



# THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

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## THE COVER

This superb example of French gunmaking of the late flintlock period was produced by Fatou of Paris. Its artistic stock decoration of silver leaves and vines, its ornate high-relief furniture, its gold barrel inlays and its overall craftsmanship make it an exceptional work of art, and yet it is a beautifully balanced, highly functional fowling piece or shotgun. It measures 43.2" overall, with 27 1/4" barrels in 20 ga. and weighs 6.7 lbs. The coat-of-arms on the silver escutcheon on the wrist (see cover, lower right) is that of the de Vanteaux family of Limoges. The shotgun apparently belonged to the Marquis Psalmel de Vanteaux, a nobleman born at Limoges in 1776, who served as a cavalry colonel in the Napoleonic period. The shotgun, now in the NRA Firearms Museum, was photographed by American Rifleman Photographer Rolfe Baggett.

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APRIL 1975

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