



## QUARTER PLATE TINTYPE— VRC MATTHEW P. CANNING

Quarter plate tintype of Matthew P. Canning of the Veteran Reserve Corps. He is pictured in the distinctive uniform of the VRC, a branch of Federal service that was organized to allow soldiers who had been wounded, and were no longer capable of regular line duty to serve elsewhere and contribute to the war effort.

The photographer carefully tinted the image to replicate the unique color of the VRC uniform. Canning stands at attention, his eyes fixed on the camera. He is equipped with a bridle leather enlistedman's waist belt with oval US plate. He wears his sword baldric and eagle plate across his breast, a Model 1840 NCO sword at point of rest in his hand. A Starr revolver is tucked into his belt, its holster visible at his side. His sleeve insignia identify him as holding the rank of corporal and he has added a non-regulation alteration of the cuffs on his sleeves to a darker fabric.

Housed in a thermoplastic case, Krainik's #64 "Floral/Geometric" by Littlefield, Parsons & Company with purple velvet plush in very good condition. This case is listed by Krainik as scarce. Behind the image and held inside the leatherette case is a scrap of paper with faded ink notations which are not easily discernible, but which repeatedly mentions Winchester. On a separate scrap of paper, is the name Matthew Canning.

At the age of 32 Canning enlisted on August 26, 1862 with the 149<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry. He was mustered in as a private with Company K where his service included fighting at McPherson's Ridge and the railroad cut on Gettysburg's first day. Surviving Gettysburg without injury, Canning was wounded on June 5, 1864 during fighting at the Wilderness. After recovering, he was transferred on October 17, 1864 to the Veteran Reserve Corps where he served with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, remaining there until the end of the Civil War.

**Collection#:** 470

**\$2,500**

