

ENGLISH PERCUSSION ENCLOSED-ACTION DOUBLE GUN
by CHARLES JONES, 26 ST. JAMES STREET, LONDON, and
16 WHITTAL STREET, BIRMINGHAM, about 1835.

.68 caliber (14 g). Number 33.

Charles Jones's British patents # 6394 (March 7) and # 6436 (June 12), both of 1833, claimed protection for an enclosed percussion action (as well as a trigger, tumbler, and striker in one piece).

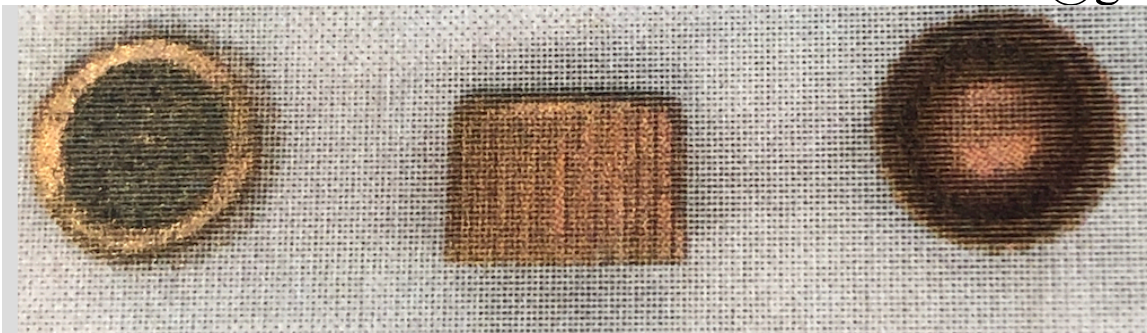
Although the patents don't mention central fire (the nipples enter the breech horizontally), such a system requires it. Jones' wonderful advertisement from 1835 (see below) places central fire first of the 15 advantages of his gun, and precedes Colt's patent. The cocking levers control the internal hammers.

Most examples of this gun, like number 33, use Jones's "Patent" hammer caps. It's the only firearm in which the cap fits the end of the striker, not the nipple. The fulminate coats the outside surface. I have seen two examples (serial numbers 19 and 22) of Jones-patent single guns. Four out of twenty-one known examples use standard copper caps.

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CHARLES JONES PATENT GUNS SERIAL #s.

HC = Hammer Cap. CC =. Copper Cap.

- 19 Single gun, hammer caps (HC) (Baltimore show, RC.)
- 22 Single gun, 8 bore. 32 Cockspur St. [an additional address listed by Blackmore].(HC, converted to CC) (via PMcG)
- 33 Double gun, HC (MMS) [Destroyed in the Palisades fire, January 2025.]
- 44 Double gun, HC. 16 bore. Bonhams 11/24/1999 lot 152. (via PMcG)
- 46 Double gun, HC. 32 Cockspur St. (via PMcG)
- 59 Double gun, HC (MacDonald Hastings, ENGLISH SPORTING GUNS AND ACCESSORIES, pages 50-51.)
- 90 Double gun, ? ignition. (Amoskeag 12/2024 lot 389).
- 91 Cased double gun, HC (Neal 2000 lot 17). (PMcG)
- 99: Double gun, HC. (PMcG; RIA 12/2024 lot 275 to RC)
<https://www.rockislandauction.com/detail/4093/275/charles-jones-waterproof-percussion-double-barrel-shotgun> \$5288-
- 123 Single gun, copper cap (CC). (Neal 1995 lot 25). (PMcG)
- 129 Double gun, HC. 32 Cockspur St. Said to have been part of a “composed pair” with 169, now separated. (via PMcG)
- 169 Double gun, HC. (Bonhams 11/27/2019 lot 489; 11/2023 Cablesfarm blog, Tim Owen)
- 186 Double gun, HC (Holts 6/18/2019 lot 510)
- 190 Double gun, CC. (Julia 10/1/2010 lot 1370)

- 239 Double gun, HC. 15 bore. Holts 12/13/2007. (via PMcG)
- 245 Double gun, CC (Wildwest site, 2/22)
- 255 Double gun, HC (FB, Australia, from the Renwick sale, Sotheby's 7/23/1974 lot 49)
- 270 Double gun, HC. 15 bore. Bonhams 10/23/1997. (via PMcG)
- 281 Pair of enclosed-action pistols, same # on each. (Louis Bremers, THE PURSUIT OF HONOUR....) HC. See photo below.
- 283 Double gun, ? ignition. (Christies 5/18/1994 lot 109.)
- 330 Cased double gun, CC. (Holts 11/2025 lot 593, ex-PMcG.) This is not an enclosed-action gun, it has standard external hammers. It uses parts from the usual pattern.

OTHERS WITHOUT KNOWN SERIAL NUMBERS

<http://www.scotarms.co.uk/catalogues/692.htm>

Lot No. 525 A VERY RARE 14 bore Double Barrelled Jones's Patent Enclosed Locks Percussion Sporting Gun Circa 1860. Re-browned twist barrels have feint address on the top rib. The action, top sliding cover and cocking pieces engraved with scroll foliage. The underside plate engraved -Charles Jones's Patent Water Proof Locks With Concentric Sears and Triggers-. Figured walnut halfstock with chequered grip. Engraved iron box and throat pipe. Ramrod with brass cap and worm. Some wear. Grade 3 plus. Brl.28 ins. Serial No no provided

<https://www.millon.com/catalogue/vente1404-armes-militaria/lot257-fusil-de-chasse>

Hunting rifle, double, with "sealed" mechanism, with Charles Jones system. Round barrels, en table, marked on the band 'Charles Jones's Patent, 32, Cockspur Street London'. Thunder with sliding door, on the top, engraved with foliage scrolls, concealing the hammers and the chimneys. On either side of the butt, the hammers cocking the hammers. In front of these dogs, at the level of the thunders, the vents, to evacuate the gases, in the event of a problem. Iron fittings, cut out. Bridge decorated with a dog and bird. Front of trigger guard marked "Charles Jones's Patent Water proof Locks with Concentric Sears & Triggers". Walnut stock, partly checkered, with cut-out thumb piece, crowned "FNH" numbered. Wooden ramrod, with brass tip. ABE circa 1840

Charles Jones, arquebusier in London, patent of 1833. Serial No not provided

<http://www.collections.musee-art-industrie.saint-etienne.fr/fr/search-notice/detail/vvtcaw84s01xtaqh6m44vrngfxzhffmowwiybftnl9fw7ypliq>

Analytical Description.

Percussion shotgun on capsules, internal mechanisms for **shooting "under water"** by Charles Jones in London, England, circa 1833. (this was from a French translation FB) Juxtaposed smoothbores, in damask set in brown color. Raised, concave, engraved sight band 'Charles Jones's patent.32.Cockspur Street. London". Focus in gold. Cylinder head caps decorated with a double gold border. The gun mounting brackets are equipped with funnels. Under the thunders, Birmingham proof marks. Percussion mechanisms on capsules embedded in the frame. Hammers encased in an iron casket, engraved with foliage with a plaque, engraved with foliage, curved in the center to act as a rise, and sliding on the top to place the capsules on the chimneys. Vent drilled on either side of the trunk. Flat exterior hammers, engraved with foliage and allowing the hammers to be cocked.

Walnut frame with short shaft and "English" stock. Squared grips. Iron fittings, engraved with foliage. Bridge decorated with a dog. The wider front part of the guard is marked "CHARLES JONES'S PATENT Waterproof LOCKS with CONCENTRIC Sears & Triggers". Butt plate heel opening on a reserve. Wooden ramrod with brass head. Serial No not provided.



Fig. 236.
Pair of rainproof centre-fire percussion cap pistols by Charles Jones with serial number 281, barrel length 25.2 cm, circa 1834.



Fig. 237.
Upper view with closed slide.



CHARLES JONES,
GUN AND PISTOL MAKER.
TO THE PUBLIC

(1835)

The advantages of CHARLES JONES'S Patent Guns are manifold: and are
of two distinct kinds —

Firstly-Such as appertain to the Gun itself; and
Secondly-Such as are personal to the user of it.

These advantages may be briefly enumerated as follows, viz.:-

1. The obtaining of a direct central Fire.
2. The certainty of not missing Fire.
3. The superior quickness of the Fire.
4. The superior strength of the Fire.
5. The diminished recoil of the Gun.
6. The removal of the annoyance of the flash in Firing.
7. The protection of the Eyes from the flying off of the Copper Caps.
8. The protection of the priming caps from wet.
9. The protection of the Cones and Hammers from external injury.
10. The impossibility of the blowing out of the Cones or Nipples.
11. The Locks being impervious to wet.
12. The great simplification in the construction of the Locks.
13. The very superior mechanical action of the Locks.
14. The superior strength of the Stock.

In double Guns, little more than One Half the wood is cut away in fitting the Lock, which is cut away in other Guns.

15. The general superiority, and greater durability of the Gun.

After the above recital, I will only add, that while these Guns are not inferior to any others in any respect, they are superior to all others in many respects; and, that I believe, there are a greater number of improvements effected, and more points of real usefulness attained in them, than have ever before been accomplished AT ANY ONE PERIOD in the history of gun making.

As objects worthily entitled to the attention of the scientific, and particularly to that of the sporting world, they are respectfully submitted to their approbation, by the public's very obedient servant, THE PATENTEE.

16, Whittall Street, St. Mary's Square, Birmingham.

N.B. These Guns require only two thirds the usual quantity of powder to load them.



CHARLES JONES,
— Patentee —
OF THEIR MAJESTIES
The King of England and The King of the French,
MEMBRE DE L'ACADÉMIE DE L'INDUSTRIE DE FRANCE.
GUN MANUFACTURER,
26, ST. JAMES'S STREET, LONDON,
AND 16, WHITTALL STREET, ST. MARY'S SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM.

Also Inventor & Manufacturer of the Patent Waterproof Locks,
with Concentric Sears & Triggers.

