



1/9TH PLATE TINTYPE – CHARLES L. POTEAT

Ninth plate tintype of a Confederate soldier hailing from the state of North Carolina. This Tarheel is identified as Charles L. Poteat of Company G, "Caswell Rifles," 22nd North Carolina State Troops. Poteat posed with a wide clip-point side knife. He is wearing the early 6 button sack coat as issued by North Carolina to its troops, its pattern stipulated with the black false epaulets on the shoulders by the Uniform Dress & Equipment Regulations which were adopted by the Adjutant General of North Carolina on May 27, 1861. The black cloth shoulder strips designate his service with an infantry unit, it has six state seal buttons and falling collar. A surviving coat from this pattern is pictured in *Echoes of Glory, Arms and Equipment of the Confederacy*, published by Time-Life Books in 1991, pg. 144.

In late May, 1861 Charles enlisted with the "Caswell Rifles." By the end of July the company had recruited enough men to fill their ranks and were designated the 12th North Carolina. Three months later they became the 22nd North Carolina. Serving in Lee's Army of Northern Virginia they saw plenty of action. Between Chancellorsville and Gettysburg they were dealt a heavy blow, losing 50% of their number from that unit. Private Poteat managed to survive through the Battle of Reams Station in Virginia, but by October 1864 he is last shown "present or accounted for." After that date, he vanishes from history. Charles appears on no muster rolls, never returned home and is not found in any post-war documents or records. It is likely that he died while in the service.

This tintype and others were purchased directly from the family in 1994. *It was published in that year's edition of The Confederate Calendar by Confederate Calendar Works of Austin, Texas, shown for the month of April and listing a provenance for the image to the Thomas Harshbarger collection.*

It is housed in a full thermoplastic case.

Collection#: 553

\$2,800

