the right condi-